

THE DAILY GK DOSE

Ladakh Hosts First-Ever Black-Necked Crane Festival



- Ladakh is hosting the first-ever Black-Necked Crane Festival to promote the conservation of the species and its fragile high-altitude habitat.
- The festival is centred on the Changthang region, which is an important breeding and wintering habitat for the Black-necked Crane.
- Important habitats include Tso Kar, Hanle and other high-altitude wetlands.

Uttar Pradesh Becomes India's Largest Milk-Producing State



- Uttar Pradesh has retained its position as India's largest milk-producing state approximately 388.15 lakh metric tonnes of milk during 2024–25.
- The state accounts for around 16% of India's total milk production. India continues to be the world's largest milk-producing country.
- Uttar Pradesh is followed among the major milk-producing states by Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

Jammu and Kashmir to Host Irani Cup in Srinagar



- Jammu & Kashmir will host the Irani Cup 2026–27 in Srinagar. The scheduled venue is Sher-i-Kashmir Stadium, Srinagar.
- Jammu & Kashmir earned the hosting opportunity after winning the 2025–26 Ranji Trophy.
- The Irani Cup is organised under the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

Vietnam's VinSpace Signs SpaceX Launch Deal for 2027



- Vietnamese aerospace company VinSpace has signed an agreement with SpaceX for a satellite launch.
- The satellites will be carried through a SpaceX Transporter rideshare mission.
- SpaceX is an American aerospace company founded by Elon Musk.

Padma Bhushan Awardee Physicist Deepak Dhar Wins Dirac Medal

- Indian physicist Professor Deepak Dhar has been awarded the prestigious Dirac Medal 2026 in theoretical and statistical physics.
- His research on the Abelian sandpile model is internationally recognised.
- He received the Padma Bhushan in 2023 for his contribution to science and technology and Boltzmann Medal in 2022, first Indian recipient of the Boltzmann Medal.

N. Chandrasekaran Resigns as Tata Sons Chairman



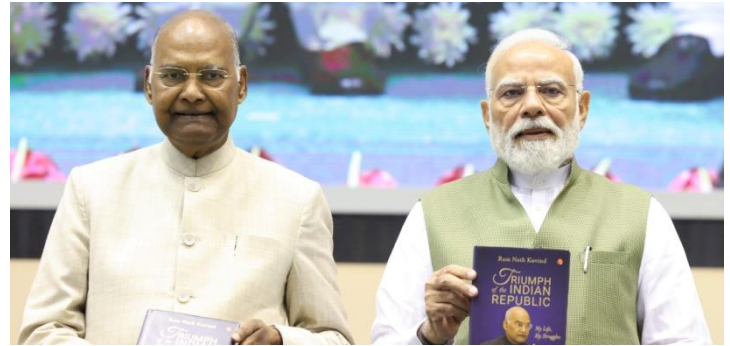
- Natarajan Chandrasekaran, popularly known as N. Chandrasekaran, has decided not to seek another term as Chairman of Tata Sons.
- He succeeded Cyrus Mistry as Chairman.
- Before becoming Chairman of Tata Sons, Chandrasekaran served as the CEO and Managing Director of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).

Indian Navy's 'Shruti' NGOPV Launched at GRSE, Kolkata



- The Indian Navy's Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV) 'Shruti' was launched at Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata
- The first GRSE NGOPV, Sanghamitra, was launched in May 2026.
- The programme is being executed by GRSE, Kolkata, and Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), Goa.

PM Modi Releases Ram Nath Kovind's Autobiography



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the autobiography of former President Ram Nath Kovind in New Delhi.
- The autobiography covers Kovind's personal life, struggles, public service and political journey.
- Ram Nath Kovind served as the 14th President of India. He succeeded Pranab Mukherjee as President of India. Ram Nath Kovind was succeeded by Droupadi Murmu.

2026 LAUREUS AWARD WINNERS

- Sportsman of the Year:** Carlos Alcaraz [Spanish]
Sportswoman of the Year: Aryna Sabalenka [Belarusian]
Team of the Year: Paris Saint-Germain
Breakthrough of the Year: Lando Norris [British]
Comeback of the Year: Rory McIlroy [Irish]
Sportsperson with a Disability: Gabriel Araújo [Brazilian]
Action Sportsperson of the Year: Chloe Kim [American]
Lifetime Achievement Award: Nadia Comăneci [Romanian]
Sporting Inspiration Award: Toni Kroos [German]

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

12-08-2026 / WEDNESDAY

International Youth Day is observed annually on August 12. The official 2026 theme is "Different Contexts, Common Aspirations," which highlights that while young people face diverse local and national realities worldwide, they share universal goals for dignity, education, decent work, and a sustainable future.