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Current Affairs

13 Oct. 2025

Sonali Sen Gupta appointed as RBI Executive Director



1. Sonali Sen Gupta appointed as RBI Executive Director

- **Over Three Decades of RBI Experience:** She has a career of more than thirty years at the Reserve Bank of India, indicating deep institutional knowledge and extensive experience in the financial sector.
- **Multifaceted Expertise:** Her experience covers critical functions within the RBI, including Financial Inclusion, Human Resource Management, Banking Regulation, and Supervision.
- **Prior Leadership Role:** Immediately before her ED appointment, she was serving as the Regional Director for Karnataka at the RBI's Bengaluru Regional Office.
- **International Policy Representation:** She has represented the RBI on global platforms, notably in the G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPFI) and the OECD International Network on Financial Education (INFE). She also served as a Director on the board of the National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE).
- **Current Directorship and Policy Contribution:** She currently serves as the RBI's Nominee Director on the Board of Indian Overseas Bank.



Foot notes:

About RBI-

- **Governor:** Sanjay Malhotra
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- **Established:** 1935

2. Sebastian Lecornu Re-Appointed as New PM of France

- **Re-appointment Date:** Sébastien Lecornu was re-appointed as Prime Minister of France on October 10, 2025, after a brief resignation.
- **Previous Role:** Before becoming Prime Minister, Lecornu served as the Minister of the Armed Forces from May 20, 2022, to September 9, 2025.
- **Tenure:** His initial tenure as Prime Minister lasted only 26 days, from September 9, 2025, to October 6, 2025, making it the shortest in the history of the French Fifth Republic.
- **Political Affiliation:** Lecornu is a member of the Renaissance party and has held various positions in the French government, including Minister for Local Authorities and Minister of the Overseas.



3. Maithri Wickremesinghe appointed to Central Bank governing board

- **Appointment Date:** Maithri Wickremesinghe was appointed as a member of the Governing Board of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, effective October 2, 2025.
- **Role and Responsibilities:** As a member of the Governing Board, Wickremesinghe will oversee the administration and management of the Central Bank's affairs and determine its general policies.
- **Monetary Policy Board:** He will also be a member of the Monetary Policy Board, playing a key role in shaping the country's monetary policies.
- **Background:** Wickremesinghe is a distinguished professional, designated as a President's Counsel (P.C.), indicating his expertise in law and governance.
- **Governing Board's Objective:** The Governing Board is responsible for ensuring the stability of the financial system, identifying and evaluating associated risks, and outlining policy measures to mitigate them.



4. India-Australia Military Exercise AUSTRALIND 2025

- **Exercise Dates:** The fourth edition of AUSTRAHIND 2025 began on October 13, 2025, and will conclude on October 26, 2025, in Perth, Australia.
- **Participating Forces:** A 120-member Indian Army contingent, led by a Battalion of Gorkha Rifles along with troops from other arms and services, is participating in the exercise.
- **Objective:** The exercise aims to enhance military cooperation, improve interoperability, and provide a platform for exchanging tactics, techniques, and procedures in sub-conventional warfare, especially in urban and semi-urban terrain scenarios.
- **Training Activities:** The exercise will focus on joint company-level operations in open and semi-desert terrain, including missions ranging from joint planning, tactical drills, and specialized arms skill development.
- **Strategic Significance:** AUSTRAHIND 2025 is designed to bolster defence cooperation, advance mutual understanding, and strengthen the long-term foundation of India-Australia military cooperation in the Indo-Pacific context.



5. Valentin Vacherot Makes History, Wins First ATP Title at Shanghai Masters 2025

- **Historic Win:** Valentin Vacherot made history by becoming the lowest-ranked ATP Masters 1000 champion ever, winning the Shanghai Masters 2025 at world number 204.
- **Cousin Showdown:** Vacherot defeated his cousin Arthur Rinderknech 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 in the final, marking a thrilling conclusion to the tournament.
- **Breakthrough Moment:** This win marks Vacherot's first ATP title, and he jumped 164 spots in the rankings to 40th position, a career-high for the Monegasque player.
- **Impressive Run:** Vacherot's road to victory included stunning wins over top players like Novak Djokovic in the semifinals and Alexander Zverev, Jiri Lehecka, and Felix Auger Aliassime in earlier rounds.
- **Monaco's First:** Vacherot became the first player from Monaco to win an ATP Masters 1000 title, cementing his place in tennis history.



6. Nithin Babu wins 23rd RCC Classical Cup 2025

- **Tournament Details:** The 23rd RCC Classical Cup Rating Open 2025 was a nine-round tournament held from



September 25-30, 2025, at Sharada Vidyalaya Kodialbail in Mangaluru, Karnataka.

- **Nithin Babu's Victory:** Nithin Babu emerged as the champion, scoring 8/9 points and winning the tournament on tie-breaks despite losing the last round to runner-up Mandar Pradip Lad.
- **Competition:** A total of 448 players participated, including three International Masters (IMs) from India and players from countries like Canada, Kenya, the USA, and Sri Lanka.
- **Prize Fund:** The tournament had a total cash prize fund of ₹500,000, with the top three prizes being ₹50,000, ₹35,000, and ₹25,000, respectively.
- **Rating Points:** Nithin Babu gained 7.8 Elo rating points from this victory, marking his first rating tournament triumph of the year.

7. IISc and IIT Madras joined GBA for Water Security and Resilience Project

- **Project Name:** The project is called the Bengaluru Water Security and Resilience Project, which aims to improve water security and resilience in Bengaluru.
- **Funding:** The project is funded by the World Bank with over ₹3,500 crore.
- **Key Partners:** The key partners involved are the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), and Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M).
- **Objectives:** The project objectives include mitigating urban flooding, enhancing water security through rainwater harvesting and watershed development, and promoting natural flood mitigation strategies.
- **Implementation:** The project will be implemented by Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (BSMILE), with IISc updating its Urban Flood model and IIT-M providing advanced technology capabilities to support the project.



8. PM Modi Launches 'Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana'

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9. Nobel Prize in Economics 2025 awarded to Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion and Peter Howitt

- **Award Details:** The Nobel Prize in Economics for 2025 was awarded to Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt for their groundbreaking work on radical theories that transformed our understanding of economic growth and development.
- **Research Focus:** Their research focused on the role of innovation, technological advancements, and institutions in shaping economic growth, providing new insights into the drivers of prosperity and progress.
- **Key Contributions:** Joel Mokyr's work highlighted the importance of human capital and knowledge in economic growth, while Philippe Aghion and Peter Howitt developed the Schumpeterian growth model, emphasizing the role of innovation and creative destruction.
- **Impact:** Their research has had a profound impact on our understanding of economic growth, innovation, and development, influencing policy decisions and shaping the field of economics.
- **Recognition:** The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences recognized their pioneering work, awarding them the Nobel Prize in Economics for 2025, a testament to the significance of their contributions to the field.



10. Oscar-Winning Actress Diane Keaton passed away

- **Date of Passing:** Diane Keaton passed away on October 11, 2025, in Los Angeles, California.
- **Career Span:** Keaton's career spanned over five decades, with notable roles in films like "The Godfather," "Annie Hall," and "Something's Gotta Give."
- **Awards and Accolades:** Keaton won an Academy Award



for Best Actress for her role in "Annie Hall" and received multiple Golden Globe and BAFTA awards.

- **Notable Roles:** Some of her notable roles include Kay Adams in "The Godfather" trilogy, Annie Hall in "Annie Hall," and Samantha in "Something's Gotta Give."
- **Legacy:** Keaton was known for her unique style, which often featured men's vintage clothing, and her ability to play complex, dynamic characters in both comedic and dramatic roles.

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