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Current Affairs
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Shafali Verma named brand ambassador of Haryana State Women's Commission



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1. Shafali Verma named brand ambassador of Haryana State Women's Commission

- **Recognition of Achievement:** Shafali Verma was appointed as the brand ambassador in recognition of her outstanding performance in the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025, where she played a crucial role in India's maiden World Cup title win.
- **Awards and Honors:** She was honored with a cash reward of ₹1.5 crore, a ceremonial shawl, and a Grade A sports gradation certificate by Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini.
- **Promoting Women Empowerment:** As brand ambassador, Shafali will promote women's empowerment, encourage women's participation in sports and leadership, and raise awareness about women's rights.
- **Inspiring Youth:** Shafali's appointment aims to inspire young athletes in Haryana, which has emerged as a major hub for Indian sporting talent across disciplines.
- **Supporting Government Initiatives:** She will support the Haryana government's initiatives to promote sports, fitness, and a positive lifestyle among youth, while also combating drug addiction.



2. India Emerges as the World's 6th-Largest Patent Filer

- **Patent Filing Ranking:** India has jumped to the 6th position globally in patent filings, with over 64,000 patents filed.



- **Resident Innovators Lead:** More than 55% of these patents are filed by resident Indian innovators, showcasing a shift from dependence on foreign institutions to homegrown innovation.
- **Global Innovation Index:** India has climbed from Rank 81 to Rank 38 in the Global Innovation Index, highlighting its growing scientific capacity and global leadership.
- **Government Support:** Initiatives like Start-Up India, Make in India, and Atmanirbhar Bharat are driving this growth, along with government schemes like Mudra, PM-Svanidhi, and PM-Vishwakarma.
- **Innovation Ecosystem:** India's innovation ecosystem is maturing, with strong public-private partnerships, venture capital participation, and a focus on applied sciences, skilling.

3. Railways Introduces AI-Based 'DRISHTI' System for Wagon Security

- **Real-Time Monitoring:** DRISHTI uses AI-powered cameras and sensors to continuously track door positions and locking conditions of freight wagons, detecting anomalies in real-time.
- **Automated Alerts:** The system triggers instant notifications to railway staff if it detects tampering, damage, or unlocked doors, enabling rapid response.
- **Improved Safety and Security:** DRISHTI enhances freight security, reduces theft and pilferage, and strengthens wagon sealing integrity.
- **Reduced Manual Checks:** The AI-based system minimizes reliance on manual inspections, saving time and resources while improving accuracy.
- **Indigenous Innovation:** Developed by Northeast Frontier Railway and IIT Guwahati, DRISHTI supports India's Atmanirbhar Bharat goal and is set to modernize Indian Railways' freight management.



4. India to Build World's Deepest Underwater Lab at 6,000 Metres

- **Depth and Location:** The lab will be located in the Indian Ocean, at a staggering depth of 6,000 meters, making it the world's deepest underwater research facility.
- **Research Goals:** The lab will enable scientists to study deep-sea life, geology, chemistry, and human endurance under extreme pressure, with potential applications in biotechnology, drug discovery, and more.



- **Design and Features:** The lab's design is inspired by the International Space Station, with transparent viewing panels, regulated oxygen supply, temperature control, and integrated laboratories.
- **Construction and Timeline:** A 500-meter demonstrator module will be built first, followed by the full-scale habitat, with completion expected by 2047.
- **Significance:** This project showcases India's commitment to advancing ocean science and exploration, supporting the country's Blue Economy and UN SDG 14: Life Below Water goals.

5. Esha Singh clinches bronze at ISSF World Championship Rifle and Pistol

- **Maiden Individual World Championship Medal:** Esha Singh won her first individual world championship medal, claiming bronze in the women's 25m Pistol Olympic event.
- **Score and Ranking:** Esha scored 30 in the final, finishing behind Korea's Yang Jiin (gold, score: 40) and China's Yao Qianxun (silver, score: 38).
- **India's Medal Tally:** This bronze medal contributed to India's historic haul of one gold, four silver, and two bronze medals in the 10 Olympic shooting events.
- **Consistent Performance:** Esha had qualified fifth for the final with a score of 587, showcasing her strong performance throughout the championship.
- **Upcoming Event:** Esha will next participate in the ISSF World Cup Finals in Doha in December, capping off a successful year.



6. Bank Credit Growth Slows to 11.3% While Deposits Rise to 9.7% in October

- **Credit Growth Slows Down:** Bank credit growth slowed to 11.3% year-on-year in October, indicating a cautious lending environment and reduced appetite for loans.
- **Deposit Growth Picks Up:** Deposits rose to 9.7% in October, reaching ₹241.7 lakh crore, showcasing strong inflow of savings and capital into the banking system.
- **Narrowing Credit-Deposit Gap:** The gap between credit and deposit growth is narrowing, signaling potential shifts in banking strategies and liquidity management.
- **Total Bank Credit Outstanding:** Total bank credit outstanding stood at approximately ₹193.9 lakh crore as of October 31, 2025, reflecting slower credit expansion across sectors.



- **Implications for Banking Sector:** The trend indicates liquidity surplus, forcing banks to re-evaluate investment and lending strategies, potentially impacting net interest margins.

7. GI Tag Awarded to Traditional Lepcha Musical Instruments

- **Instruments Awarded:** The GI tag has been awarded to two traditional Lepcha musical instruments, Tungbuk and Puntong Pulit, from Sikkim.
- **Type of Instruments:** Tungbuk is a three-stringed instrument, while Puntong Pulit is a bamboo flute, both integral to Lepcha folk music and spirituality.
- **Cultural Significance:** These instruments hold deep cultural and spiritual significance, used in traditional festivals, rituals, and village gatherings.
- **Recognition and Protection:** The GI tag provides national recognition and legal protection, promoting cultural revival and creating livelihood opportunities for traditional artisans.
- **Supporting Organization:** NABARD, Gangtok, provided technical and financial assistance during the GI registration process, which took approximately two years.



8. KKR appoints Shane Watson as new assistant coach

- **Appointment Announcement:** Shane Watson has been appointed as the new assistant coach of Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) for IPL 2026, joining head coach Abhishek Nayar and mentor Dwayne Bravo.
- **Experience and Achievements:** Watson is a two-time IPL winner and renowned T20 all-rounder, with over 10,000 international runs and 280 wickets across formats.
- **Coaching Role:** He will work closely with Nayar and Bravo to rebuild KKR's squad, focusing on player retention, auction strategy, and team performance.
- **Immediate Tasks:** Watson's priorities include shaping KKR's player retention list and supporting plans for the IPL 2026 mini-auction.
- **Team's Expectations:** KKR aims to bounce back from a disappointing 2025 campaign, and Watson's experience is expected to bring a fresh mindset and stronger batting and powerplay strategy.



9. National Press Day celebrated on 16th November

- **Significance:** National Press Day commemorates the establishment of the Press Council of India (PCI) in 1966, highlighting the role of the press in maintaining democracy.
- **Theme:** The day focuses on the theme "Media: Challenges in the Digital Age", discussing issues like fake news, media ethics, and press freedom.
- **Awards and Recognition:** The Press Council of India awards the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award for excellence in journalism, recognizing outstanding contributions.
- **Press Freedom:** National Press Day emphasizes the importance of press freedom, discussing challenges faced by journalists and media outlets.
- **PCI's Role:** The Press Council of India works to maintain and improve journalistic standards, addressing complaints against the press.



10. Veteran Actor Kamini Kaushal passed away

- **Age and Date of Passing:** Kamini Kaushal passed away on November 14, 2025, at the age of 98, due to age-related health issues.
- **Career Span:** She had an illustrious career spanning over 7 decades, with notable films like "Neecha Nagar", "Shaheed", "Nadiya Ke Paar", and "Kabir Singh".
- **Awards and Recognition:** Kamini Kaushal won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival for "Neecha Nagar" and the Filmfare Award for Best Actress for "Biraj Bahu".
- **Recent Work:** Her recent films include "Kabir Singh" (2019) and "Laal Singh Chaddha" (2022), showcasing her enduring presence in Bollywood.
- **Legacy:** Kamini Kaushal is remembered for her contributions to Indian cinema, inspiring generations with her talent, simplicity, and strength.



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