



1. Boxer Sakshi Wins India's First Gold at Second World Boxing Cup

- First Gold for India: Sakshi secured India's inaugural gold medal at the Second World Boxing Cup in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- **Dominant Performance**: She achieved a unanimous 5-0 decision victory in the women's 54kg final against Yoseline Perez of the USA, showcasing her attacking style, speed, and sharp combinations.
- Two-Time Youth World Champion: Sakshi's win at the World Boxing Cup adds to her impressive record, as she is also a two-time youth world champion.
- Part of Historic Indian Haul: Her gold contributed to India's best-ever medal haul at the World Boxing Cup in Astana, with the contingent finishing with 11 medals (3 gold, 5 silver, 3 bronze).
- **Significant Return to Form**: This victory marks a strong return to form for the 24-year-old from Bhiwani, Haryana, who had been working to regain her elitelevel performance.



• **First Official Recognition**: Russia has become the first nation to formally recognize the Taliban's leadership in Afghanistan since their takeover in August 2021.



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- **Removal from Banned List**: This recognition follows Moscow's decision in April 2025 to remove the Taliban from its list of banned organizations.
- **Diplomatic Credentials Accepted**: The Russian Foreign Ministry confirmed receiving credentials from Afghanistan's new Ambassador Gul Hassan Hassan, signifying official acceptance of the Taliban's diplomatic representation.



• Strategic & Economic Interests: The move is largely driven by Russia's strategic interests in Afghanistan's stability, counter-terrorism efforts (particularly against ISIS-K), and potential economic cooperation in areas like energy and trade.

Foot notes: About Russia-

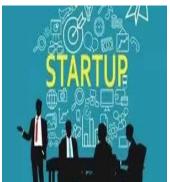
• Prime Minister: Mikhail Mishustin

• Capital: Moscow

• Currency: Russian Ruble

3. India's Ranks 3rd Globalls in FinTech Startup Funding

- Global Top 3 Position: India consistently holds the third position globally in FinTech startup funding, trailing only the United States and the United Kingdom.
- **Significant Funding Despite Decline**: While the overall funding in the Indian FinTech sector saw a decline (e.g., \$1.9 billion in 2024, down 33% from 2023, and \$889 million in H1 2025, down from H2 2024), its global ranking has remained strong.



- **Bengaluru as a Hub**: Bengaluru continues to be the leading city for FinTech funding in India, accounting for a significant portion of the total investments.
- **Dominance of Digital Lending**: Digital lending solutions have consistently attracted the largest share of FinTech funding in India, indicating a strong focus on financial inclusion and access to credit.

4. Telangana Launches TGDeX India's First AI Data Infrastructure



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- India's First State-Led AI Digital Public Infrastructure: Telangana has
 - pioneered the launch of the Telangana Data Exchange (TGDeX), making it the first state in India to establish a state-led digital public infrastructure specifically for Artificial Intelligence.
- **Aims to Boost AI Innovation**: TGDeX is designed to address key challenges in AI development, such as limited access to clean, usable datasets, the need for subsidized compute infrastructure (including GPU resources), and pathways to scale AI solutions beyond proof-of-concept.



- Collaborative Ecosystem: The platform fosters collaboration between government departments, startups, industry players, research institutions, and academia. It will provide a secure, scalable environment for accessing high-quality, "AI-ready" datasets and open-source AI/ML models.
- **Strategic Partnerships**: Developed by the Emerging Technologies Wing of Telangana's ITE&C department, TGDeX has received strategic and technical support from the Japan International Cooperation Agency

Foot notes: About Telangana-

Chief Minister: Revanth ReddyGovernor: Jishnu Dev Varma

• Capital: Hyderabad

5. Aryaveer Dewan Won U17 Title at Asian Junior Squash Championships

- Ends 13-Year Drought: Aryaveer Dewan's victory in the U17 boys' category ended India's 13-year wait for a gold medal in this specific division at the Asian Junior Squash Championships.
- **Dominant Final Performance**: He defeated the defending champion, Nickhileswar Moganasundharam of Malaysia, in straight games (11-5, 11-8, 11-3), showcasing a strong and confident performance.
- Part of India's Strong Showing: His gold medal contributed significantly to India's best-ever medal haul at the 32nd Asian Junior Individual Championships 2025, where India clinched two golds, two silvers, and three bronze medals.





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• **Team India's Success**: Along with Aryaveer, Anahat Singh also secured a gold medal in the Girls Under 19 category, further highlighting India's rising talent in junior squash.

6. Cochin Shipyard Signs MoU with South Korea's KSOE

- Strategic Global Partnership: Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), India's leading state-owned shipbuilder, has signed a comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with HD Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering Co. Ltd. (KSOE), a subsidiary of global shipbuilding giant HD Hyundai.
- **Broad Areas of Collaboration**: The MoU outlines longterm cooperation across various domains including joint exploration of new shipbuilding opportunities in India and overseas.



- Alignment with Indian Maritime Vision: This partnership is a key step towards realizing India's ambitious "Maritime India Vision 2030" and "Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047," aiming to transform India into a global maritime hub.
- Access to Advanced Technology: The collaboration will provide CSL with access to KSOE's world-class expertise in ship design, advanced technologies, automation, and eco-friendly shipbuilding, enabling India to build larger and more complex vessels.

7. Datania Dineshbhai Ramjibhai appointed as Non-Official Director of HMT Ltd

- Appointed as Non-Official Director: Datania Dineshbhai Ramjibhai has been appointed to the Board of Directors of HMT Limited as a Non-Official Director.
- Three-Year Term: His tenure is set for a period of three years, starting from the date his appointment is officially notified, or until further orders are issued, whichever occurs earlier.
- **Approvalby Competent Authority**: The appointment has been approved by the Competent Authority of HMT Ltd.



• Compliance with Regulations: HMT Ltd is in the process of completing all necessary appointment formalities in accordance with the Companies Act, 2013, and SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.





Foot notes: About HMT-

• Chairman & MD: S. Girish Kumar

• Headquarters: Bangalore

• **Founded**: 1953

8. Aastha Lakshmi appointed as Chief Vigilance Officer , New Delhi Municipal Council

- New Chief Vigilance Officer: Aastha Lakshmi has been appointed as the Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) of the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC).
- **IRS Officer**: She is an officer of the Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax) from the 2008 batch.
- **Initial Three-Year Term**: Her appointment is for an initial period of three years.
- Focus on Transparency and Ethics: As CVO, her role will involve ensuring institutional transparency, promoting ethical governance, and strengthening anti-corruption vigilance mechanisms within the NDMC.

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• **Key Role in Civic Body**: The CVO plays a crucial role in preventing and addressing corruption and malpractices within a public body like the NDMC, which provides essential civic services in the national capital.

9. Veteran Archaeologist Vedachalam Won Tamil Wikki Suran Award

- Honored for 51 Years of Service: Veteran archaeologist V. Vedachalamreceived the Tamil Wikki Suran Award in Madurai, recognizing his 51 years of dedicated work in the field of Tamil history and archaeology.
- **Passion for Tamil Heritage**: The 75-year-old is celebrated for his profound passion for unearthing and preserving Tamil history, continuously inspiring others with his tireless efforts and significant discoveries.



• **Key Discoveries**: His career highlights include assisting in the discovery of part of an ancient fort wall at Karur (the capital of the Chera Kingdom), spotting a 2,000-year-old inscription at Vikramangalam, and being an early advocate for the importance of the Keeladi excavation site.





• **Prolific Writer and Educator**: Vedachalam has authored 25 books and actively works to create historical awareness, conducting heritage walks and visiting villages and colleges to share his knowledge, emphasizing history as a shared past connecting everyone.

10. Nigeria Football Legend Peter Rufai passed away

- Peter Rufai, the legendary Nigerian goalkeeper, passed away on July 3, 2025, in Lagos at the age of 61, after battling an illness.
- **Key Figure in Golden Era:** He was a central figure in Nigerian football's "golden era" of the 1990s, serving as the first-choice goalkeeper for the Super Eagles.
- AFCON Winner & World Cup Star: Rufai was a member of the squad that won the 1994 Africa Cup of Nations and represented Nigeria at two FIFA World Cups, USA '94 and France '98.
- Over 60 International Caps: Affectionately known as "Dodomayana," he earned over 60 caps for the Nigerian national team, making him one of the most celebrated goalkeepers in the country's history.

