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WEEKLY — Current Affairs

NATIONAL NEWS

Sohrai Art of Jharkhand Shines at Rashtrapati Bhavan

- **Sohrai Art Showcase:** The indigenous mural tradition of Sohrai Art from Jharkhand was featured at the second edition of Kala Utsav 2025 – Artists in Residence Programme, held at Rashtrapati Bhavan from July 14 to 24, 2025. This event celebrated India's rich folk and tribal art traditions.
- **Artist Participation:** Ten celebrated Sohrai artists from Hazaribagh district, including Ms. Rudan Devi, Ms. Anita Devi, and Ms. Malo Devi, showcased their traditional artistry to a national audience. They used natural earth pigments and bamboo sticks to create vibrant depictions of animals, plants, and geometric motifs.
- **President's Appreciation:** President Droupadi Murmu praised the artists' dedication, stating, "These artworks reflect the soul of India – our connection to nature, our mythology, and our community life." She emphasized the need for greater recognition and institutional support for folk artists.
- **Cultural Significance:** Sohrai Art is a sacred, seasonal tradition practiced primarily by tribal women in Jharkhand during harvest and festive periods.

Foot notes:

About Jharkhand-

- **Chief Minister:** Hemant Soren
- **Governor:** Santosh Gangwar
- **Capital:** Ranchi

IAS Pratyay Amrit Becomes Bihar Chief Secretary

- **Appointment Details:** Pratyay Amrit, a 1991-batch IAS officer, has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Bihar, effective September 1, 2025, replacing outgoing Chief Secretary Amrit Lal Meena.
- **Early Transition:** In a historic move, Amrit will serve as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the Chief Secretary's office from August 4, 2025, ensuring a smooth transition and continuity in governance.
- **Administrative Experience:** Pratyay Amrit has extensive experience in key departments, including Health, Disaster Management, and Development Commissioner, showcasing his transformative administrative skills.
- **Leadership Role:** Amrit's appointment is seen as a strategic move by the Nitish Kumar-led government to prioritize administrative stability and proactive governance, especially ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections.
- **Achievements:** Pratyay Amrit is known for his dynamic leadership and has received the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration in 2011 for transforming the Bihar State Bridge Construction Corporation into a profit-making entity.

Punjab became the first state to empanel sign language experts under the Juvenile Justice Act

- **Empanelled Professionals:** The state will formally empanel sign language interpreters, translators, and special educators.
- **Role:** These professionals will assist children with communication disabilities during legal proceedings, court hearings, and other official matters to ensure fair and impartial outcomes.
- **Deployment:** The experts will be deployed district-wise throughout Punjab to ensure timely and continuous support is available wherever needed.
- **Compensation:** The professionals will be compensated according to the provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act and the POCSO Act.

Bengaluru Ranked 26th in Global AI City Index 2025

- **Ranking and Position:** Bengaluru secured the 26th rank globally, emerging as India's top AI Research & Development (R&D) and data center hub.
- **Indian Cities' Performance:** Bengaluru leads Indian cities in AI innovation and foreign investments, followed by Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, and Kolkata. Mumbai and Delhi are leveraging AI for traffic management and public security.
- **Global Leaders:** Singapore topped the index, driven by strong public-private partnerships in AI applications. Seoul and Beijing ranked second and third, respectively, with notable AI applications in healthcare, education, and transportation.
- **Growth and Development:** Bengaluru is among the fastest-growing AI cities globally, with a thriving startup ecosystem and expanding data center infrastructure attracting foreign investment.

Foot notes:

About Bengaluru-

- **Chief Minister:** Siddaramaiah

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Moldova became the 107th member of the International Solar Alliance

- **Official Membership Status:** Moldova became the 107th member of the ISA after submitting its Instrument of Ratification in New Delhi—handed over by Moldovan Ambassador to India Ana Taban to ISA's head—on August 4, 2025.
- **Significance of ISA:** Established in 2015 by India and France at COP21, the International Solar Alliance is a global intergovernmental organization focused on promoting solar energy, increasing energy access, and mobilizing international investments for renewable development.

- **Expansion of ISA Membership:** Before Moldova's accession, the ISA had grown to 106 members, including recent additions like Armenia and Malta. Moldova's inclusion highlights the continuing global expansion and importance of the Alliance.
- **Ratification Timeline:** Moldova's entry follows its ratification of the ISA Framework Agreement earlier in 2025—the draft law was approved by its Cabinet of Ministers in June 2025, providing the legal basis for membership.

India, Russia Sign Protocol to Boost Industrial, Tech Cooperation

- **Deepening Strategic Partnership:** India and Russia have reaffirmed their strategic partnership by signing a protocol to deepen cooperation in key sectors, including aluminium, fertilizers, railways, and mining technology.
- **Key Focus Areas:** The partnership focuses on cooperation in aerospace science and technology, including establishing a modernized wind tunnel facility, producing small aircraft piston engines, and joint development in carbon fibre technology, additive manufacturing, and 3D printing.
- **Emerging Areas of Collaboration:** Both countries are exploring opportunities in rare earth and critical minerals extraction, underground coal gasification, and creating modern industrial infrastructure.
- **Capacity Building and Technology Transfer:** The partnership includes capacity building and technology transfer in mining sector equipment, exploration, and industrial and domestic waste management, promoting enhanced engagement in aluminium, fertilizers, and railway transport.

Karol Nawrocki sworn in as Poland's president

- **Conservative Background:** Karol Nawrocki, 42, is a historian and politician with a conservative outlook, backed by the nationalist-conservative Law and Justice party.
- **Election Victory:** Nawrocki won the presidential election with 50.89% of the vote, narrowly defeating liberal Warsaw Mayor Rafał Trzaskowski.
- **Domestic Policy:** He has positioned himself as a defender of traditional Polish values, opposing secular trends like LGBTQ+ visibility, and supports socially conservative policies.
- **Foreign Policy:** Nawrocki is skeptical of the European Union and opposes Ukraine joining NATO, while favoring stronger ties with the US, as evident from his meeting with Donald Trump.
- **Economic Stance:** He advocates for economic patriotism, reducing taxes, and increasing social investments, promising to eliminate overtime labor tax and focus on large economic investments.

Foot notes:

About Poland-

- **President:** Karol Nawrocki

- **Capital:** Warsaw

India and Philippines Sign MoUs to Strengthen Strategic Partnership

- **Comprehensive Cooperation:** The partnership aims to strengthen cooperation between the two nations in various areas, similar to India's agreements with other countries like Malaysia and Qatar. This includes enhancing economic ties, security cooperation, and cultural exchange.
- **Digital Technology Collaboration:** India and the Philippines may explore collaboration in digital technologies, following the example of India's MoU with Thailand's Ministry of Digital Economy and Society. This could involve joint projects, knowledge sharing, and capacity building.
- **Strategic Partnership Framework:** The partnership will likely be guided by a framework similar to those used in India's agreements with other nations. This framework outlines the terms, objectives, and responsibilities of each party, ensuring a structured and effective collaboration.
- **Economic Benefits:** The partnership is expected to boost economic ties between India and the Philippines. This could involve increased trade, investment, and joint ventures in areas like infrastructure development, agriculture, and services.
- **Regional Cooperation:** The partnership may also involve cooperation in regional forums and organizations.

Sandeep Arya appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bhutan

- **Appointment Details:** Sandeep Arya, a 1994-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bhutan. He is currently serving as India's Ambassador to Vietnam and is expected to take up his new assignment shortly.
- **Diplomatic Experience:** Arya brings decades of diplomatic experience across Europe, Africa, and Asia. He has held key roles in disarmament and European affairs, and previously served as High Commissioner to Tanzania and Representative to the East African Community.
- **Background:** Arya was born in June 1971 in Kashipur, India, and holds multiple degrees, including a B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering, M.Tech in Nuclear Engineering, M.A. in Economics, and an MBA. He is fluent in Hindi, English, and Russian.
- **Current Role:** Before his appointment to Bhutan, Arya served as India's Ambassador to Vietnam, a position he assumed in October 2022. During his tenure, he played a pivotal role in strengthening India-Vietnam ties under the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership framework.
- **India-Bhutan Relations:** Arya's appointment is seen as a continuation of India's strong commitment to Bhutan. His vast experience in diplomacy, security, and regional affairs is expected to further bolster India-Bhutan relations.

India Emerges as World's 5th Biggest Aviation Market

- **Rankings:** India has become the world's 5th largest aviation market, handling 241 million passengers in 2024, behind the US, China, the UK, and Spain.
- **Growth Rate:** India's passenger numbers grew 11.1% over 2023, with 211 million air passengers reported last year, surpassing Japan's 205 million passengers despite Japan's higher growth rate of 18.6%.
- **Busiest Airport Pairs:** The Mumbai-Delhi route ranked 7th among the world's busiest airport pairs, carrying 5.9 million passengers in 2024, while Asia Pacific dominated the ranking with Jeju-Seoul being the most popular route globally.
- **Premium Travel:** International premium class travel grew 11.8%, outpacing global economy travel growth of 11.5%, with Asia Pacific leading in percentage growth with 22.8% more premium passengers year-on-year.
- **Aircraft Usage:** Narrow-body planes from Boeing and Airbus were among the most used aircraft in 2024, with Boeing's B737 leading with 10 million flights and 2.4 trillion Available Seat Kilometres (ASKs).

India Ranks Second Globally in Fish Production

- **Global Ranking:** India is the second-largest fish-producing country, contributing around 8% to global fish production.
- **Fish Production Increase:** Fish production in India increased to 184.02 lakh tons in 2023-24 from 95.79 lakh tons in 2013-14.
- **Export Value:** In 2023-24, India exported 17,81,602 metric tons of seafood worth Rs 60,523.89 crore.
- **Government Initiatives:** The government has launched schemes like the Blue Revolution and Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana to boost the fisheries sector.
- **Economic Contribution:** The fisheries sector contributes about 1.09% to India's Gross Value Added (GVA) and over 6.724% to the agricultural GVA.

BANKING NEWS

Vortex Engineering Signs Service Level Agreement with UCO Bank

- **"Make in India" and Atma Nirbhar Bharat:** Vortex Engineering, an India-based company incubated by IIT-Madras, emphasizes domestic design, development, and manufacturing of ATMs. This agreement with UCO Bank directly supports the "Make in India" initiative and the "Atma Nirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India) vision by fostering local innovation and employment in critical banking infrastructure.
- **Financial Inclusion and Digital Banking:** The deployment of 300 new ATMs, particularly energy-efficient models, is crucial for enhancing banking accessibility and financial inclusion, especially in underserved regions.

- **Technological Advancement in Banking Infrastructure:** Vortex's focus on innovative ATM solutions, including low-power ATMs and their remote monitoring platform "PERFO," highlights the ongoing technological upgradation in India's banking sector.
- **Public Sector Bank Modernization:** This partnership signifies UCO Bank's commitment to modernizing its banking infrastructure. For public sector banks, strategic agreements with technology providers like Vortex are essential to keep pace with evolving digital banking needs and compete effectively in the financial landscape.

RBI approves merger of NICBL with Saraswat Co-operative Bank

- **Consolidation in Co-operative Banking Sector:** This merger is a significant step in the ongoing consolidation trend within India's urban co-operative banking (UCB) sector. The RBI encourages such mergers to create stronger, more resilient entities and address the financial fragilities observed in some smaller UCBs.
- **Protection of Depositors' Interests:** A primary reason for such mergers, especially when a weaker bank (like NICBL, which had a negative net worth and was under moratorium due to fraud) is absorbed by a stronger one (Saraswat Co-operative Bank), is to protect the interests of depositors.
- **RBI's Regulatory Role and Powers:** The RBI's approval, exercised under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, highlights its active role as the regulator of co-operative banks. It demonstrates the RBI's commitment to maintaining financial stability.
- **Strengthening Financial Stability & Governance:** Mergers help in improving the overall financial stability of the co-operative banking segment by combining weaker balance sheets with stronger ones.

IndusInd Bank appoints Rajiv Anand as New MD & CEO

- **Experience:** Rajiv Anand is a seasoned banker with over three decades of experience in the banking and financial services industry. He has a proven track record in scaling retail and corporate banking operations.
- **Background:** Anand previously served as the Deputy Managing Director at Axis Bank, where he led the wholesale banking business and drove the bank's digital transformation strategy. He retired from Axis Bank on August 3, 2025, upon completion of his third term as a director on the bank's board.
- **Appointment Details:** Anand's appointment as MD & CEO of IndusInd Bank is effective from August 25, 2025, for a tenure of three years, subject to shareholder approval. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved his appointment.
- **Qualifications:** Anand holds a degree in Commerce and is a qualified Chartered Accountant. He has deep expertise in capital markets, treasury, and asset management.
- **Previous Roles:** Before joining Axis Bank, Anand was the founding MD & CEO of Axis Asset Management Co. Ltd.

Foot notes:

About IndusInd Bank-

- **Former MD & CEO:** Sumant Kathpalia
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- **Founded:** 1994

SPORTS NEWS**Magnus Carlsen Wins 1st Ever Chess Esports World Cup**

- **Mainstreaming of Traditional Games in Esports:** Carlsen's victory in the inaugural Chess Esports World Cup signifies a major milestone in the convergence of traditional intellectual games like chess with the rapidly growing esports industry.
- **Magnus Carlsen's Continued Dominance and Adaptability:** As the world's top-ranked grandmaster and a multi-time World Champion in various formats (classical, rapid, blitz), Carlsen's win in an entirely new esports setting underscores his exceptional skill, adaptability, and enduring dominance across different competitive chess environments.
- **Expansion of Esports Landscape and Prize Pools:** The inclusion of chess in the Esports World Cup, with its substantial prize pool (\$1.5 million overall for chess, with \$250,000 for Carlsen), highlights the increasing financial scale and diversifying nature of the esports ecosystem.
- **Technological Integration and Fan Engagement:** The event showcased chess in a dynamic, high-production esports environment, including live stages, commentary, and fan interaction.

Union Sports Minister felicitates FIDE Champion & Grandmaster Divya

- **Historic Win in Women's Chess World Cup:** Divya Deshmukh, at just 19 years old, made history by becoming the first Indian woman to win the FIDE Women's World Cup 2025.
- **Attainment of Grandmaster Title:** Her victory in the World Cup automatically earned her the coveted Grandmaster (GM) title, making her the 88th Indian and only the 4th Indian woman to achieve this highest chess honor. This highlights the rare combination of a major tournament win with the direct awarding of the GM title.
- **All-Indian Final and Inspiration:** The FIDE Women's World Cup 2025 featured an all-Indian final between Divya Deshmukh and veteran Grandmaster Koneru Humpy.
- **Government Support for Sports Ecosystem:** The felicitation by the Union Sports Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, underscores the government's recognition and support for excellence in sports.
- **Role Model for Youth and Gender Parity in Sports:** Divya Deshmukh's achievement at a young age, coupled with the Minister's emphasis on her serving as an inspiration, highlights the potential for greater participation of youth and women in sports.

Ramesh Budiha Wins India's First Medal at Asian Surfing Championships

- **Historic First:** Ramesh Budihal won bronze in the Open Men's category, becoming the first Indian surfer to win an individual medal at the Asian Surfing Championships.
- **Event Details:** The championships were held in Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu, on August 10, 2025.
- **Final Scores:** Budihal scored 12.60 points, finishing behind South Korea's Kanoa Heejae (15.17, gold) and Indonesia's Pajar Ariyana (14.57, silver).
- **Resilient Journey:** After missing qualification in 2024 and facing personal challenges, Budihal bounced back strongly, leading his quarter-final with 14.84 points and advancing from the semi-final with 11.43 points.
- **Future Significance:** The event also served as a qualifier for the 2026 Asian Games in Japan, marking a big step for India's surfing ambitions.

Canada's Victoria Mboko Wins Her First WTA 1000 Title

- **Opponent:** She defeated four-time Grand Slam champion and former World No. 1, Naomi Osaka, in the final with a score of 2-6, 6-4, 6-1.
- **A "Cinderella" Run:** Mboko, an 18-year-old wild card ranked 85th in the world, had a remarkable tournament. On her way to the title, she defeated four Grand Slam champions: Sofia Kenin, Coco Gauff, Elena Rybakina, and Naomi Osaka.
- **Historic Feat:** She is the second-youngest player ever to defeat four Grand Slam champions in one event, a feat previously accomplished only by Serena Williams in 1999.
- **Rankings Boost:** The win propels her from outside the top 80 to a new career-high ranking of World No. 25, making her the top-ranked Canadian player.

Nisha & Muskan Bag Gold Medal At U19 Asian Boxing Championships

- Indian boxers Nisha and Muskan have won gold medals at the U19 Asian Boxing Championships in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Nisha, competing in the 54kg category, secured her victory with a decisive 4:1 win over Sirui Yang of China.
- Muskan, in the 57kg category, won her gold medal after a tough 3:2 split verdict against Kazakhstan's Ayazhan Ermek.
- Their achievements were part of a strong performance by the Indian team, which concluded the championships with a total of 14 medals.
- The Indian contingent's impressive medal haul included three golds, seven silvers, and four bronze medals.

India's Annu Rani Wins Gold In Women's Javelin Throw

- **Gold Medal Achievement:** Annu Rani won the gold medal with a best throw of 62.92 meters in the fourth attempt, becoming the first Indian woman to win a javelin gold in Asian Games history.
- **Competition Performance:** Rani's throws included 56.99m in the first attempt, 61.28m in the second, 59.24m in the third, and 62.92m in the fourth, securing India's 15th gold medal in the Asian Games.
- **Medalists:** Sri Lanka's Nadeesha Dilhan won silver with a 61.57m throw, and China's Huihui Lyu took bronze with 61.29m.
- **Background and Training:** Annu Rani, 31, from Meerut's Bahadurpur village, was encouraged by her brother Upendra, who noticed her throwing ability during a cricket match. She practiced with sugarcane sticks and bamboo javelins due to financial constraints.
- **Impact and Ambition:** Rani aims to compete in the 2024 Paris Olympics and hopes her achievement inspires girls in her village to pursue sports, promoting freedom and dignity.

Argentina Clinch Double Gold at Pan American Hockey Cup 2025

- **Double Gold Medal Win:** Argentina won both the men's and women's titles in the Pan American Hockey Cup 2025, held in Montevideo, Uruguay. The men's team defeated the USA 10-0 in the final, while the women's team won 3-0 against the same opponent.
- **World Cup Qualification:** Argentina's men's team qualified for the 2026 FIH Hockey World Cup, while the women's team had already qualified through the FIH Pro League. The USA women's team secured the continental spot for the World Cup.
- **Tournament Performance:** Argentina's men's team went unbeaten throughout the tournament, winning all their matches, including a 13-0 win against Brazil and a 12-0 win against Uruguay. Tomas Domene scored four goals in the final and was named player of the tournament.
- **Women's Team Dominance:** Argentina's women's team extended their historic legacy with a seventh consecutive title. Agustina Gorzelany was the top scorer in the women's tournament with 10 goals.
- **Opponent Performance:** The USA took silver medals in both the men's and women's categories.

South Africa Champions won the World Championship of Legends 2025

- **Comprehensive Victory:** South Africa Champions defeated Pakistan Champions by 9 wickets, chasing down a target of 196 runs in just 16.5 overs. AB de Villiers' unbeaten 120 off 60 balls, including 12 fours and 7 sixes, was instrumental in the win.
- **Tournament Performance:** De Villiers was on fire throughout the tournament, scoring 431 runs in 6 innings and finishing as the highest run-scorer. He smashed three centuries in the tournament, including a 47-ball century in the final.

- **Partnerships Matter:** De Villiers added 72 runs with Hashim Amla for the first wicket and an unbeaten 125 runs with Jean-Paul Duminy for the second wicket. Duminy scored 50 off 28 balls and played a crucial supporting role.
- **Pakistan's Challenge:** Pakistan Champions posted 195/5 in 20 overs, thanks to Sharjeel Khan's 76 off 44 balls. However, their bowlers couldn't defend the total, and South Africa's batting firepower proved too strong.
- **Special Moment for De Villiers:** AB de Villiers played through a hamstring injury, motivated by his children's desire to see him play in the final.

Abdulla Aboobacker wins men's triple jump title at Qosanov Memorial 2025

- **Event Details:** Abdulla Aboobacker won the gold medal in the men's triple jump event at the 2025 Qosanov Memorial in Almaty, Kazakhstan.
- **Winning Jump:** Aboobacker recorded a best effort of 16.08m in his third attempt to secure the top spot on the podium.
- **Margin of Victory:** The win was narrow, with Aboobacker beating South Koreans Yu Gyumin and Kim Jangwoo by just 1cm, who both registered a best effort of 16.07m.
- **Competition Level:** The Qosanov Memorial is a World Athletics Continental Tour Bronze level event, and Aboobacker is vying for a direct qualification to the 2025 World Athletics Championships.
- **Recent Performance:** Aboobacker's gold win comes after Murali Sreeshankar's gold win in men's long jump at the same meet, showcasing a strong performance by Indian athletes in the competition.

Lando Norris won the Hungarian Grand Prix 2025

- **Winning Margin:** Lando Norris secured McLaren's 200th Grand Prix victory by beating teammate Oscar Piastri by 0.698 seconds, with Norris holding off Piastri's late charge.
- **Strategic Gamble:** Norris's win was largely due to a successful one-stop strategy, which allowed him to gain an advantage over Piastri and Charles Leclerc. He pitted on Lap 31, switching to hard tires, and managed to maintain his position.
- **Championship Standings:** Despite the loss, Oscar Piastri remains the leader in the drivers' championship, but Norris has narrowed the gap to just nine points.
- **Podium Finishers:** George Russell took third place for Mercedes, overtaking Leclerc late in the race. Leclerc finished fourth after struggling with an "undriveable" car and received a five-second penalty for erratic driving.

Vedika Bhansali wins US Kids World Championship golf

- **Championship Details:** Vedika Bhansali from Bengaluru won the US Kids World Championship golf title in the girls 9-year category at Pinehurst Village in the US.

- **Winning Score:** She achieved a total score of 10-under, shooting 33-33-32 in the nine-hole rounds, with only one bogey in the three rounds.
- **Margin of Victory:** Vedika beat Japan's Emi Minami by one shot and American Audrey Zhang by two shots.
- **Other Indian Performers:** Aida Thimmaiah from Bengaluru finished third in the girls 11 category, while Nihal Cheema from Chandigarh tied for fourth in the boys 8 category, and Kabir Goyal from Noida finished eighth in the boys 10 category.

Murali Sreeshankar wins gold at Qosanov Memorial 2025

- **Winning Jump:** Murali Sreeshankar secured the gold medal with a 7.94m jump on his first attempt, showcasing his impressive skill and technique.
- **Comeback Victory:** This win marks Sreeshankar's third victory since returning from a knee injury that sidelined him for 18 months, demonstrating his resilience and determination.
- **Competition Details:** The Qosanov Memorial is a World Athletics Continental Tour Bronze meet, which provides ranking points and qualification opportunities for major global events like the World Athletics Championships.
- **Consistent Performance:** Sreeshankar's series of jumps at the competition were consistently strong, with marks of 7.94m, 7.73m, 7.58m, 7.57m, 7.80m, and 7.79m, highlighting his ability to maintain performance under pressure.

India's Manush-Diya shines at WTT Star Contender

- Top-seeded in the mixed doubles draw and ranked World No. 10, the Indian pair of Manush Shah and Diya Chitale reached their first ever WTT Star Contender final—becoming the first Indian mixed doubles team to achieve this feat
- In the semifinal, they produced a commanding 3–0 win over Chile's Nicolás Burgos and Paulina Vega with scores of 11–7, 11–2, 11–7, showcasing superb coordination, tactical control, and superior execution under pressure
- Simultaneously, Manush Shah teamed with Manav Thakkar in men's doubles—also as top seeds and World No. 10—to advance to the final. This marked the first time that two Indian doubles pairs reached finals in the same Star Contender event
- In a five-game thriller, the duo edged out Chinese Taipei's Huang Yan-Cheng and Kuo Guan-Hong in the semifinals (5–11, 11–9, 11–6, 8–11, 11–5)—a match that highlighted their grit and ability to bounce back under pressure

Lucky wins silver, Sitender reaches final at U17 Wrestling Worlds

- **Lucky's Silver Medal:** Lucky secured a silver medal in the 110 kg men's freestyle wrestling category at the U17 World Championships in Athens, Greece. He lost to Magomedrasul Omarov in the gold medal match with a score of 4-6.

- **Sitender's Final Spot:** Sitender booked his spot in the gold medal bout in the men's 60kg freestyle category with a 5-1 win over Kazakhstan's Bekassyl Assambek in the semi-finals.
- **Previous Performance:** Lucky had previously won a gold medal in the 110 kg category at the U17 Asian Wrestling Championships in Vietnam, showcasing his skills and consistency.
- **Gaurav Punia's Loss:** Gaurav Punia, another Indian wrestler, lost in the men's 65kg freestyle bronze medal bout against Iran's Morteza Mollamohammadi.

AWARD NEWS

Guwahati Airport Wins International Architectural Award 2025

- Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport's new Terminal 2 in Guwahati has been honored with the International Architectural Award 2025 in the Transport category.
- The prestigious award was presented by The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies.
- The airport's design is inspired by the resilience of bamboo and the elegance of the foxtail orchid, reflecting Assam's rich biodiversity and cultural heritage.
- Its architecture blends modern functionality with sustainability, incorporating features like open layouts to maximize natural light and indoor gardens.
- This recognition places the Guwahati Airport among a select group of seven airports worldwide that have been acknowledged for architectural excellence and visionary urban planning.

Jupiter wins German Urban Development Award

- **Award Details:** Jupiter, a project by Hamburg Kreativ Gesellschaft, won a special prize at the 2025 German Urban Development Award (GUDA) for its innovative approach to urban development and conversion culture in the circular city.
- **Project Overview:** Jupiter is a former department store transformed into a vibrant urban center, featuring a bar, exhibitions, pop-ups, concerts, shops, and educational courses, showcasing the impact of culture and creative industries on urban development.
- **Recognition:** The award recognizes Jupiter's contribution to sustainable and positive urban development, highlighting its role as a hub for culture, innovation, and community engagement in Hamburg's city center.
- **Previous Accolades:** Jupiter has received national recognition, including the Polis Award in 2024, demonstrating its significance in urban development and creative industries.

- **GUDA Significance:** The German Urban Development Award, presented by the German Academy for Urban and Regional Planning (DASL), honors outstanding projects that promote sustainable urban development.

Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Navy Receives Prestigious Military Award

- **Award Name:** The award is called the Pingat Jasa Gemilang (Tentera) or Meritorious Service Medal (Military), which is Singapore's prestigious military honor.
- **Recognition:** The award recognizes the Royal Thai Navy's significant contributions to enhancing bilateral defense ties with the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).
- **Key Contributions:** The Commander-in-Chief's leadership has fostered frequent and meaningful interactions between the two navies, including Navy-to-Navy Staff Talks, professional exchanges, and mutual port calls.
- **Maritime Security:** The award also acknowledges the Royal Thai Navy's commitment to enhancing maritime security in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore through multilateral information-sharing and capacity-building initiatives.

APPOINTMENT & PERSON IN NEWS

Sindhu B Rupesh appointed as Director in the Department of Space

- **Bureaucratic Restructuring/Central Staffing Scheme:** Her appointment as an IAS officer (2011 batch, Karnataka cadre) under the Central Staffing Scheme highlights the government's approach to bringing experienced administrative talent.
- **Reinforcement of Space Sector:** The Department of Space (DoS) is crucial for India's space program, primarily executed through ISRO. Her administrative background suggests a focus on strengthening organizational efficiency and coordination within this vital strategic sector.
- **Governance & Administration in Key Sector:** Her prior roles as Deputy Commissioner, Director of Information and Public Relations, and Commissioner in BBMP demonstrate a strong background in public administration, citizen-centric governance, and potentially digital transformation.
- **Strategic Appointment Location (Bengaluru):** The appointment is specifically in Bengaluru, which is a major hub for India's space activities, housing key ISRO centers.

Khalid Jamil appointed as Head Coach of Indian Senior Men's Football Team

- **Return of a Homegrown Coach after a Decade:** Khalid Jamil's appointment marks a significant shift in the All India Football Federation (AIFF)'s policy, as he is the first Indian to be appointed as the full-time head coach of the senior men's national team in over 13 years (since Savio Medeira in 2011-12). This signals a renewed faith in domestic coaching talent.

- **Focus on "Indian Football Ecosystem":** The AIFF's decision to appoint an Indian coach like Jamil, who has extensive experience across various tiers of Indian club football (I-League, ISL), suggests an intent to leverage a deeper understanding of Indian players, their strengths, weaknesses, and the overall domestic footballing environment.
- **Proven Domestic Track Record:** Jamil is widely recognized for his remarkable achievements in Indian club football, most notably leading Aizawl FC to a historic I-League title in 2017 against significant odds, and guiding Jamshedpur FC to the ISL playoffs and Super Cup semifinals.
- **Strategic Shift Amidst Performance and Financial Challenges:** His appointment comes at a time when the Indian national team has seen a period of underwhelming performances under foreign coaches.

Dr. Mayank Sharma Assumes Office as Financial Advisor (Defence Services)

- **Key Appointment in Defence Finance:** Dr. Mayank Sharma's assumption of charge as Financial Advisor (Defence Services) is a crucial appointment within the Ministry of Defence. This role is central to managing the substantial defence budget, ensuring financial prudence, and advising on all financial matters related to the armed forces and defence procurement.
- **Senior Bureaucratic Role (IDAS):** As an officer of the Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS), his appointment highlights the specialized expertise required for defence finance.
- **Financial Oversight and Expenditure Management:** The Financial Advisor (Defence Services) is instrumental in the effective management of defence expenditure, which is one of the largest components of the Union Budget.
- **Procurement and Modernization Support:** A significant part of the role involves providing financial advice on defence procurement, including major acquisitions and modernization projects.

Ajay Kumar Jaiswal appointed as CVO, Northern Coalfields Ltd.

- **Strengthening Vigilance in PSUs:** The appointment of a CVO like Ajay Kumar Jaiswal (an IRSME officer of the 2008 batch) in a major Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) like Northern Coalfields Ltd (NCL) underscores the government's continuous emphasis on improving vigilance and anti-corruption mechanisms within public enterprises.
- **Role of the CVO:** The CVO acts as the extended arm of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) within the PSU. Their primary responsibility is to oversee vigilance activities, promote transparency, and ensure ethical practices, playing a crucial role in both preventive and punitive vigilance.
- **Governance in the Coal Sector:** NCL is a significant coal-producing company under the Ministry of Coal. The appointment of a CVO is particularly important in sectors like coal

mining, which are often susceptible to issues of corruption and malpractice due to large-scale operations and resource allocation. This aims to enhance good governance.

- **Tenure and Independence:** CVOs are typically appointed for a fixed tenure (often three years, extendable by two), and they function as an independent authority directly reporting to the Chief Executive of the undertaking.

Nitish Suri appointed as Director in the Department of Higher Education

- Nitish Suri, a 2011-batch Indian Trade Service (ITradeS) officer, has been appointed as Director in the Department of Higher Education.
- This appointment falls under the Central Staffing Scheme and is for a period of five years.
- Prior to this role, Suri was serving as the Joint Director General of Foreign Trade (Joint DGFT).
- He will be relieved from his current position to immediately take up this new role within the Ministry of Education.
- Suri's extensive background in international trade policy is expected to contribute to strategic initiatives like global collaboration and innovation in education policy.

Tanvi Sundriyal appointed as Director in Ministry of Civil Aviation

- Tanvi Sundriyal, an IAS officer of the 2010 batch from the Madhya Pradesh cadre, has been appointed as Director in the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- This appointment is under the Central Staffing Scheme and will be for a period of five years.
- She will assume charge of her new role from the date she takes over, or until further notice.
- Sundriyal holds degrees in Electrical and Electronics Engineering and a Bachelor of Laws, and has served in various administrative roles in Madhya Pradesh.
- Her appointment is expected to strengthen the ministry as it focuses on expanding airport infrastructure and implementing key policy reforms.

Isha Khosla appointed as Director in the Department of Expenditure

- **Appointment Details:** Isha Khosla, a 2011-batch IAS officer of AGMUT cadre, has been appointed as Director in the Department of Expenditure for a tenure of five years from the date of assuming charge or until further orders.
- **Background:** Khosla hails from Delhi and holds a B.Com (Hons) degree from Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College, Delhi University, and is also a qualified Company Secretary.
- **Administrative Experience:** She has held several key positions, including District Magistrate of South Delhi, Deputy Commissioner in Upper Siang and other districts,

Resident Commissioner of Goa, and Special Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi.

- **Financial Expertise:** With her diverse administrative background and financial expertise, Khosla brings significant experience to her new role in the Department of Expenditure, which is part of the Ministry of Finance.

S. Radha Chauhan Assumes Charge as Chairperson of Capacity Building Commission

- **Appointment Details:** S. Radha Chauhan, a 1988-batch IAS officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre, has been appointed to a significant role in the central government, although the specific position of Chairperson of Capacity Building Commission is not directly confirmed in available sources. However, she was appointed as Secretary in the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT).
- **Background:** Chauhan is a seasoned bureaucrat with extensive experience in various roles, including Additional Chief Secretary in the Finance and Tax Department of Uttar Pradesh.
- **Previous Roles:** She has held key positions such as District Magistrate of Bulandshahr and Pilibhit, Commissioner of Ghaziabad, and CEO of Noida Development Authority.
- **Central Government Experience:** Chauhan has previously worked with the central government as Joint Secretary in the School Education Department under the Ministry of Human Resource Development and Chairperson and CEO of National e-Governance Division (NeGD).

Vice Admiral CR Nair Assumes Charge as Controller Personnel Service

- **Appointment Details:** Vice Admiral CR Praveen Nair, AVSM, NM, assumed charge as CPS on July 31, 2025, at Naval Headquarters, paying tribute to fallen heroes at the National War Memorial.
- **Experience and Expertise:** With over 34 years of experience, Nair is a Surface Warfare Officer specializing in Communications and Electronic Warfare. He has commanded prominent warships like INS Kirch, INS Chennai, and INS Vikramaditya.
- **Leadership Roles:** Nair has held key positions, including Flag Officer Commanding Western Fleet, Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Policy & Plans), and Commandant of the Indian Naval Academy.
- **Awards and Recognition:** He has received the Nao Sena Medal in 2000 and the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 2025 for his dedicated service. Nair also won prestigious awards at the US Naval War College, including the Robert E. Bateman International Award.
- **Responsibilities as CPS:** As Controller Personnel Services, Nair will oversee personnel management and human resource strategy during a period of significant expansion in the Navy's force structure.

Tata Motors' PB Balaji appointed as New CEO of Jaguar Land Rover

- **First Indian CEO:** PB Balaji becomes the first Indian to hold the position of CEO at Jaguar Land Rover, a British luxury car division of Tata Motors. He will succeed Adrian Mardell, who is set to retire after 35 years with the company.
- **Effective Date:** Balaji's appointment will be effective from November 2025, and he will lead the company as it continues its transformation journey under the 'Reimagine' strategy, focusing on electrification, profitability, and premium brand elevation.
- **Background and Experience:** Balaji is a mechanical engineer from IIT Chennai and an alumnus of IIM Kolkata. He has 32 years of experience in the automotive and FMCG sectors, including stints in Singapore, Switzerland, UK, and India. Currently, he serves as the Group CFO of Tata Motors.
- **Leadership Transition:** Balaji's appointment follows a formal board-led succession process. Adrian Mardell, the outgoing CEO, expressed gratitude to the JLR workforce and wished Balaji success in his new role.

Sathiya S appointed as Director in the Ministry of Cooperation

- **Appointment Details:** Sathiya S, an IRS-IT officer of the 2011 batch, has been appointed as Director in the Ministry of Cooperation for a period of five years from the date of assuming charge or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- **Central Staffing Scheme:** The appointment is under the Central Staffing Scheme, and Sathiya S was recommended for central deputation by the Department of Revenue.
- **Immediate Relieving:** Sathiya S has been directed to be relieved of her current duties immediately to take up her new assignment in the Ministry of Cooperation, Delhi.
- **Department of Personnel and Training:** The Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) issued an office memorandum announcing Sathiya S's appointment, emphasizing that she must join the new assignment within three weeks of the appointment order.

Lt Gen Pushpendra Singh Takes Charge as Vice Chief of Army Staff

- **Military Career:** Singh has had an illustrious career spanning 38 years, with experience in key military operations, including 'Operation Pawan', 'Operation Meghdoot', 'Operation Orchid', and multiple tenures in 'Operation Rakshak'.
- **Command Experience:** He commanded a Special Forces Unit in the Kashmir Valley and along the Line of Control, and later commanded an infantry brigade and a mountain division in 'Operation Snow Leopard' along the Line of Actual Control.
- **Awards and Recognition:** Lt Gen Singh has been awarded the Ati Vishist Seva Medal and Bar to Sena Medal for his distinguished service to the nation.
- **Educational Background:** Singh is an alumnus of La Martiniere College, Lucknow University, and the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun, holding master's degrees in management studies and philosophy from Osmania University and Panjab University, respectively.

Manoj Tiwari appointed for the post of Director, Dr Ambedkar Foundation

- **Appointment Details:** Manoj Tiwari, a 2003-batch IPS officer of the Sikkim cadre, has been appointed as Director of the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation, New Delhi, on a deputation basis under the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- **Tenure:** Tiwari will serve in the role for a period of five years from the date of taking over charge or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- **Background:** The Dr. Ambedkar Foundation was established on March 24, 1992, as a registered society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, with the aim of promoting the ideals and legacy of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, focusing on social justice, equality, and empowerment.
- **Leadership Role:** As Director, Tiwari is expected to provide strong leadership in advancing the Foundation's mission, bringing extensive experience from the Indian Police Service.

Vice Admiral Manish Chadha Takes Command of Indian Naval Academy

- **New Role:** Vice Admiral Manish Chadha has taken command of the Indian Naval Academy (INA) in Ezhimala, succeeding Vice Admiral CR Praveen Nair in a ceremony conducted with full military honors.
- **Extensive Experience:** Chadha brings 34 years of service to his new role, having been commissioned into the Indian Navy on July 1, 1991. He's a specialist in Communication and Electronic Warfare and has commanded key warships like INS Mysore, INS Veer, and INS Kirpan.
- **Leadership Background:** Before joining INA, Chadha served as the Assistant Chief of Personnel (Human Resource Development) at Naval Headquarters, giving him a strong background in training and personnel development.
- **Awards and Decorations:** Vice Admiral Manish Chadha was awarded the Vishisht Seva Medal in 2017 for his exceptional service.

Shashi Prakash Goyal Takes Charge as New Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh

- **New Appointment:** Shashi Prakash Goyal, a 1989-batch IAS officer, has taken charge as the new Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh, succeeding Manoj Kumar Singh who retired on July 31, 2025.
- **Background and Experience:** Goyal has extensive experience in governance, having served as Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and handling key departments such as Civil Aviation, Estate, and Protocol. He's also worked closely with Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath since 2017.
- **Developmental Goals:** Goyal aims to make Uttar Pradesh a one-trillion-dollar economy and focus on industrial growth, economic development, and ensuring timely completion

of development projects. He emphasized zero tolerance for crime and corruption during his tenure.

- **Additional Responsibilities:** Apart from being the Chief Secretary, Goyal will hold key positions such as Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner, Chairman of the State Industrial Development Corporation, CEO of the Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority, and Project Director of the state's Agricultural Diversification Project.

Foot notes:

About Uttar Pradesh-

- **Chief Minister:** Yogi Adityanath
- **Governor:** Anandiben Patel
- **Capital:** Lucknow

Manisha Sinha appointed as Member (Financial Services) Postal Services Board

- **Appointment:** Manisha Sinha, a 1992-batch Indian Postal Service (IPVOS), has been appointed as Member (Financial Services) of the Postal Services Board in the Ministry of Communications.
- **Background:** Sinha brings over three decades of experience in postal services, with deep expertise in managing and strengthening financial operations within India's vast postal network.
- **Responsibilities:** As Member (Financial Services), Sinha will oversee Post Office Savings Bank (POSB), Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) matters, financial inclusion, and other financial services.
- **Previous Role:** Before this appointment, Sinha served as Joint Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, showcasing her expertise in economic affairs and governance.
- **Impact:** This appointment is expected to leverage Sinha's experience to enhance financial operations and services within the postal department, contributing to its growth and efficiency.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Cloves Syndrome Awareness Day observed on 03rd August,2025

- **Focus on a Rare Congenital Disorder:** CLOVES Syndrome Awareness Day highlights a very rare congenital (present at birth) disorder. Its acronym stands for Congenital Lipomatous Overgrowth, Vascular Malformations, Epidermal Nevi, and Spinal/Skeletal Anomalies/Scoliosis, signifying its multi-systemic nature.
- **Importance of Early Diagnosis and Research:** With fewer than 200 identified cases worldwide, CLOVES Syndrome is often misdiagnosed. Awareness days are crucial to educate healthcare professionals and the public, leading to earlier and accurate diagnosis,

which is vital for effective management and improving the quality of life for affected individuals.

- **Genetic Basis (PIK3CA Mutation):** CLOVES Syndrome is caused by spontaneous mutations in the PIK3CA gene during fetal development. Understanding its genetic origin is key for potential future gene therapies, even though there are no known risk factors for these mutations currently.
- **Multidisciplinary Management Challenge:** Due to its diverse symptoms affecting various body parts (fatty overgrowths, blood vessel malformations, skin lesions, skeletal issues), managing CLOVES Syndrome requires a multidisciplinary approach involving numerous medical specialists (e.g., surgeons, radiologists, orthopedists, geneticists).

Quit India Movement Day observed on 08th August

- Quit India Movement Day, also known as August Kranti Diwas, is observed annually on August 8 in India.
- The day commemorates the launch of the Quit India Movement in 1942 by Mahatma Gandhi, which was a pivotal moment in India's struggle for independence.
- During the movement, Gandhi delivered his famous "Do or Die" speech at the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Mumbai, urging Indians to fight for freedom.
- The movement called for the immediate withdrawal of British rule and led to mass protests, civil disobedience, and the arrest of major Congress leaders.
- This historic day serves as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices and collective resolve of countless freedom fighters who contributed to India's journey to independence.

National Handloom Day observed on 07th August

- **Date and Significance:** National Handloom Day is observed annually on August 7 to honor the handloom weaving community and highlight the industry's contribution to India's socio-economic development. The date commemorates the launch of the Swadeshi Movement in 1905, which promoted domestic handloom products.
- **Theme:** The theme for National Handloom Day 2024 is "Weaving Sustainable Futures," emphasizing sustainable fashion and eco-friendly choices. This theme encourages individuals to adopt handloom products made from natural fibers and dyes, supporting artisans and environmental conservation.
- **Economic Impact:** The handloom sector is a significant contributor to India's economy, employing over 4.3 million people, predominantly in rural areas. It generates substantial revenue through exports, with major markets including the USA, UK, Germany, France, and Japan.
- **Government Initiatives:** The government supports the handloom sector through initiatives like the National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS).

Hiroshima Day observed on 06th August

- **Historical Significance:** Hiroshima Day commemorates the atomic bombing of Hiroshima by the United States on August 6, 1945, during World War II, resulting in an estimated 70,000 to 80,000 immediate deaths and tens of thousands more from injuries and radiation exposure.
- **The Bombing:** The atomic bomb, codenamed "Little Boy," was dropped by the B-29 bomber Enola Gay at 8:15 a.m. local time, leveling a significant portion of the city and causing widespread destruction.
- **Long-term Effects:** Survivors, known as "hibakusha," suffered from long-term health issues, including radiation sickness, cancer, and genetic disorders. The bombing also had a profound psychological impact on the survivors and the city's infrastructure.
- **Global Commemoration:** Hiroshima Day is observed worldwide with memorial ceremonies, peace marches, and educational events to promote nuclear disarmament and peace. The Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park hosts a ceremony, including a moment of silence at 8:15 a.m. and the release of paper lanterns.

OBITUARY NEWS

Veteran Actor KPAC Rajendran passed away

- **Veteran Theatre and Television Artist:** KPAC Rajendran was a renowned figure in Malayalam theatre and television, with a career spanning over five decades. He was particularly associated with the Kerala Peoples Arts Club (KPAC), a legendary theatre troupe.
- **Iconic Role in "Ningalenne Communistakki":** He gained significant recognition for his powerful role in the acclaimed play "Ningalenne Communistakki" (You Made Me a Communist), a landmark production in Malayalam progressive theatre.
- **Popularity through "Uppum Mulakum":** Despite his extensive theatre background, he became a household name across Kerala, especially among the younger generation, for his portrayal of Padavalam Kuttanpillai in the highly popular Malayalam sitcom "Uppum Mulakum" (Salt and Pepper).
- He passed away on July 31, 2025, at the age of 74, while undergoing treatment at Government Medical College Hospital, Alappuzha, reportedly due to kidney-related ailments.

Actor Kelley Mack passed away after Battle with Glioma

- Kelley Mack, an actress known for her roles in shows like The Walking Dead, has passed away at the age of 33.
- Mack had publicly shared her diagnosis of diffuse midline glioma (DMG) in January 2025 and had been documenting her health journey.

- She was known for her role as "Addy" in Season 9 of The Walking Dead and also had guest appearances in series like Chicago Med and 9-1-1.
- In addition to her acting work, Mack was also a voice-over artist and was featured posthumously in an upcoming film, reflecting her enduring passion for her craft.

Shibu Soren, Former Jharkhand Chief Minister, passed away

- Soren was a seven-term MP from Dumka constituency and held various positions, including Minister for Coal in the Union Cabinet. He played a pivotal role in Jharkhand's statehood movement and was revered as "Dishom Guru" by tribal communities.
- Soren faced several controversies, including allegations of murder, bribery, and ties with militant organizations. He was acquitted in the 1994 murder case of his former personal secretary Shashinath Jha.
- Soren's son, Hemant Soren, is the current Chief Minister of Jharkhand. Shibu Soren passed away on August 4, 2025, after prolonged illness and kidney ailments at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital in Delhi.

Dr. V. Vasanthi Devi, Former VC of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, passed away

- **Academic Background:** Born in 1938 in Dindigul, Vasanthi Devi pursued her higher secondary education in Madras at 15. She graduated in history from Presidency College, Chennai, and later earned her PhD from the University of the Philippines in the 1970s.
- **Notable Positions:** Devi served as the Vice Chancellor of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University from 1992 to 1998, becoming the first woman to hold the position in any state university except Mother Teresa Women's University. She also chaired the Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women from 2002 to 2005.
- **Human Rights Activism:** Vasanthi Devi was a prominent human rights activist, known for her involvement in various movements, including the teachers' movement and struggles for the right to education and human rights. Her work earned recognition from notable figures like Chief Minister M K Stalin and DMK MP Kanimozhi.
- **Literary Contributions:** Devi authored several books, including "Sakthi Pirakkum Kalvi," "Kalvi Or Arasiyal," and "Makkal Mayamaagum Kalvi," showcasing her commitment to education and social causes.

IDBI Chairman & Satyam Reviver T N Manoharan passed away

- **Death Details:** T N Manoharan, former IDBI Chairman and Padma Shri awardee, passed away on July 30, 2025, in Mumbai due to a massive heart attack.
- **Career Highlights:** Manoharan was a renowned chartered accountant with over 30 years of experience. He served as the Non-Executive Chairman of Canara Bank from 2015 to 2020 and was a member of several regulatory bodies, including the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI).

- **Satyam Revival:** Manoharan played a crucial role in reviving Satyam Computer Services, leading the company's board to protect depositors' interests and wind up the business. His efforts earned him the "Indian of the Year" award in 2009.
- **Awards and Recognition:** Manoharan received the Padma Shri award for his contributions to the field of accountancy and business leadership. He was also awarded the Business Leadership Award.

Malayalam Actor and Mimicry Artiste Kalabhavan Navas passed away

- Kalabhavan Navas, a renowned Malayalam actor and mimicry artist, passed away on August 1, 2025, at the age of 51, due to a suspected cardiac arrest.
- Navas was known for his performances in hit films like "My Dear Karadi," "Vettam," and "One Man Show." He began his career as a mimicry artist with the Kalabhavan troupe and later transitioned to acting.
- The Kerala government and film industry paid their respects to Navas, with Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan condoled his death. Hundreds gathered at Aluva Town Jama Masjid to pay their last tributes.

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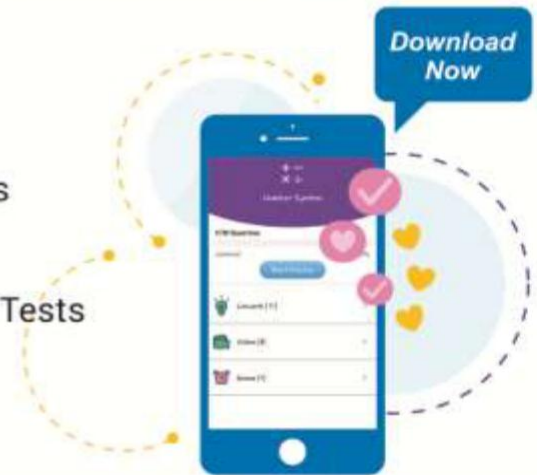
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