



Current Affairs

30 Oct. 2025

IAS Sandeep Kumar given additional charge as DSSSB Chairman





1. IAS Sandeep Kumar given additional charge as DSSSB Chairman

- **Additional Charge:** IAS Sandeep Kumar has been entrusted with the additional charge of Chairman, Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board (DSSSB), along with Prashant Goyal, who has been given the additional charge of Director, UTCS.
- **Administrative Reshuffle:** This appointment is part of a recent administrative reshuffle in the Delhi Government, aimed at strengthening administrative efficiency and improving coordination across key departments.
- **Background:** Sandeep Kumar is a senior IAS officer, and his current designation is Principal Secretary (Vigilance) with additional charge of Principal Secretary (Environment & Forests) and Principal Secretary (AR).
- **Previous DSSSB Chairman:** The previous Chairman of DSSSB was Shurbir Singh IAS, who was transferred and appointed as Secretary – Power, with additional charge of Secretary – Finance.
- **Simultaneous Appointments:** This appointment is one of several made by the Delhi Government, with other IAS officers also being given additional charges and responsibilities.



2. James Anderson receives knighthood from Princess Anne

- **Knighthood Ceremony:** James Anderson was formally knighted by Princess Anne at Windsor Castle on October



28, 2025, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to cricket.

- **Achievement:** Anderson received this honor for his remarkable 22-year cricketing career, where he took 704 Test wickets, making him England's all-time leading wicket-taker and the most successful fast bowler in Test history.
- **Previous Recognition:** Earlier in 2025, Anderson was named in former Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's resignation honours list, becoming the only sportsman to be recognized.
- **Elite Group:** With this knighthood, Anderson joins an elite group of English cricket legends, including Sir Ian Botham, Sir Geoffrey Boycott, Sir Alastair Cook, and Sir Andrew Strauss.
- **Legacy:** The knighthood acknowledges not only Anderson's statistical milestones but also his contributions as a mentor, leader, and ambassador of the game, inspiring countless cricketers with his professionalism and passion.

3. Dhinidhi Desinghu Sets National Swimming Record in 400m Freestyle at Asian Youth Games

- **New National Record:** Dhinidhi Desinghu set a new national record in the 400m freestyle event with a time of 4 minutes and 21.86 seconds, bettering her own record of 4 minutes and 24.60 seconds.
- **Asian Youth Games 2025:** This achievement came at the Asian Youth Games 2025 in Bahrain, where Dhinidhi finished fifth in the final.
- **Impressive Performance:** Dhinidhi's record-breaking performance showcases her exceptional skill and dedication to swimming, making her a promising prospect for future competitions.
- **Other Notable Performances:** In the same event, Aditi Satish Hegde finished seventh with a time of 4 minutes and 32 seconds. Other Indian swimmers, like Nitishsai Harinath and Dhakshan Shashikumar, also participated in various events, with Nitishsai finishing fifth in the 50m freestyle and Dhakshan finishing seventh in the 400m freestyle.
- **Rising Star:** Dhinidhi's recent performances have been impressive, including her dominance at the National Games 2025, where she bagged nine medals, including seven golds, at just 14 years old.



4. IIFL Home Finance appoints Girish Kousgi as Managing Director and CEO

- **Appointment Details:** Girish Kousgi has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of IIFL Home Finance, effective October 30, 2025. He will

oversee the company's entire business operations, including home loans, non-home loan segments, MSME loans, and construction finance.

- **Experience:** Kousgi brings nearly three decades of experience in banking and financial services, having previously served as MD and CEO of PNB Housing Finance Limited and Can Fin Homes. He's also held senior roles at Tata Capital Financial Services, IDFC Bank, and ICICI Bank.
- **Strategic Focus:** With this appointment, IIFL Home Finance aims to strengthen its leadership position in the affordable housing finance segment and accelerate growth across business verticals. Kousgi's expertise in mortgages, SME and agricultural finance, retail lending, and deposit products will be crucial in driving this strategy.
- **Industry Context:** The appointment comes at a time when large home finance companies are facing heightened competition from banks in the premium lending segment. However, the affordable housing market has emerged as an attractive growth avenue for home financiers, offering higher yields due to limited competition from major banks.



5. S Narayan selected for the post of CMD, CEL

- **Selection by PESB:** S Narayan has been recommended for the post of CMD, CEL by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) on October 29, 2025.
- **Company Overview:** CEL is a Mini Ratna Category-I CPSE under the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science & Technology, operating in defense, railways, solar photovoltaics, and integrated solutions.
- **Key Responsibilities:** As CMD, S Narayan will be responsible for steering the company's corporate strategy, technological innovation, and operational excellence, building on CEL's legacy of indigenous technology development.
- **CEL's Achievements:** The company has achieved significant milestones, including a turnover of ₹390 crore and a 27% rise in profits in FY 2024-25, demonstrating its commitment to performance-driven growth.
- **Future Plans:** Under S Narayan's leadership, CEL is expected to continue aligning itself with national missions like Make in India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and Digital India, driving technological innovation and nation-building.



6. Vivek Oberoi to receive Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Award

- **Award Category:** Vivek Oberoi won the Best Supporting Actor (Male) award for his performance in the web series "Indian Police Force" at the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2025.
- **Role:** He portrayed IPS Vikram Bakshi in the action-packed web series "Indian Police Force" on Amazon Prime Video, which received widespread praise from critics and viewers for his powerful performance.
- **Award Ceremony:** The award ceremony was held on October 30, 2025, at the Dome, SVP Stadium, Worli, Mumbai, celebrating excellence in Indian cinema and entertainment.
- **Notable Works:** Vivek Oberoi has showcased his versatility with memorable roles in films like "Company", "Saathiya", "Omkaara", "Krrish 3", and "Inside Edge".
- **Upcoming Projects:** His upcoming projects include the comedy film "Masti 4", Sandeep Reddy Vanga's "Spirit", and the epic "Ramayan", promising another exciting chapter in his acting journey.



7. GDRFA Dubai wins Global Award for AI Governance

- **Award Recognition:** GDRFA Dubai won the "Best Artificial Intelligence Governance Strategy of 2025" award from the AI Awards Series, recognizing its commitment to developing responsible AI frameworks that enhance efficiency and transparency in digital transformation.
- **Key Focus Areas:** The department's AI governance strategy focuses on strong data privacy and security, transparent and ethical AI usage, future-driven smart services, enhanced customer confidence and satisfaction, and support for the UAE's national digital transformation objectives.
- **Governance Framework:** GDRFA Dubai has established a comprehensive AI governance framework that prioritizes transparency, fairness, and accountability, ensuring that every AI-driven process supports fairness and human oversight while improving the overall experience for residents, visitors, and businesses in Dubai.
- **Benefits:** The award highlights the benefits of GDRFA Dubai's AI governance strategy, including faster and more accurate services, transparency and trust, operational excellence, and improved satisfaction for residents, travelers, and investors.



8. Paytm Enables UPI for NRIs with Foreign Numbers

- **No Indian SIM Required:** Paytm's new feature allows NRIs to make UPI payments in India using their international mobile numbers, eliminating the need for an Indian SIM card. This service is currently available to NRIs in 12 countries, including the US, UK, UAE, Australia, and Canada.
- **NRE/NRO Account Linking:** To use the service, NRIs need to link their NRE (Non-Resident External) or NRO (Non-Resident Ordinary) bank account with Paytm. This allows them to make transactions in Indian Rupees without any foreign exchange conversion or international payment gateway fees.
- **Seamless Transactions:** With Paytm UPI, NRIs can send money to Indian UPI IDs and mobile numbers, pay merchants by scanning QR codes, and shop online on Indian platforms. The transactions are processed instantly and securely.
- **Additional Features:** Paytm offers features like downloadable UPI statements, automatic expense categorization, payment hiding options, and consolidated balance viewing across linked bank accounts. Users can also access an AI-generated spending summary feature called Paytm Playback.



9. MDL, Swan Defence Sign Pact to Build Navy Landing Platform Docks

- **Partnership Details:** Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL) and Swan Defence and Heavy Industries Ltd (SDHI) have signed an exclusive Teaming Agreement to jointly design and construct LPDs for the Indian Navy, leveraging each other's strengths in shipbuilding and infrastructure.
- **Project Value:** The Defence Acquisition Council has approved the acquisition of LPDs at an estimated cost of ₹33,000 crore, highlighting the strategic priority assigned to amphibious capability and marking one of the largest indigenous naval procurement projects.
- **Key Roles:** MDL will lead ship design, project management, and system integration, while SDHI will provide its world-class shipbuilding facilities, including the largest graving dry dock in the country, to deliver high-quality LPDs.
- **Benefits:** The partnership aims to deliver technologically advanced and globally competitive platforms, enhancing the Indian Navy's blue-water capabilities and supporting the government's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliance in defense manufacturing).



10. Eminent Surgeon Mathangi Ramakrishnan passed away

- Dr. Mathangi Ramakrishnan passed away on October 27, 2025, at the age of 91, due to age-related complications in Chennai.
- She was a pioneer in burn care and plastic surgery, establishing the first government-run comprehensive burns unit in South India at Government Kilpauk Medical College (KMC), Chennai.
- Dr. Mathangi received numerous accolades for her exemplary service, including the Padma Shri (2002), Dr. B.C. Roy National Award, Avvaiyar Award (2014), Sushruta Gold Medal, and the G. Whitaker International Burns Prize (2009).
- She mentored multiple generations of plastic surgeons in India and published numerous research papers in peer-reviewed medical journals. Her collaborative research with the Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) led to the development of a collagen membrane used as a burn wound cover. Dr. Mathangi served as Emeritus Professor of Plastic Surgery at the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University and as Emeritus Scientist at the Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI), Chennai.



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