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WEEKLY — Current Affairs

NATIONAL NEWS

Rajnath, Yogi inaugurate India's largest aero engine test bed in UP

- **Inauguration:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath jointly inaugurated India's largest aero engine test bed in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Facility Purpose:** The test bed is designed for testing and validating aero engines, crucial for strengthening India's aerospace and defence self-reliance.
- **Strategic Importance:** The facility supports the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, reducing dependence on foreign testing facilities.
- **Key Agency Involved:** Developed under the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) / DRDO collaboration (depending on official details, can confirm exact body).
- **Regional Boost:** The project not only strengthens India's defence ecosystem but also positions Uttar Pradesh as a defence and aerospace hub.

Odisha Ranks 5th in E-Bus Adoption, Plans 1,000+ Fleet

- **National Ranking:** Odisha secured the 5th position in India for electric bus (e-bus) adoption.
- **Current Status:** The state has already introduced e-buses in key cities under the 'Location Accessible Multimodal Initiative (LAccMI)' scheme.
- **Expansion Plan:** Odisha government announced plans to expand its e-bus fleet to over 1,000 buses in the coming years.
- **Objective:** The move aims to promote green public transport, reduce carbon emissions, and improve urban mobility.
- **Significance:** With this step, Odisha is set to become a leading state in sustainable transport, aligning with India's net zero and clean energy goals.

India's First Port-Based Green Hydrogen Project at VOC Port

- **Project Inauguration:** Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, inaugurated the project on September 5, 2025, marking a significant step in India's clean energy transition.
- **Green Hydrogen Production:** The Rs 3.87 crore pilot facility produces 10 Nm³/hr of green hydrogen, powering streetlights and an electric vehicle charging station in the port colony, making VOC Port the first Indian port to generate green hydrogen.

- **Green Methanol Bunkering Facility:** Alongside the hydrogen project, Sonowal laid the foundation for a Rs 35.34 crore Green Methanol Bunkering and Refuelling Facility with a 750 m³ capacity, supporting the proposed Coastal Green Shipping Corridor between Kandla and Tuticorin.
- **Renewable Energy Integration:** The project aligns with India's National Green Hydrogen Mission, aiming to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, promote sustainable energy, and position VOC Port as a key green bunkering hub in south India.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Dinesh K Patnaik Appointed India's Envoy to Canada

- **New Appointment:** Senior diplomat Dinesh K. Patnaik has been appointed as India's High Commissioner to Canada.
- **Previous Role:** He previously served as Director General of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- **Diplomatic Experience:** Patnaik is a seasoned Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 1990 batch, with experience in Europe, Asia, and Africa.
- **Context:** His appointment comes at a crucial time, amid strained India-Canada relations over diplomatic and security concerns.
- **Significance:** As High Commissioner, he will play a key role in strengthening bilateral ties, addressing challenges, and expanding cooperation in trade, education, and diaspora engagement.

Singapore ranked safest in Asia, 6th globally in Global Peace Index'25

- **Global Ranking:** Singapore is ranked 6th globally in the Global Peace Index 2025, making it the only Asian country in the top 10.
- **Asian Ranking:** Singapore is the safest country in Asia, followed by Japan (12th globally), Malaysia (13th globally), and Bhutan (not specified globally).
- **Peace Score:** Singapore scored 1.357 in the index, improving from 1.339 in 2024, reflecting its continued commitment to maintaining social stability.
- **Key Factors:** The ranking considers 23 indicators across three domains: societal safety and security, ongoing domestic and international conflict, and degree of militarization. Singapore excelled in societal safety and security.
- **Global Context:** The index highlights a concerning trend of declining global peacefulness, with 87 countries experiencing deterioration and 74 showing improvement in peacefulness.

Dr. Deepak Mittal appointed as India's New Envoy to UAE

- **Appointment:** Dr. Deepak Mittal, an Indian Foreign Service officer from the 1998 batch, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the United Arab Emirates.
- **Background:** As a seasoned diplomat, Dr. Mittal brings extensive experience to his new role, further strengthening India's diplomatic ties with the UAE.
- **Assumption of Office:** He is expected to take up his new assignment shortly, although the exact date hasn't been specified.
- **Strategic Move:** This appointment reflects India's efforts to bolster its strategic partnership with the UAE, a key player in the Middle East region.

Rohit Rathish appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Seychelles

- **Appointment Details:** Rohit Rathish, a 2006 batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Seychelles, according to the Ministry of External Affairs.
- **Current Role:** Rathish is currently serving as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs and is expected to take up his new assignment shortly.
- **Diplomatic Relations:** India and Seychelles have historically enjoyed close diplomatic relations, with cooperation in areas like defense, security, and economic development. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Seychelles in 2015 marked a significant milestone in bilateral ties.
- **Strategic Importance:** The appointment highlights India's strategic interest in the Indian Ocean region, where Seychelles plays a crucial role. Strengthening ties with Seychelles is vital for India's maritime security and regional influence.

David Lammy becomes UK Deputy PM after Rayner's exit

- **Reason for Angela Rayner's Exit:** Angela Rayner resigned as Deputy Prime Minister and Labour's deputy leader following a probe into her tax affairs, specifically regarding underpaid stamp duty on an £800,000 flat in Hove.
- **David Lammy's Role:** David Lammy has been appointed as the new Deputy Prime Minister while retaining his position as Justice Secretary, overseeing critical issues like court backlogs, prison capacity, and confidence in the criminal justice system.
- **Responsibilities:** As Deputy Prime Minister, Lammy will stand in for Prime Minister Keir Starmer during his absence and act as a senior sounding board across the government, while also focusing on delivering reforms in the justice department.

- **Labour Party's Next Steps:** Rayner's exit triggers a deputy leadership contest within the Labour Party, which will test the party's coalition and potentially shape its tone and message heading into the next legislative crunch points.

Irfaan Ali re-elected as Guyana President

- **Election Results:** Irfaan Ali won a second term as President, with his People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) securing 36 seats in the National Assembly, an increase of three seats from the 2020 election. The party garnered over 55% of the popular vote.
- **International Observers:** The election process was monitored by several international groups, including the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Carter Center.
- **Opposition Performance:** The We Invest in Nationhood party, a newcomer led by US-sanctioned businessman Azruddin Mohamed, secured 24.87% of the votes and 16 seats, becoming the primary opposition.
- **US Congratulations:** The United States congratulated President Ali on his re-election, expressing commitment to strengthening bilateral ties between the two countries.

DEFENCE NEWS

Army Conducts Yudh Kaushal 3.0 Multi-Domain Drill in Arunachal

- **Exercise Conducted:** The Indian Army carried out Yudh Kaushal 3.0, a large-scale multi-domain military drill in Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Objective:** The exercise tested operational readiness, joint warfare capabilities, and integration of modern technology in high-altitude conditions.
- **Forces Involved:** Multiple arms of the Army, including infantry, artillery, aviation, engineers, and electronic warfare units, participated.
- **Strategic Significance:** Conducted close to the LAC (Line of Actual Control) with China, the drill strengthens preparedness against border challenges.
- **New Dimension:** The exercise emphasized multi-domain operations like cyber, space, drones, and AI-based warfare, aligning with India's future combat strategies.

Air Marshal Sanjiv Ghuratia Appointed IAF Maintenance Head

- **Appointment:** Air Marshal Sanjiv Ghuratia, AVSM, VSM, has taken charge as the Air Officer-in-Charge Maintenance (AOM) at Air Headquarters, effective September 1, 2025.

- **Experience:** With 37 years of expertise, Air Marshal Ghuratia brings vast technical knowledge and leadership experience to his new role, overseeing aircraft maintenance, repair, and logistical support across the IAF.
- **Career Highlights:** Air Marshal Ghuratia has held key positions, including Senior Maintenance Staff Officer at HQ Maintenance Command, and has been involved in modernizing maintenance practices, strengthening logistics, and driving technology integration.
- **Awards and Honors:** He has been decorated with the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) and Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM) for his distinguished service, and received a UN commendation for his work in Congo.

India unveils Vikram-3201, the first fully indigenous 32-bit microprocessor

- **Launch Details:** Vikram-3201 was officially unveiled on September 2, 2025, at the Semicon India Summit in New Delhi, marking a significant milestone in India's semiconductor journey.
- **Design and Fabrication:** This microprocessor was designed by ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) and fabricated at the Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL) in Mohali, showcasing India's end-to-end capabilities in semiconductor technology.
- **Space-Grade Capabilities:** Vikram-3201 is engineered to withstand extreme temperatures, radiation, and vibrations, making it suitable for launch vehicles and satellites. Its 32-bit architecture enables higher performance and wider memory addressing.
- **Indigenous Technology:** The microprocessor features a custom, indigenous instruction set, ensuring full strategic control and self-reliance. ISRO has also developed in-house software tools, including an Ada cross-compiler, assembler, linker, and simulator.

India-Thailand Military Drill Exercise MAITREE-XIV Begins

- **Exercise Details:** The 14th edition of Exercise MAITREE commenced on September 1, 2025, at the Joint Training Node (JTN) in Umroi, Meghalaya, and will run until September 14, 2025.
- **Participating Forces:** The exercise involves 120 personnel from the Indian Army's Madras Regiment and 53 personnel from the Royal Thai Army's 1st Infantry Battalion, 14th Infantry Brigade.

- **Objective:** The primary focus is on enhancing interoperability and mutual understanding between the two armies, particularly in counter-terrorist operations in semi-urban terrain under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.
- **Training Modules:** The exercise includes joint tactical drills, special arms and weapons handling skills, and planning and execution of counter-insurgency operations, culminating in a 48-hour validation exercise simulating realistic operational scenarios.

INS Trikand joins Multilateral Exercise In Egypt

- **Exercise Details:** INS Trikand, a stealth frigate of the Indian Navy, has arrived in Alexandria, Egypt, to participate in Exercise Bright Star 2025, a major multilateral drill scheduled from September 1 to 10.
- **Participating Countries:** The exercise involves multiple nations, including India, the United States, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Greece, Cyprus, and Italy, showcasing international cooperation and commitment to regional security.
- **Tri-Service Participation:** The Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force are participating in the exercise, which focuses on irregular warfare, hybrid challenges, and training together on air, land, and sea to enhance interoperability.
- **Objectives:** The exercise aims to promote regional security, cooperation, and understanding among participating nations, allowing them to work together seamlessly in case of common threats, whether traditional or non-traditional.

BANKING NEWS

Anish Madhavan appointed as Group Chief Compliance Officer of ICICI Bank

- **Appointment:** Anish Madhavan has been appointed as the Group Chief Compliance Officer (GCCO) of ICICI Bank, effective August 29, 2025, succeeding Subir Saha.
- **Experience:** Madhavan is a seasoned professional with 29 years of experience in banking and finance, and has been associated with ICICI Group for 24 years.
- **Qualifications:** He is a chartered accountant with extensive expertise in various domains, including internal audit, financial crime prevention, and card and payment solutions.
- **Previous Roles:** Madhavan has held key positions within ICICI Bank, including Head of Cards and Payment Solutions, Group Chief Internal Auditor, and Head of Financial Crime Prevention Group.

Foot notes:

About ICICI Bank-

- **MD & CEO:** Sandeep Bakhshi
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- **Founded:** 1955

PNB appointed Raman Grover as CFO

- **Promotion from Within:** Grover's appointment signifies a promotion from within the bank's ranks. Prior to this role, he served as the General Manager of the Finance Division at the Head Office, demonstrating the bank's confidence in its internal talent pool.
- **Extensive Experience:** With over 26 years of experience in the banking sector, Grover brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to his new position. His long-standing career with PNB provides him with a deep understanding of the bank's financial operations and strategic direction.
- **Succession Planning:** This appointment is part of a planned leadership transition. Grover takes over the CFO responsibilities from Dilip Kumar Jain, who superannuated from the bank's services on August 31, 2025.
- **Broader Management Changes:** Grover's elevation to CFO is part of a larger set of senior management changes at PNB. These changes include the appointment of a new Chief General Manager for the HRD and a new General Manager for the Corporate Communication Division.

Foot notes:**About PNB-**

- **MD & CEO:** Ashok Chandra
- **Headquarters:** Dwarka
- **Founded:** 1894

BOB launches 'bob Digi Udyam' digital financing scheme

- **Digital Financing Platform:** BOB's 'bob Digi Udyam' is a digital, collateral-free lending platform designed for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) to access working capital loans quickly.
- **Loan Amount and Tenure:** The scheme offers loan amounts ranging from ₹10 lakh to ₹50 lakh with a tenure of 12 months, providing Cash Credit and Overdraft facilities.
- **Eligibility and Application:** Both new and existing MSE customers of Bank of Baroda can apply for the loan online through the MSE banking portal or visit the nearest branch for assistance.

- **Credit Assessment:** The platform uses a digital scorecard based on various digital data points for quick risk assessment, enabling seamless credit decisions and reducing turnaround time for loan processing.
- **Credit Guarantee:** The scheme offers collateral-free loans backed by the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), aligning with the Government of India.

DPIIT and ICICI Bank Join Hands to Boost Startups

- **Partnership Details:** DPIIT and ICICI Bank signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on September 4, 2025, to support DPIIT-recognized startups across India under the Startup India initiative.
- **Startup Engagement Programme:** The partnership involves launching a Startup Engagement Programme, offering accelerator access, mentorship, and pilot opportunities to early- and growth-stage startups, hosted on the Startup India portal.
- **Key Benefits:** Startups will gain access to ICICI Bank's Mumbai-based accelerator, workspace, structured curriculum, mentorship from industry leaders, and opportunities for pilot programs with ICICI Bank business units.
- **Goals and Objectives:** The initiative aims to nurture the startup ecosystem, provide tangible benefits beyond training and mentorship, and enable startups to fine-tune products, expand operations, and connect with stakeholders.

R Gandhi Reappointed as Yes Bank Chairman

- **Reappointment Details:** R Gandhi has been reappointed as the part-time non-executive Chairman of Yes Bank for a term from September 20, 2025, to May 13, 2027, as approved by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- **R Gandhi's Background:** Gandhi is a seasoned central banker with 37 years of experience, having served as the Deputy Governor of RBI from 2014 to 2017. He was Director of the Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT), Hyderabad.
- **Role and Responsibilities:** As part-time non-executive Chairman, Gandhi will oversee board functions but won't be involved in day-to-day operations.
- **Impact on Yes Bank:** Gandhi's reappointment ensures leadership stability and continuity during the bank's recovery phase post-2020 crisis.

Foot notes:

About Yes Bank-

- **MD & CEO:** Prashant Kumar

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- **Founded:** 2003

SPORTS NEWS

India Clinches 2025 SAFF U17 Women's Championship Title

- **Championship Victory:** India won the 2025 SAFF U-17 Women's Championship title, showcasing dominance in South Asian women's football.
- **Tournament Host:** The championship was held in Bangladesh, featuring teams from South Asian nations.
- **Final Match:** India defeated Bangladesh in the final to secure the trophy (can confirm exact scoreline if you want).
- **Consistent Success:** This victory highlights India's growing strength in youth women's football, following recent successes at junior levels.
- **Significance:** The win boosts India's women's football development, inspires grassroots participation, and strengthens preparation for continental competitions.

Oscar Piastri Wins Dramatic 2025 Dutch Grand Prix

- **Dramatic Victory:** Oscar Piastri secured a thrilling win at the Dutch Grand Prix, extending his championship lead despite a dramatic late-race retirement of his teammate Lando Norris due to mechanical failure.
- **Race Dynamics:** Piastri started strong from pole position and built a significant lead, but a series of safety car deployments altered the race dynamics. Norris was closing in on Piastri until his car failure.
- **Championship Lead:** Piastri's win increased his championship lead to 34 points, putting him in a strong position to claim the title. His consistency and resilience have been key factors in his success.
- **Notable Finishers:** The race saw rookie Isack Hadjar achieve his first F1 podium finish, coming in third. Piastri's win showcased his skill and strategic driving.

Starc Retires from T20Is to Focus on Tests & ODIs

- **Retirement Announcement:** Australian fast bowler Mitchell Starc has announced his immediate retirement from T20 International cricket, effective immediately, to focus on Test matches and One-Day Internationals.
- **Reason for Retirement:** Starc cited the physical demands of international cricket and his desire to prioritize Test cricket, which has always been his top priority.

- **Career Highlights:** Starc played 65 T20I matches, taking 79 wickets, and was part of the 2021 T20 World Cup-winning squad. He's Australia's second-highest T20I wicket-taker, behind spinner Adam Zampa.
- **Future Plans:** Starc will continue to play Test cricket and ODIs, aiming to defend Australia's ODI World Cup title in 2027. He'll also participate in franchise-based domestic leagues, including the Indian Premier League.

GM Pranav Venkatesh Wins Fujairah Global Superstars 2025

- **Convincing Victory:** Pranav Venkatesh won the Fujairah Global Superstars 2025 chess tournament, scoring 7 points out of 9 and finishing a full point ahead of his nearest rivals.
- **Tournament Performance:** He achieved a remarkable performance rating of 2843, showcasing his exceptional skill and dominance in the tournament.
- **Key Wins:** Pranav defeated notable players like Nihal Sarin, Alan Pichot, and Amin Tabatabaei, demonstrating his ability to handle pressure and outmaneuver strong opponents.
- **Rating Boost:** This victory earned him a significant rating boost of 28.2 Elo points, further solidifying his position as a rising star in the chess world.

Mitchell Starc officially retired from international T20 cricket

- **Retirement Announcement:** Mitchell Starc has officially announced his retirement from T20 International cricket to focus on his Test and ODI career, prioritizing Australia's upcoming Test series against India and the 2027 ODI World Cup.
- **T20 Career Highlights:** Starc featured in 65 T20Is, taking 79 wickets, which places him second on Australia's all-time list for T20 wickets, showcasing his importance to the team.
- **Future Focus:** Starc's decision allows the Australian team to prepare for the T20 World Cup, giving younger players opportunities to shine, and enables him to extend his Test and ODI careers.
- **Cricket Australia's Response:** Cricket Australia CEO Todd Greenberg praised Starc's T20 career and decision, acknowledging his commitment to playing for Australia and the sacrifices he's made.

Sakshi & Bartwal Wins for India in World Boxing Championships

- **Sakshi's Dominant Win:** Sakshi Chaudhary won her bout in the women's 54 kg category with a dominant RSC (Referee Stopped Contest) victory over Ukraine's Viktoriia Shkeul, winning the opening round 5-0.
- **Pawan Bartwal's Hard-Fought Win:** Pawan Bartwal secured a winning start for India in the men's 55 kg bout, defeating Brazil's Michael Douglas Trindade with a split decision (3:2).
- **Contrasting Victories:** Sakshi and Bartwal's wins were contrasting, with Sakshi dominating her opponent while Bartwal had to fight hard for his victory.
- **Other Indian Boxers' Performance:** Thokchom Sanamacha Chanu also won her bout in the 70 kg category, defeating Denmark's Ditte Frostholm 4-1. Other Indian boxers, including Lovlina Borgohain and Hitesh Gulia, received first-round byes.
- **Championships Location and Significance:** The World Boxing Championships are being held in Liverpool, UK, under the aegis of the World Boxing Council.

Veteran Spinner Amit Mishra Retires After Two-Decade Cricket Career

- **Retirement Announcement:** Veteran leg-spinner Amit Mishra has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, ending a professional career spanning over two decades.
- **Age and Experience:** Mishra is 42 years old, with a rich experience in the game that has seen him play for various teams, including Haryana.
- **Career Highlights:** Although specific details about his career highlights aren't available in recent reports, Amit Mishra is known for his skills as a leg-spinner and his contributions to Indian cricket.
- **Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy Participation:** Recent records show Amit Mishra's involvement in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, a T20 tournament in India, where he represented Haryana in matches against teams like Jammu and Kashmir, and Himachal Pradesh.
- **Legacy:** With his retirement, Amit Mishra brings the curtains down on an illustrious career, leaving behind a legacy that will be remembered by cricket fans and aspiring players.

India Wins Historic Men's Compound Archery Gold at World Championships

- **First-Ever Medal:** India won its first-ever gold medal in Men's Compound Archery at the World Championships, marking a historic milestone for the sport in the country.
- **Competition Location:** The championship took place in Gwangju, where the Indian team made their mark by reaching the final and securing the top spot.

- **Team Effort:** The victory showcases the team's exceptional skill, strategy, and teamwork, highlighting the growth and development of archery in India.
- **Global Recognition:** This achievement has garnered attention globally, with the World Archery Federation recognizing India's dominance in the sport.

Aryna Sabalenka retains women's singles title in US Open tennis

- **Dominant Performance:** Sabalenka showcased exceptional skill and composure, winning her fourth Grand Slam title overall and her first of the season in Flushing Meadows.
- **Back-to-Back Wins:** This victory marks the first time a woman has won the US Open in consecutive years since Serena Williams in 2014, solidifying Sabalenka's position as a top player.
- **Challenging Conditions:** The match was played under the roof at Arthur Ashe Stadium, which affected Anisimova's serve due to glare, making it difficult for her to see the ball.
- **Mental Strength:** Sabalenka demonstrated mental toughness, particularly in the tie-breaker, where she remained focused and didn't falter under pressure.
- **Career Milestone:** With this win, Sabalenka has now won two US Open titles, in addition to her two Australian Open trophies, all of which were on hard courts.

AWARD NEWS

Sports Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya presented Rashtrapati Award certificates

- **Presentation of Certificates:** Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya presented the Rashtrapati Award certificates on behalf of the President of India to selected awardees.
- **Occasion:** The ceremony was held as part of the National Sports and Adventure Awards recognition process.
- **Purpose:** The awards honor outstanding contributions and achievements in sports, coaching, and promotion of physical education.
- **Categories:** Recipients include sportspersons, coaches, and institutions recognized for excellence in their respective fields.
- **Significance:** The Rashtrapati Award is a mark of the highest national recognition for sporting excellence, carrying prestige and encouragement for the sporting community.

C&MD, EIL conferred with SCOPE Eminence Award

- **Award Conferred:** The Chairman & Managing Director (C&MD) of Engineers India Limited (EIL) was honored with the SCOPE Eminence Award.

- **Awarding Body:** The award was presented by Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE), which recognizes excellence among Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs).
- **Category of Recognition:** The award acknowledges leadership, corporate governance, innovation, and outstanding contributions to the public sector.
- **About EIL:** Engineers India Limited is a Navratna PSU under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, specializing in engineering consultancy and EPC services.
- **Significance:** The award highlights EIL's role in nation-building, energy sector projects, and sustainability initiatives, while recognizing the CMD's leadership.

Former AP IAS Officer Gets Oxford's Lifetime Award

- **Award Recognition:** Lakshmikantham received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the University of Oxford (Keble College, O'Reilly Theatre), UK, for his commendable contribution to changing the educational ecosystem. The award was presented at the 14th World Leaders Summit 2025.
- **Background:** Lakshmikantham is a retired collector and former Joint Executive Officer (JEO) of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD). He has served as the Vice Chair of International Trade and Business Alliances, Europe India Centre for Business and Industry in India.
- **Awards and Accolades:** This is not Lakshmikantham's first recognition; he has received over 100 international, national, and state awards, including Guinness World Records and India Book of Records. He has also been cited in the India Book of Records for his contributions.

NTPC Kanti Wins Prestigious Global Water Tech Award 2025

- **NTPC's Achievements:** NTPC Limited has received several awards and recognitions for its efforts in sustainability and water resource management, such as the Forward Faster Sustainability Award 2025 in the Water Resilience category.
- **Water Conservation Efforts:** NTPC has been recognized for its water conservation efforts, including NTPC Barauni being ranked #1 in water resource conservation in the national awards.
- **Global Recognition:** NTPC Limited has gained international recognition, including being ranked 433 in Forbes' Global 2000 list in 2023, showcasing its prominence in the energy sector.

Foot notes:

About NTPC-

- **Chairman & MD:** Gurdeep Singh
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Founded:** 1975

Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja awarded The Prestigious Nari Shakti Puraskar

- **Award Details:** Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja was awarded the Nari Shakti Puraskar in 2018 by President Ram Nath Kovind for her remarkable achievements in open-water swimming.
- **Achievements:** She's a renowned open-water swimmer who has completed numerous marathon swims globally, including crossing rivers, lakes, and oceans in countries like the US, UK, Samoa, and South Africa.
- **Record-Breaking Feats:** Dr. Pahuja is the first Indian to swim across Key West in Florida and complete the Lake Travis Solo in Texas. She's also the first Indian to finish the Tex Robertson Highland Lakes Challenge.
- **Academic Background:** Dr. Pahuja is an Associate Professor of Physical Education at Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi, where she inspires students and promotes sports and fitness.

Anand V. Patil to Receive Prof. V.K. Gokak Award

- **Award Details:** Anand V. Patil will receive the Prof. V.K. Gokak Award on September 7, 2025, in Bengaluru for his significant contributions to Indian literature, particularly children's literature.
- **Award Namesake:** The award is named after Prof. Vinayaka Krishna Gokak, a renowned literary figure and Jnanpith Award winner who made monumental contributions to Kannada literature.
- **Patil's Achievements:** Anand V. Patil is a distinguished name in Indian literature, especially in children's literature, and has been honored with the Kendra Sahitya Akademi's Bal Sahitya Award for his impactful work.
- **Prof. Gokak's Legacy:** Prof. V.K. Gokak was a champion of Kannada literature, serving as a professor, academic leader, and writer across multiple genres, and enriching both Kannada and English literature with his scholarly and creative output.

Anuparna Roy wins Best Director Award at Venice Film Fest

- **Historic Win:** Anuparna Roy made history by winning the Orizzonti Award for Best Director at the 82nd Venice Film Festival, a prestigious honor in the film industry.
- **Debut Feature Film:** The award was given for her feature debut film "Songs of Forgotten Trees", showcasing her talent and potential as a filmmaker.
- **Presentation:** The film was presented by renowned Indian filmmaker Anurag Kashyap, highlighting the recognition she received from within the industry.
- **Achievement for Indian Cinema:** Roy's win marks a significant achievement for Indian cinema on the global stage, bringing attention to emerging talent in the country's film industry.
- **Breakthrough Moment:** This award serves as a breakthrough moment for Roy, potentially opening doors to new opportunities and collaborations in the film world.

APPOINTMENT & PERSON IN NEWS

Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh Gets Additional Charge as CMD of NHPC

- **New Role:** Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh has been given the additional charge of Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of NHPC Limited, India's leading hydropower company.
- **Reason for Appointment:** He assumes the role following the retirement/vacancy of the previous CMD, ensuring continuity in leadership.
- **Experience:** Singh has vast experience in hydropower project planning, execution, and management, contributing to NHPC's growth.
- **Significance:** His appointment is crucial for driving clean energy initiatives, hydropower expansion, and renewable energy diversification under India's green energy mission.

OpenAI names ex-Coursera chief Raghav Gupta as Education Head for India and APAC

- **New Appointment:** Raghav Gupta, former Managing Director of Coursera India & APAC, has been appointed as Education Head for India and Asia-Pacific at OpenAI.
- **Role & Responsibility:** He will lead OpenAI's education initiatives in the region, focusing on integrating AI tools into learning, teaching, and skill development.
- **Professional Background:** Gupta has over two decades of experience in edtech, consulting, and business leadership, with stints at Coursera, Aon Hewitt, and Technopak.
- **Strategic Importance:** His appointment comes at a time when AI in education is becoming a key driver for digital learning and workforce upskilling in India & APAC.
- **Significance:** This move strengthens OpenAI's regional presence and aligns with its goal of making AI-powered learning more accessible to students, educators, and institutions.

T.C.A. Kalyani appointed as New CGA of India

- **Appointment:** T.C.A. Kalyani, a 1991-batch officer of the Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS), has assumed charge as the 29th Controller General of Accounts under the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, effective September 1, 2025.

- **Experience:** Kalyani brings over 34 years of experience in public financial management, accounting, and governance, having served in various key ministries, including Defence, Telecom, Fertilizers, Finance, and Home Affairs.
- **Academic Background:** She is a gold medalist in Political Science from Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi, and holds an M.A. in International Politics and M.Phil. in West European Studies from Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Arun Kumar, appointed as Judge of the Allahabad High Court

- **Appointment Notification:** The President of India has appointed Advocate Arun Kumar as a Judge of the Allahabad High Court, effective from the date he assumes charge of his office.
- **Collegium Recommendation:** The Supreme Court Collegium recommended Kumar's appointment on May 9, 2023, after initially deferring the decision due to an Intelligence Bureau report. The Collegium later reiterated its belief that Kumar was "eminently fit and suitable" for the position.
- **Experience and Credentials:** Arun Kumar, about 51 years old, has over 25 years of experience practicing at the Bar, handling cases in constitutional, civil, and revenue jurisdictions before the High Court.
- **Delay in Appointment:** Kumar's appointment comes nearly 27 months after the Supreme Court Collegium's recommendation, highlighting concerns over delays in notifying Collegium recommendations.

Foot notes:

About Allahabad-

- **Mayor:** Ganesh Kesarwani

Ariser onboards Ravindra Jadeja as brand ambassador

- **Partnership Announcement:** Ariser, a smart-casual clothing label, announced Ravindra Jadeja as its brand ambassador, leveraging his popularity and style to promote the brand.
- **Brand Fit:** Jadeja's all-round brilliance on the field resonates with Ariser's promise of style that fits right, feels right, and moves with you, making him a perfect fit for the brand.
- **Quality and Comfort:** Ravindra Jadeja praised Ariser for its focus on quality, comfort, and craftsmanship, stating that the brand delivers on all fronts without a hefty price tag.

- **Marketing Campaign:** A 360-degree campaign across TV, digital, outdoor, and retail touchpoints will feature Jadeja and Ariser's latest collection, showcasing smart-casual menswear.

Kavinder Singh Negi inducted as Superintendent of Police in CBI

- **Appointment Details:** Kavinder Singh Negi, a 2015-batch IRS (Income Tax) officer, has been inducted as Superintendent of Police in the CBI for a period of four years.
- **Current Role:** Before joining CBI, Negi was serving as Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax in Delhi Headquarters, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- **Induction Alongside Others:** He was inducted alongside another officer, Vedant Kanwar (IRS IT: 2016), who was appointed as Superintendent of Police in CBI for a period of three years.
- **Background:** The CBI has been recruiting officers from various government services, including IRS and IDAS, as superintendents of police or deputy inspector general, bringing diverse expertise to the agency.

Rajit Punhani appointed as CEO of FSSAI

- **Appointment Details:** Rajit Punhani, a 1991-batch IAS officer of the Bihar cadre, has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for a specific term, succeeding Ganji Kamala V. Rao.
- **Background:** Punhani brings over three decades of administrative experience across various sectors, including public policy, finance, social security, taxation, health, energy, and governance.
- **Previous Role:** Before joining FSSAI, Punhani served as Secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, where he oversaw initiatives to align skilling with industry demands and global competitiveness.
- **Key Contributions:** Punhani has launched impactful initiatives, such as a pension and insurance scheme for over 450 million unorganized sector workers and the world's largest maternal messaging program to improve maternal health outcomes.

Foot notes:

About FSSAI-

- **CEO:** Rajit Punhani
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Formed:** 2008

Bhupender Gupta, a power sector veteran, appointed as Chairman & MD of NHPC

- **Appointment Approval:** The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved Bhupender Gupta's appointment as the new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of NHPC Limited, a Schedule 'A' Navratna CPSE.
- **Background and Experience:** Gupta is a power sector veteran with over 33 years of experience. He currently serves as Director (Technical) at THDC India Limited and has also been holding the additional charge of CMD at SJVN Limited.
- **Previous Role and Achievements:** Before joining THDC, Gupta worked as Director (Technical) at Punatsangchhu Hydroelectric Project Authority in Bhutan and held senior leadership roles at REC Limited, including Additional Chief Executive Officer in its subsidiaries.
- **Selection Process:** Gupta was selected after a rigorous interview process involving nine candidates from various public sector undertakings (PSUs). The Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) recommended his name for the top position at NHPC.
- **Expected Contribution:** With his extensive experience and technical acumen, Gupta is expected to bring continuity and strategic direction to NHPC's ambitious growth plans, focusing on expanding its renewable energy portfolio.

IIFL Home Finance appoints Ajay Sachdewa as Group CBO

- **Appointment Details:** IIFL Home Finance has appointed Ajay Sachdewa as Group Chief Business Officer, effective recently, as part of a strategic move to strengthen its business leadership.
- **Experience:** Sachdewa brings over two decades of experience in financial services and housing finance, having held senior roles at Axis Bank, HDFC Limited, and HDFC Sales.
- **Responsibilities:** As Group CBO, Sachdewa will focus on driving business strategy, expanding distribution networks, enhancing sales productivity, and strengthening customer relationships.
- **Leadership Role:** His appointment highlights IIFL Home Finance's commitment to building a future-ready organization with a strong leadership team.
- **Company Goals:** With Sachdewa on board, IIFL Home Finance aims to scale operations, foster a people-first culture, and support its mission of financial inclusion and accessible home ownership.

Arvind Kumar Rawat appointed as Director of Sugarcane & Vegetable Oil

- **Appointment Details:** Arvind Kumar Rawat, a 2008 batch IRSS officer, has been appointed as Director in the Directorate of Sugarcane and Vegetable Oil under the Department of Food & Public Distribution.
- **Tenure:** The appointment is for a period of five years from the date of assumption of charge or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- **Approval:** The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved Rawat's appointment based on the recommendation of the Civil Services Board.
- **Background:** As an IRSS officer, Rawat brings significant experience and expertise to his new role, which focuses on sugarcane and vegetable oil development.

Piyush Goyal Assumes Charge as Mines Secretary

- **Appointment Details:** Piyush Goyal, a 1994-batch IAS officer of the Nagaland cadre, has officially taken charge as the Secretary of the Ministry of Mines on September 4, 2025, replacing V.L. Kantha Rao.
- **Previous Role:** Before this appointment, Goyal served as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) under the Ministry of Home Affairs, where he played a key role in strengthening data and intelligence integration for national security.
- **Key Responsibilities:** As Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Goyal will lead efforts to expand exploration, modernize mining operations, and attract investments while ensuring sustainability and community welfare.
- **Expected Impact:** Goyal's appointment is seen as crucial in advancing sustainable mining practices, attracting private investment, and boosting India's self-reliance in mineral resources, leveraging his experience in data-driven governance.

Vivek Chaturvedi appointed as New CBIC Member

- **Appointment Approval:** The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved Vivek Chaturvedi's appointment as a Member of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- **Background and Experience:** Chaturvedi is a 1990-batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer with extensive experience in taxation and customs, having served as Principal Director General of Vigilance and Chief Vigilance Officer at CBIC.
- **Tenure and Predecessor:** He succeeds Vivek Ranjan, whose tenure as Board Member for Tax Policy & Legal ended on August 31, 2025.

- **Expected Impact:** Chaturvedi's appointment is expected to bring significant leadership changes within the CBIC, particularly with the upcoming retirement of the CBIC Chairperson in November 2025.

OBITUARY NEWS

Prem Sagar, FTII alumnus and 'Ramayan' cinematographer, passed away

- Veteran cinematographer Prem Sagar, best known for his work on Ramanand Sagar's epic TV series 'Ramayan', has passed away.
- He was an alumnus of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune, and contributed significantly to Indian television and cinema.
- Apart from 'Ramayan', he worked on several other mythological and devotional serials produced by Sagar Arts.
- Prem Sagar was the son of legendary filmmaker Ramanand Sagar, who created iconic TV shows in the 1980s and 1990s.
- His passing marks the loss of a pioneering cinematographer who played a key role in shaping the visual storytelling of Indian television's golden era.

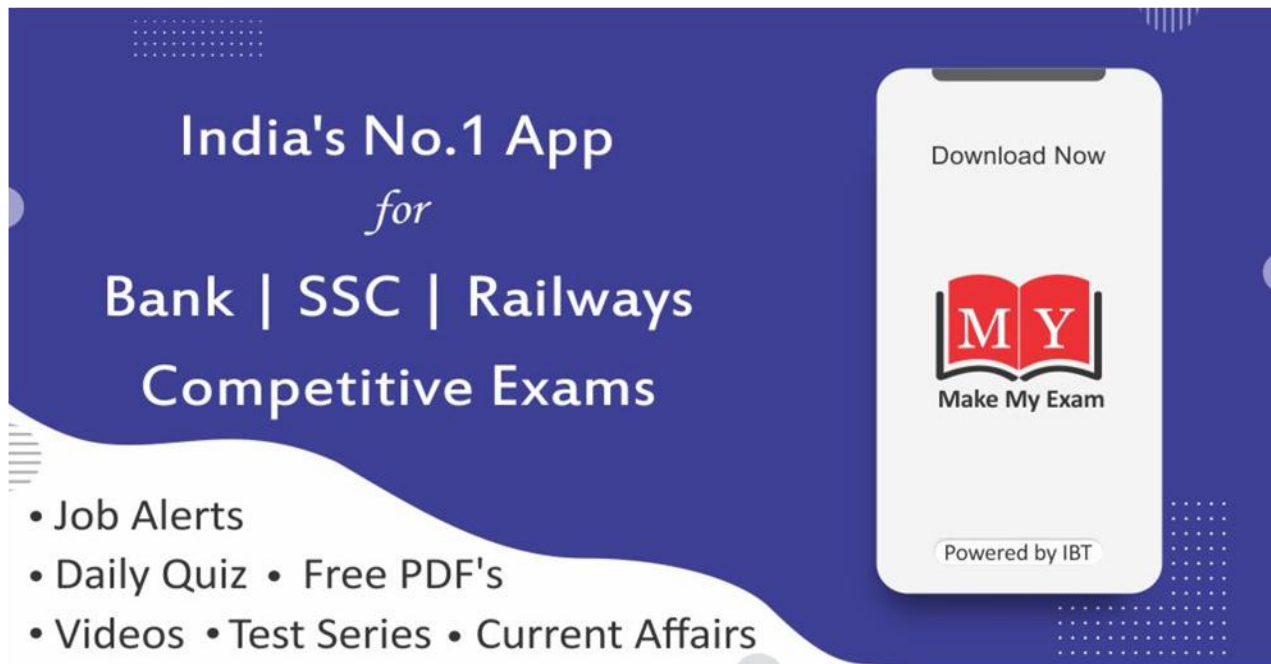
Actor Priya Marathe, famed for Pavitra Rishta role, passed away

- Priya Marathe passed away on August 31, 2025, after a long battle with cancer at her residence in Mira Road, Mumbai. She was 38 years old.
- Marathe was best known for her role as Varsha in the popular TV series "Pavitra Rishta". She also appeared in other notable shows like "Kasamh Se", "Bade Achhe Lagte Hain", "Saath Nibhaana Saathiya", and "Tu Titha Me".
- Priya Marathe was a versatile actress who worked in both Marathi and Hindi television. She was also a stand-up comedian and participated in shows like "Comedy Circus Ke SuperStars".
- Marathe was married to actor Shantanu Moghe, whom she tied the knot with in 2012.

Italian Fashion Icon Giorgio Armani passed away

- Giorgio Armani passed away on September 4, 2025, at the age of 91, as announced by the Armani Group.
- The official cause of Armani's death has not been publicly disclosed. However, he had been recovering from an undisclosed condition and missed Milan Fashion Week in June for the first time in 50 years.
- Armani was a renowned fashion designer who built a \$12.1 billion empire with his eponymous brand, expanding his influence from fashion to various aspects of life.

- A funeral chamber was set up from September 6-7 at Via Bergognone 59 in Milan, where fans and admirers could pay their respects. A private funeral was held for close family and friends.



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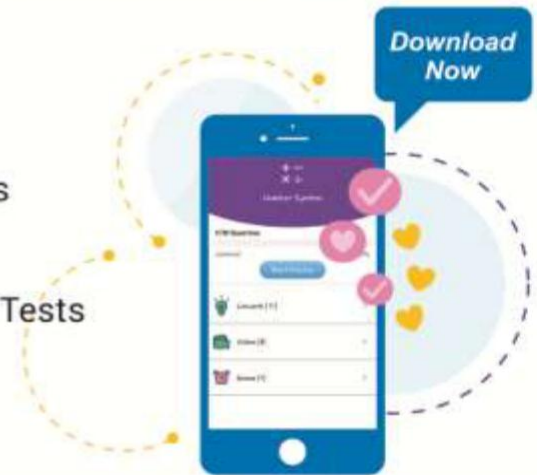
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