

THE DAILY GK DOSE

RAM KUMAR HONOURED WITH SANGITA KALANIDHI

- **Identity and Heritage:** R.K. Shriram is a noted violinist and musicologist from Karnataka's renowned Rudrapatnam family. He is the grandson of veteran violinist R.K. Venkatarama Shastry.
- **Specialization & Scholarship:** He is widely recognized as an authority on the compositions of Muthuswami Dikshitar (one of the Trinity of Carnatic Music). His expertise particularly lies in the Sangita Sampradaya Pradarsani.
- **Historical Significance of 2025:** His selection for the 2025 award is historically significant as it coincides with the 250th birth anniversary of Muthuswami Dikshitar.

DELCY RODRÍGUEZ BECOMES VENEZUELA'S INTERIM PRESIDENT

- **Cause of Transition:** Operation Absolute Resolve: Delcy Rodríguez's ascent to the presidency follows the capture of Nicolás Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores, by U.S. Special Forces on January 3, 2026. This event effectively ended Maduro's 13-year rule.
- **Engagement with the U.S.:** She has signaled a willingness

to negotiate with the U.S. administration.

Footnotes: Official language: Spanish, Currency: Venezuelan bolívar, Capital: Caracas

2026 DECLARED AS 'YEAR OF NETWORKING & DATA CENTRICITY'



- **Objective:** The objective is to transition to a data-centric force, using real-time shared information to quickly connect sensors to the most effective weapon system and minimize response time.
- **Strategic Pillars:** The initiative is built by the Army, focusing on self-reliance through indigenous technologies like secure battlefield management systems and captive data centres to ensure data security.
- **Inter-Service Synergy:** A unified digital platform will improve coordination among the three services, supporting seamless joint operations and integrated commands.

IMPORTANT FACTS

ABUNDANT ELEMENTS IN EARTH'S CRUST

ट्रिक ⇒ आसी ऐ लोक

- आ ⇒ आक्सीजन (46%), अधातु
- सी ⇒ सिलिकान (28%), अधातु
- ऐ ⇒ एल्युमीनियम (8%), धातु
- लो ⇒ लोहा (6%), धातु
- क ⇒ कैल्शियम (4%), धातु

FB UNVEILS NEW BRAND LOGO THE 'FORTUNA WAVE'

- **Design Philosophy:** The new rounded, fluid wordmark replaces uppercase letters, signaling a more approachable, solution-focused image aimed at younger, digitally savvy customers.
- **Yellow Underline:** The yellow underline has been retained in the new logo to symbolize the bank's ongoing commitment to partnership and support.
- **Leadership:** The refresh is described as a gentle evolution to improve digital adaptability while preserving the bank's core values.

Footnotes: FB's MD & CEO: KVS Manian, HQ: Kerala, Estd:1931

KVB CUTS BASE RATE & BPLR

- Karur Vysya Bank has slashed both its Base Rate and its Benchmark Prime Lending Rate (BPLR) by **45 basis points (bps)**.
- **Affected Loans:** These cuts primarily benefit "old" borrowers whose loans (sanctioned before April 2016) are still linked to the Base Rate or BPLR regimes, rather than the newer MCLR or EBLR systems.
- **Strategic Alignment:** By lowering these rates, KVB is positioning itself competitively to improve credit growth in its retail and MSME portfolios, which reported a strong 17.15% YoY growth in advances as of December 31, 2025.

Footnotes: KVB's MD & CEO: Mr. Ramesh Babu, HQ: Tamil Nadu, Estd:1916

PS GIRISHA APPOINTED DIRECTOR AT CSB

- **Officer Profile & Cadre:** PS Girisha is a 2012-batch IAS officer of the Andhra Pradesh cadre. He also served as District Collector of Annamayya & Vice Chairman

of the Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh. He is widely admired for clearing the UPSC after a childhood accident left him writing with his non-dominant hand.

- **Significance:** The appointment reflects the Government of India's focus on reinforcing governance standards and accelerating reforms in the textile and sericulture sectors.
- **Institutional Context:** The Central Silk Board is a statutory body established in 1948. It is the apex organization responsible for research, development, and quality certification (Silk Mark) to make India a global leader in silk production.

URMILA SATYANARAYANA CONFERRED NRITYA KALANIDHI



- **Identity and Lineage:** Urmila Satyanarayana is a premier Bharatanatyam dancer known for her mastery of the Vazhuvoor bani (style). She was trained by legendary

gurus, including K.N. Dandayudhapani Pillai, K.J.Sarasa, and Kalanidhi Narayanan.

- **Pedagogical Contribution:** She is the founder of the Chennai-based dance school "Natya Sankalpaa" (established in 1996).
- **The Award's Significance:** The Nritya Kalanidhi is the highest honor for dance presented by the Music Academy, Chennai. It is awarded annually to a distinguished dancer at the start of the Academy's dance festival in January.

FORMER UM SURESH KALMADI PASSED AWAY

- Manoj Kothari gained global fame by winning the 1990 IBSF World Billiards Championship and the 1997 World Doubles, boosting cue sports' popularity in India.
- He received the Dhyan Chand Award (2005), Arjuna Award, and BSFI Lifetime Achievement Award (2025) for his contributions to Indian sports.
- Kothari coached nationally for over a decade and mentored his son Sourav, making them a rare father-son duo of World Billiards champions (2018, 2025).

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

07.01-2026 / WEDNESDAY

- **Fundamental Duties (11):** Included in Part IV-A & Article 51A.
- **Recommendation made by the Swaran Singh Committee.**
- **Inspiration derived from the Soviet Union (Russia).**