

THE DAILY GK DOSE

SWARA LAKSHMI NAIR BECOMES KERALA'S SECOND WIM

- **Historic Milestone:** In May 2026, 19-year-old Swara Lakshmi Nair became the second chess player from Karnataka to achieve the WIM title, following Isha Sharma who earned the title in 2019. She is also recognized as Bengaluru's first-ever WIM.
- **Future Aspirations:** With a current live rating of 2219, Swara is now focusing on increasing her Elo rating to 2400 as she works toward her long-term goal of becoming a Grandmaster.
- **The Path to Title:** She secured her three required norms across international tournaments: the first at the Sardinia World Chess Festival (Italy) in 2025, the second at the Grand Hotel Kielce Open (Poland) in 2025, and the final norm at the Ptuj IM tournament in Slovenia earlier this month.

Footnotes: Kerala's CM: V.D. Satheesan, Governor: Rajendra Arlekar, Capital: Thiruvananthapuram

INDIA BECAME SRI LANKA'S SECOND-LARGEST EXPORT DESTINATION IN 2026

- **Significant Milestone:** During the January–April 2026 period, India surpassed the United Kingdom to emerge as Sri Lanka's second-largest export market, trailing only the United States.
- **Export Growth:** Sri Lanka's exports to India grew by 8.9%

year-on-year during this period, reaching a total value of USD 364.15 million.

- **Driving Factors:** This shift reflects a strengthening of regional economic ties, with notable growth driven by demand for coconut-based products (such as activated carbon), electronics, and processed food items.

FIRST HONG KONG ASTRONAUT LAUNCHES INTO SPACE ONBOARD CHINESE MISSION



- **First Hong Kong Astronaut:** Dr. Lai Ka-ying, a superintendent in the Hong Kong Police Force, made history on May 24, 2026, as the first astronaut from Hong Kong to travel into space.
- **Mission Details:** She is serving as a payload specialist aboard the Shenzhou-23 manned spaceship, which launched from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center to conduct research at the Tiangong space station.
- **Significance:** Her selection and participation mark a major milestone for Hong Kong's integration into China's national aerospace program and its role under the country's 15th Five-Year Plan.

IMPORTANT FACTS

- *The longest river in the world is the Nile River.*
- *Ghoomar is a traditional folk dance of Rajasthan.*
- *Hindi Diwas is celebrated in India on 14 September every year.*
- *Diamond is the hardest natural substance found on Earth.*
- *Rakesh Sharma was the first Indian to travel to space.*

KERALA GETS FIRST PRIVATE MEDICAL MUSEUM IN THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

- **Historic Inauguration:** On May 25, 2026, the "Museum of Medical Archives" was inaugurated in Ulloor, Thiruvananthapuram, marking the opening of both Kerala's and India's first private medical museum.
- **Visionary Founder:** The museum was established by A. Sivaraman, a former artist-modeler at the Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram, who dedicated his career to creating handcrafted anatomical models and teaching aids.
- **Diverse Exhibits:** The museum showcases a unique collection of handcrafted anatomical models, embryology charts, microbiology archives, and rare archival photographs designed to simplify complex medical concepts and preserve the history of medical education.

INDIAN ARMY LAUNCHES KAUTILYA & Q-FORCE PLATFORMS

- **Launch and Purpose:** In May 2026, the Indian Army introduced two advanced Artificial Intelligence-based digital platforms—Kautilya and Q-FORCE—to modernize its command intelligence and logistics management systems.
- **Kautilya (Command Intelligence):** Named after the ancient Indian strategist, this platform serves as an "AI co-pilot" that utilizes Natural Language Processing (NLP) and AI-enabled dashboards to process data on personnel, weapons, training, and operational readiness for faster, data-driven decision-making.
- **Q-FORCE (Logistics Support):** This integrated digital application is designed to streamline supply chains and sustainment operations, ensuring the efficient tracking and distribution of essential resources, fuel, and equipment to troops across diverse terrains, from deserts to high-altitude regions.

MERCEDES TEEN STAR KIMI ANTONELLI WINS THE CANADIAN GP

- **Fourth Consecutive Win:** On May 24, 2026, the 19-year-old Italian Mercedes star secured his fourth straight Formula 1 victory in Montreal, following his previous wins in China, Japan, and Miami.
- **Dramatic Race Outcome:** Antonelli claimed the win after a

high-stakes duel with his Mercedes teammate George Russell; Russell was forced to retire on Lap 30 due to a power unit failure while the two were trading the lead.

- **Championship Lead:** With this win, Antonelli has significantly strengthened his position in the 2026 World Drivers' Championship, establishing a commanding 43-point lead over his teammate Russell after the first five races of the season.

MOHIT & CHANDER MOHAN CLINCHES GOLD AT ASIAN U-23 WRESTLING



- **Gold Medal Wins:** On May 26, 2026, Indian freestyle wrestlers Mohit Kumar and Chander Mohan clinched gold medals in their respective weight classes at the U-23 Asian Wrestling Championships held in Da Nang, Vietnam.
- **Dominant Performance:** Mohit Kumar secured the title in the 65kg category with a commanding 12-4 victory over Kyrgyzstan's Oskonbai A. Abdisamatov, while Chander Mohan earned a hard-fought 7-6

win against Kazakhstan's Yerzhan Abil to secure the 79kg title.

- **Historic Team Achievement:** Their individual victories contributed to a massive medal haul for the Indian contingent, which was crowned the overall Freestyle Team Champion at the tournament after securing an impressive total of 27 medals across the event.

NEELAM MEENA APPOINTED AS CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER OF WEST BENGAL

- **Official Appointment:** On May 25, 2026, the Election Commission of India (ECI) appointed senior IAS officer Neelam Meena (1998-batch, West Bengal cadre) as the new Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of West Bengal.
- **Succession:** She replaces the outgoing CEO, Manoj Kumar Agarwal, who was recently elevated to the position of Chief Secretary of the State.
- **Administrative Focus:** To ensure complete impartiality and focus, the ECI has mandated that Ms. Meena will not hold any other duties within the State Government and will function solely as the CEO of West Bengal.

Footnotes: West Bengal's CM: Suvendu Adhikari, Governor: R. N. Ravi, Capital: Kolkata

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

27.05.2026 / WEDNESDAY

- **1851 (First Chess Tournament):** The world's first international chess tournament was held in London
- **1930 (Chrysler Building):** The iconic Chrysler Building in New York City, then the tallest building in the world, officially opened.