

THE DAILY GK DOSE

CANARA BANK APPOINTS HARDEEP SINGH AHLUWALIA AS MD & CEO

- **Interim Leadership Role:** Effective January 1, 2026, Hardeep Singh Ahluwalia took over as the Interim MD & CEO of Canara Bank. He succeeded K. Satyanarayana Raju, who retired on December 31, 2025.
- **Recent Tenure Extension:** Originally appointed for three months, his additional charge was recently extended by the Government of India through June 30, 2026, ensuring leadership stability during the transition.
- **Extensive Banking Background:** A career banker with over 30 years of experience, Ahluwalia previously served as the bank's Executive Director. His background includes a start as an Agricultural Field Officer in 1992 and significant leadership roles at Indian Bank (formerly Allahabad Bank), including international exposure in Hong Kong.

Footnotes: Canara Bank's Previous MD & CEO: K. Satyanarayana Raju, HQ: Bengaluru, Estd: 1906

UAE TDRA LAUNCHES WORLD'S FIRST U6GHZ NETWORK

- **World's First Commercial Rollout:** Announced at the SAMENA Council Leaders' Summit 2026, the UAE became the first nation to transition from U6GHz trials to a full commercial ecosystem.
- **The "Golden Spectrum" & 10Gbps Speeds:** The U6GHz band (6425–7125 MHz) is known as the "golden spectrum" because it perfectly balances wide-area coverage with massive data capacity.

- **Bridge to 6G:** This deployment is a critical step in the UAE's roadmap to becoming a "10 Giga nation." The U6GHz network serves as the foundational layer for the future development and standardization of 6G technology.

IIM ROHTAK WINS BIMTECH'S 'HERMES' DIALOGUE 6.0'



- **The Theme:** The competition focused on the critical global issue: "Should Countries Prioritize Energy Independence to Ensure Global Energy Security Amid Rising Geopolitical Uncertainty?" It explored energy not just as a resource, but as a strategic geopolitical tool.
- **MUN-Style Simulation:** The final round, titled "Battle of Perspectives," was a simulation of high-level global forums like the United Nations and G20. Participants represented 12 different nations (including the US, China, and Russia) to debate international trade, diplomacy, and policy-making.
- **Top Performers:** Out of over 250 registrations from premier B-schools, IIM Rohtak secured the first position. They were followed by FORE School of Management (1st Runner-up) and Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) (2nd Runner-up).

IMPORTANT FACTS

MILITARY EXERCISES

- **MITRA SHAKTI** — India + Sri Lanka
- **SLINEX** — India + Sri Lanka
- **SURYA KIRAN** — India + Nepal
- **ZAIR-AL-BAHR** — India + Qatar
- **INDRA** — India + Russia
- **CORPAT** — India + Bangladesh
- **SHINYUU MAITRI** — India + Japan

INDIAN WOMEN BOXERS SECURE THREE GOLD & ONE SILVER IN MONGOLIA

- **Gold Medalists:** The gold sweep was led by Minakshi Hooda (48kg), who defeated a local Mongolian favorite; Preeti Pawar (54kg), who outpunched a three-time world champion; and Priya Ghanghas (60kg). Later, Arundhati Choudhary (70kg) added a fourth gold to the tally.
- **Silver Success:** Jaismine Lamboria (57kg) and Alfiya Pathan (80+kg) both secured silver medals, contributing to India's overall dominance in the women's division.
- **Historical Achievement:** With 10 medals in total (4 Gold, 2 Silver, 4 Bronze), the Indian women's team finished at the top of the medal table, making India the most successful nation in the women's category at this continental meet.

SANJAY KHANNA APPOINTED CMD OF BPCL

- **Internal Elevation & Tenure:** Prior to this full-time role, Khanna served as Director (Refineries) and had been holding the additional charge of CMD since May 2025. His appointment, approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), will last until his retirement on May 31, 2029.
- **Operational Expertise:** A Chemical Engineering graduate from NIT Trichy, he has over 30 years of experience. He is credited with leading the commissioning of BPCL's first niche petrochemical project, the Propylene Derivative Petrochemical Project (PDPP), and has previously headed both the Mumbai and Kochi refineries.
- **Strategic Vision:** As CMD, he will oversee a massive ₹75,000 crore investment cycle over the next five years. This includes the major ₹50,000 crore Bina Petrochemical and Refinery Expansion Project (BPREP) in Madhya Pradesh, focusing on energy security and petrochemical integration.

Footnotes: BPCL's Chairman & MD: Sanjay Khanna, HQ: Mumbai, Estd: 1976

SHWETA TEOTIA APPOINTED AS DIRECTOR IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

- **Background and Cadre:** Shweta Teotia is a 2011-batch IAS officer of the Gujarat cadre. Before this appointment, she was

serving as a Deputy Director (at the Director level) at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) in Mussoorie.

- **Appointment Terms:** The appointment was made on a 'lateral shift' basis under the Central Staffing Scheme. Her tenure in the Ministry is approved for a period up to February 17, 2030, or until further orders.
- **Strategic Role:** As Director, she will be part of the core administrative team at the MoEF&CC, which is responsible for planning and coordinating India's environmental policies, forest conservation efforts, and climate change strategies.

NTPC SIGNS MOU WITH FRANCE'S EDF ON COOPERATION IN NUCLEAR POWER



- **EPR Technology Assessment:** The collaboration focuses on assessing the feasibility of EDF's European Pressurized Reactor (EPR) technology for the Indian market. This includes evaluating technical support, site suitability, and economic/tariff aspects for large-scale nuclear deployment.

- **Strategic "30 GW by 2047" Goal:** The partnership aligns with NTPC's ambitious target to establish 30 GW of nuclear capacity by 2047. To achieve this, NTPC has already formed a specialized subsidiary, NTPC Parmanu Urja Nigam Limited (NPUNL).
- **Localization & Skill Building:** A key pillar of the MoU is maximizing localization (Indian manufacturing) for nuclear components and developing human resources through dedicated training programs. This supports India's broader goal of reaching 100 GW of nuclear capacity by 2047.

C D GOPINATH, INDIA'S OLDEST TEST CRICKETER, PASSED AWAY

- **End of an Era:** He was the last surviving member of the historic Indian team that achieved the nation's first-ever Test victory (against England at Madras in 1952). His passing marks the end of the final living link to that landmark achievement.
- **Cricketing Career:** Between 1951 and 1960, he played 8 Test matches, scoring 242 runs. He made a memorable debut at the Brabourne Stadium against England, scoring an unbeaten 50 in the first innings and 42 in the second.
- **Post-Retirement Legacy:** After his playing days, he served as the Chairman of the National Selection Committee and was a respected administrator.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

10.04.2026 / FRIDAY

- **World Homeopathy Day: 10th April**
- **Theme 2026: "Homeopathy: Harmonizing Health, Empowering Lives."**
- **It Focuses on the system's role in providing balanced, holistic care and its potential to improve quality of life through personalized medicine.**