

THE DAILY GK DOSE

Pakistan to Chair IMF and World Bank Boards in 2027



- Ahad Khan Cheema, Pakistan's Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, will serve as chair.
- The announcement was made during the 2026 IMF–World Bank Annual Meetings in Bangkok, Thailand.
- The headquarters of both the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group are located in Washington, D.C., United States.

MoRTH Plans BS-VII Emission Standards Rollout from 2029 to 2035



- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) proposed introducing Bharat Stage VII (BS-VII) emission standards through a phased rollout from April 2029 to April 2035.
- The proposed standards aim to reduce vehicular air pollution by tightening limits on harmful emissions from vehicles.
- The proposed framework may address pollutants such as nitrogen oxides (NOx), hydrocarbons and particulate matter.

ICICI Life Insurance Unveils New Brand Identity 'Har Kal Aasaan'

- ICICI Life Insurance Limited, formerly known as ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company Limited, unveiled its new brand identity and tagline, "Har Kal Aasaan,"
- The rebranding marks the company's 25 years of operations in the Indian life insurance market.
- Srinivas Balasubramanian, Chief of Marketing, Digital & Bancassurance, ICICI Life Insurance Limited, highlighted the company's focus on simplifying financial planning.

RBI Approves Emirates NBD Branch Merger with RBL Bank



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the amalgamation of the Indian branches of Emirates NBD Bank P.J.S.C. with RBL Bank Limited.
- The merger covers three branches located in Mumbai (Maharashtra), Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Gurugram (Haryana). The amalgamation was sanctioned under Section 44A(4) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- Emirates NBD completed its acquisition of a 60% stake in RBL Bank in June 2026 through an investment of approximately US\$2.75 billion (₹26,000 crore).

SCL Das Appointed FSIB Chairman

- The Central Government appointed Subhas Chandra Lal Das (SCL Das) as the part-time Chairperson of the Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB).
- He succeeds Bhanu Pratap Sharma, whose extended tenure as FSIB Chairperson ended on 30 June 2026.
- FSIB was established on 1 July 2022, replacing the Banks Board Bureau (BBB).

Sudhakar Dalela Appointed as India's Next Ambassador to Nepal



- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) appointed Sudhakar Dalela as the next Ambassador of India to Nepal.
- He will succeed Naveen Srivastava, who has served as India's Ambassador to Nepal since June 2022.
- He is a 1993-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer.

Sangeet Natak Akademi Selects 106 Artists for Yuva Puraskar 2024 - 25



- The Sangeet Natak Akademi, India's National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama, selected 106 young artists for the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for 2024 and 2025.
- The award ceremony was scheduled for 19 October 2026 at Meghdoot Complex, Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi.
- Each award carries ₹25,000 in prize money, a Tamrapatra and an Angavastram.

Manasi Joshi and Thulasimathi Secure Para-Badminton Medal



- Indian para-badminton players Manasi Joshi and Thulasimathi Murugesan assured India of a medal at the 2026 Asian Para Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.
- They defeated China's Yuemei Liu and Tongtong Li by 21-10, 21-17 to secure a top-two finish in Group A.
- The pair had previously won a silver medal at the 2023 Asian Para Games in Hangzhou, China.

RECENT RAMSAR SITES IN INDIA

Sukhna Wetland — Chandigarh

Sauj Jheel — Uttar Pradesh

Glaw Lake — Arunachal Pradesh

Jai Prakash Narayan Bird Sanctuary (Surha Tal) — Uttar Pradesh

Shekha Jheel Bird Sanctuary — Uttar Pradesh

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

19-10-2026 / MONDAY

Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar, the nephew of the Nobel Prize-winning Indian physicist Sir CV Raman and one of foremost scientists of the 20th century, was born on October 19, 1910, into a Tamil family in Lahore.