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Current Affairs

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Prof. Banwari Lal Gaur conferred with National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2025



1. Prof. Banwari Lal Gaur conferred with National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2025

- **Contribution to Ayurvedic Education:** Prof. Banwari Lal Gaur has spent over six decades contributing to Ayurvedic education and Sanskrit scholarship, shaping the academic future of Ayurveda.
- **Prolific Writer and Researcher:** He has authored 31 books and over 300 academic works, including 319 publications in Sanskrit, demonstrating his significant impact on Ayurvedic literature.
- **Mentorship:** Prof. Gaur has mentored 24 PhD scholars and 48 postgraduates, highlighting his role in nurturing future generations of Ayurvedic scholars.
- **Recognition:** He has received several national honors, including the Rashtrapati Samman, for his contributions to Ayurvedic literature and education.
- **Award Citation:** The National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Award 2025 recognizes Prof. Gaur's lifelong contributions to Ayurveda, inspiring young scholars to carry forward the tradition with zeal and respect for knowledge.



2. HAL receives GE Aerospace jet engine for Tejas light combat jets

- **Engine Delivery:** HAL has received the fourth GE-F404-IN20 engine from US-based GE Aerospace for the Tejas



Mk-1A program, with 12 engines expected by the end of the current financial year.

- **Contract Details:** The delivery is part of a \$716 million contract signed in 2021 for 99 F404-IN20 engines to power the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mk1A fighter jets.
- **Production Timeline:** HAL aims to scale up production to 30 aircraft per year by 2026-27, with the Indian Air Force planning to induct 352 Tejas aircraft, including both Mk1A and Mk2 variants.
- **Indian Air Force Order:** The IAF has ordered 83 Tejas Mk1A jets, with discussions underway for an additional 97 aircraft, which would make the Tejas Mk1A a key component of the IAF's light fighter fleet.
- **Self-Reliance:** The GE-F404-IN20 engine will enhance the Tejas Mk-1A's combat capabilities, supporting India's push for self-reliance in defence manufacturing under the 'Make in India' initiative.

3. Kalyan Kumar appointed as MD & CEO of Central Bank of India

- **Banking Experience:** Kalyan Kumar has nearly three decades of banking experience, starting as a Rural Development Officer at Union Bank of India in 1995. He has held various leadership roles in branch operations, training, and corporate functions.
- **Digital Transformation Expertise:** Kumar has expertise in digital transformation, strategic planning, data analytics, economic advisory, and IT excellence, which he applied during his tenure at Punjab National Bank.
- **Leadership Roles:** He has served as Executive Director at Punjab National Bank since October 2021 and played a pivotal role in strengthening operational efficiency, enhancing governance frameworks, and driving strategic initiatives.
- **Merger Experience:** Kumar was closely involved in the amalgamation of Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank into Union Bank of India, showcasing his ability to navigate complex challenges in India's public sector banking landscape.



Foot notes:

About Central Bank of India-

- **Non-Exe Chairman:** Tapan Ray
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- **Founded:** 1911

4. FSIB recommends Ramakrishnan Chander as LIC's MD

- **Recommendation:** The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) has recommended Ramakrishnan Chander for the role of Managing Director at Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), pending final approval from the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
- **Selection Process:** FSIB interviewed five candidates on September 30, 2025, and selected Chander based on his performance in the interview, overall experience, and suitability for the role.
- **Experience:** Ramakrishnan Chander has over three decades of experience in LIC, having joined in 1990 as an Assistant Administrative Officer and holding various leadership positions, including Chief Investment Officer.
- **Current Role:** Chander assumed charge as LIC's Chief Investment Officer and Key Managerial Personnel on June 5, 2025, showcasing his expertise and leadership skills within the organization.
- **Leadership Structure:** This appointment is crucial for LIC's continued success, with the insurance giant operating under a robust leadership structure that includes four managing directors and a CEO



Foot notes:

About LIC-

- **Present CEO & MD:** R. Doraiswamy
- **Founded:** 1956
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai

5. Abhishek Sharma Sets Record in ICC Men's T20I Batter Rankings

- **Record-Breaking Rating:** Abhishek Sharma has achieved the highest-ever rating in the ICC Men's T20I Batting Rankings, scoring 931 points, surpassing Dawid Malan's record of 919 points set in 2020.
- **Current Ranking:** Although his rating slightly dipped to 926 after a rare failure, he still leads the rankings, ahead of England's Phil Salt by 82 points.
- **Asia Cup Performance:** Sharma's record-breaking performance was fueled by his impressive run at the Asia Cup, where he scored 314 runs at an average of 44.85, earning him the Player of the Tournament title.



- **Consecutive Scores:** Abhishek Sharma shares the record for most successive T20I scores of 30-plus, with seven consecutive scores, alongside Mohammad Rizwan and Rohit Sharma.
- **Indian Dominance:** Sharma's achievement adds to India's strong presence in the rankings, with Suryakumar Yadav and Virat Kohli also featuring among the top batters, and Varun Chakravarthy topping the bowling charts.

6. India Clinches One-Two in Men's Javelin F44 at World Para Athletics

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7. Neeraj Surendran appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship

- **Appointment Details:** Neeraj Surendran, a 2015 batch Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS) officer, has been appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship for a period of four years.
- **Appointment Committee Approval:** The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet has approved his appointment, and he will be serving on the new position under the Central Staffing Scheme.
- **Background:** Neeraj Surendran's appointment is part of a series of bureaucratic appointments, with Ambica Anand, a 2009-batch Indian Statistical Service (ISS)



officer, being appointed as Director in the Ministry of Steel for a period of five years.

- **Effective Date:** His appointment as Deputy Secretary became effective after the approval, with October 1, 2025, being the date mentioned in recent updates.
- **Responsibilities:** As Deputy Secretary, Neeraj Surendran will play a key role in shaping policies and initiatives related to skill development and entrepreneurship in India.

8. India Conferred with ISSA Award 2025 for 'Outstanding Achievement in Social Security'

- **Award Recognition:** India has been recognized for its exceptional progress in social protection systems globally, receiving the prestigious International Social Security Association (ISSA) Award 2025.
- **Social Security Coverage Expansion:** The award acknowledges India's historic expansion in social security coverage from 19% in 2015 to 64.3% in 2025, covering over 940 million citizens, as recognized by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).
- **Digital Infrastructure:** India's extensive digital public infrastructure, including the e-Shram portal, has played a crucial role in efficient last-mile delivery of social security benefits, connecting over 310 million unorganized workers with social welfare schemes.
- **Global Impact:** This award highlights India's commitment to inclusive and universal social protection, empowering the last person in line, and aligns with the guiding principle of "Antyodaya" under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision.



9. Shri Krishna Hegde Miyar receives Mahatma Award for Lifetime Achievement

- **Award Details:** Krishna Hegde Miyar, Group General Manager (HR) at Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL), received the Mahatma Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Individual Category for Social Responsibility and Social Impact on October 1, 2025.
- **Contribution:** Miyar was recognized for his significant contributions towards developing people-centric HR policies, utilizing digital technology to enhance HR efficiency, fostering inclusive leadership, and spearheading MRPL's flagship CSR initiative, Samrakshan.



- **Award Presentation:** The award was presented by Dr. Kiran Bedi, the first woman IPS officer of India, and Amit Sachdeva, a Gandhian and lawyer who founded the Mahatma Award.
- **About the Award:** The Mahatma Award honors individuals and organizations that promote social responsibility, sustainability, and humanitarian efforts, reflecting the values of Mahatma Gandhi. It recognizes catalysts for positive change and transformative work in various domains.
- **Miyar's Achievement:** This recognition highlights Miyar's commitment to creating positive social impact and his dedication to upholding the principles of Mahatma Gandhi's legacy.

10. Veteran Gandhian, socialist and freedom fighter G.G. Parikh passed away

- **Age and Passing:** Dr. G.G. Parikh passed away at the age of 101 at his Mumbai residence.
- **Legacy:** He was a prominent socialist leader, freedom fighter, and founder of the Yusuf Meherally Centre, dedicated to rural development and empowering marginalized communities.
- **Freedom Struggle Participation:** Parikh actively participated in key movements, including the Indian freedom struggle, Samyukta Maharashtra Movement, and Goa Liberation Movement.
- **Imprisonment:** He was imprisoned for ten months during the Quit India movement and later during the Emergency for his activism, showcasing his commitment to social causes.
- **Body Donation:** As per his wishes, his body was donated to JJ Hospital for medical research, reflecting his selfless contribution to society.



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