

# THE DAILY GK DOSE

## R VAISHALI WINS WOMEN'S CANDIDATES TOURNAMENT 2026

- **World Championship Challenger:** By winning the 2026 Women's Candidates Tournament in Cyprus, Vaishali has officially earned the right to challenge the reigning champion, Ju Wenjun, for the Women's World Chess Championship title later this year.
- **Decisive Final Round:** She secured the title outright with 8.5/14 points after defeating Kateryna Lagno in the final round. She finished half a point ahead of her closest rival, Bibisara Assaubayeva, avoiding the need for a playoff.
- **Historic "Underdog" Victory:** Vaishali entered the tournament as the lowest-rated player in the field. Her victory mirrors the "fairytale" success of her brother, Praggnanandhaa, and D Gukesh, further cementing India's dominance in global chess.

## IRAQI PARLIAMENT ELECTS NIZAR AMEDI AS NEW PRESIDENT

- **Election Victory:** On April 11, 2026, the Iraqi Parliament elected Nizar Amedi in a second round of voting where he secured 227 votes out of 249 lawmakers present. He defeated his main opponent, Muthanna Amin, and succeeded Abdul Latif Rashid in the largely ceremonial but strategically vital role.
- **Path to Government Formation:** His election is a constitutional prerequisite for appointing a Prime Minister. Under Iraq's power-sharing system (muhasasah), Amedi now has 15 days to task the largest parliamentary bloc—the Shiite Coordination Framework—with

forming a new government and naming a Prime Minister.

- **Political Background:** Amedi is a 58-year-old veteran politician from the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK). He is a mechanical engineer by training and previously served as Iraq's Minister of Environment (2022–2024) before resigning to head the PUK's political office in Baghdad.

**Footnotes:** **Iraq's Previous President:** Abdul Latif Rashid, **Capital:** Baghdad, **Currency:** Iraqi Dinar

## CARI BENGALURU BECOMES FIRST CCRAS INSTITUTE TO ACHIEVE ISO 15189:2022 ACCREDITATION



- **Pioneering Achievement:** CARI Bengaluru is officially the first institute under the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) to receive this prestigious global accreditation for its clinical laboratory.
- **Scope of Excellence:** The accreditation specifically covers the departments of Biochemistry and Haematology. It validates over 50 test parameters (such as HbA1c, thyroid profiles, and kidney function tests) as meeting international quality and safety standards.
- **Bridging Systems:** This certification marks the transformation of the facility into a Centre of Excellence, integrating high-end diagnostic precision with traditional Ayurvedic care to enhance evidence-based research and patient trust.

## IMPORTANT FACTS

### FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

- **Article 20: Protection in respect of Conviction for Offences**
- **Article 21: Right to Life and Personal Liberty**
- **Article 21A: Right to Education**
- **Article 22: Protection against Arrest and Detention**
- **Article 23: Prohibition of Human Trafficking**
- **Article 24: Prohibition of Child Labour**
- **Article 25: Freedom of Religion**
- **Article 26: Freedom to Manage Religious Affairs**

## AUSTRALIA APPOINTED SUSAN COYLE AS ITS FIRST-EVER FEMALE ARMY CHIEF

- **Historic First:** Announced in April 2026, Lieutenant General Susan Coyle will become the first-ever female Chief of Army in the Australian Army's 125-year history. She is also the first woman to lead any service branch of the ADF.
- **Extensive Military Career:** She joined the military in 1987 and has served for nearly 40 years. Her career includes senior command roles in major operations across Afghanistan, the Solomon Islands, East Timor, and the Middle East, where she was the first woman to command Joint Task Force 633.
- **Strategic Leadership:** Prior to this appointment, she served as the Chief of Joint Capabilities, overseeing critical domains like space and cyber warfare. She will officially assume her new role in July 2026, succeeding Lieutenant General Simon Stuart.

## INDIA WINS 17 MEDALS AT ASIAN WRESTLING C'SHIPS

- **Final Medal Tally:** India finished the championships with a total of 17 medals, consisting of 4 Gold, 3 Silver, and 10 Bronze. This haul marks a strong showing for the Indian squad on the continental stage.
- **Dominance in Women's Wrestling:** The women's team was the standout performer, clinching 9 of the 17 medals. This included 3 of India's 4 total gold medals, with top honors going to athletes in the 53kg, 57kg, and 72kg categories.
- **Olympic Momentum:** These championships served as a critical benchmark for the athletes ahead of upcoming international qualifiers. The podium finishes by both seasoned veterans and rising youngsters have significantly boosted India's ranking and seeding for the 2026 global season.

## MELIE KERR WINS ICC WOMEN'S PLAYER OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH 2026

- **Record-Breaking Bowling:** Kerr's March was defined by a historic ODI series against Zimbabwe, where she claimed 16 wickets in just three matches. This included a career-best and New Zealand record of 7/34, the best-ever bowling figures by a White Fern in the format.
- **All-Round Consistency:** In addition to her bowling, she was a force with the bat, scoring 276 runs in the T20I series against

South Africa and 140 runs in the ODIs against Zimbabwe. She also extended her world-record streak to 11 consecutive scores of 30+ in T20 Internationals.

- **Leadership & Global Ranking:** Having recently taken over the captaincy from Sophie Devine, Kerr led New Zealand to series wins over both Zimbabwe and South Africa. Her performances propelled her to the No. 1 spot in the ICC Women's T20I All-Rounder rankings, and this marks her third time winning the Player of the Month award.

## FICCI NAMES ANANT SWARUP AS SECRETARY GENERAL



- **Distinguished Career Background:** Anant Swarup is a 1992-batch Indian Railway Personnel Service (IRPS) officer with over 30 years of experience. He has held high-level government positions, including Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce and Director General of Trade Remedies (DGTR), where he managed over 200 investigations.
- **Global Trade Expertise:** He brings extensive international experience, having served as India's First Secretary at the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva. He played a pivotal role in negotiating key Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the UK,

UAE, Mauritius, and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

- **Leadership Continuity:** Taking charge effective April 14, 2026, Swarup succeeds Shailesh Pathak. His appointment is designed to strengthen FICCI's senior leadership at a critical time for Indian industry, while Jyoti Vij will continue in her role as Director General to ensure operational continuity.

## MAHAVIR CHAKRA AWARDEE, KARGIL HERO, COLONEL SONAM WANGCHUK PASSED AWAY

- **Kargil War Heroism:** During the 1999 Kargil War, then-Major Wangchuk led a daring mission to capture the Chorbat La ridge in the Batalik sector. Operating at an altitude of nearly 18,000 feet in glaciated terrain, his team successfully evicted enemy forces, securing one of the first major victories of Operation Vijay.
- **Maha Vir Chakra Recipient:** In recognition of his exceptional bravery and leadership under fire, he was awarded the Maha Vir Chakra (MVC), India's second-highest wartime gallantry award. His actions were so significant that two forward posts in the Batalik sector were later named 'Sonam 1' and 'Sonam 2' in his honor.
- **Legacy of Service:** Colonel Wangchuk passed away on April 10, 2026, at the age of 61. Beyond his Kargil heroics, he had a distinguished 30-year career that included service in the Assam Regiment and the Ladakh Scouts.

## WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

16.04.2026 / THURSDAY

- **Pohela Boishakh 2026: Beginning of Bengali Year 1433**
- **People traditionally dress in Lal-Sada (red and white) outfits—typically white sarees with red borders for women & panjabis for men.**