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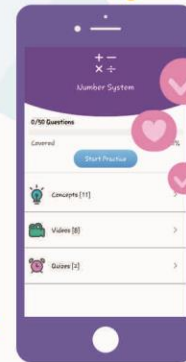
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ARTICLES

Indian Air Force Day 2025: Celebrating 93 Years of Valor and Service



Indian Air Force Day, celebrated annually on October 8th, is a significant national observance that honors the establishment, achievements, and sacrifices of the Indian Air Force (IAF). In 2025, the IAF marks its 93rd anniversary, with celebrations focusing on its operational readiness, technological advancements, and crucial role in national security and humanitarian missions.

Significance and Theme

Indian Air Force Day is a time to pay tribute to the courage, dedication, and professionalism of the IAF personnel who safeguard the nation's airspace. The day's significance is manifold:

- **Honoring Service and Sacrifice:** It is a solemn occasion to remember the air warriors who have made the ultimate sacrifice and to celebrate the achievements of both past and present personnel.
- **Showcasing Air Power:** The events showcase the IAF's strength, discipline, and the modernization efforts that keep it as the world's fourth-largest air force.
- **Inspiration for Youth:** The displays and exhibitions aim to

inspire the youth of the nation to consider a career in the armed forces.

The 2025 celebrations place a strong emphasis on Operation Sindoor, an operation highlighting India's swift and effective response against cross-border terrorist infrastructure. The Chief of Air Staff is expected to detail the IAF's crucial role in this operation.

Celebrations and Highlights

The main event at the Hindon Air Force Base in Ghaziabad is a grand spectacle that includes:

- **Grand Parade and Flypasts:** A ceremonial parade is held, followed by an impressive flypast that showcases the IAF's diverse fleet and combat capabilities.
- **Aircraft and System Display:** The event features an extensive display of advanced and indigenous aerial weaponry and platforms, including:
- **Frontline Fighter Jets:** Rafale, Sukhoi Su-30MKI, and MiG-29.
- **Heavy-lift and Transport Aircraft:** C-17 Globemaster III and C-130J Super Hercules.
- **Helicopters:** Apache attack helicopter with Longbow radar, and the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH).
- **Indigenous Systems:** Netra Airborne Early Warning & Control (AEW&C) system, Akash Surface-to-Air Missile System, and S-band Rohini radar.
- **Tribute to MiG-21 Bison:** A special farewell tribute is paid to the legendary MiG-21 Bison, which has been a backbone of the IAF for over six decades.

- **Celebrating Humanitarian Role:** The IAF also highlights its capabilities as a "first responder" in disaster relief and humanitarian missions, such as flood relief and earthquake responses.
- **International Engagements:** The celebrations feature the IAF's increasing international collaboration through participation in joint exercises.

History of Indian Air Force Day

The date of October 8th was chosen to commemorate the day the IAF was officially established:

- **October 8, 1932:** The Indian Air Force was officially established as an auxiliary air force of the British Empire under the name Royal Indian Air Force (RIAF).
- **April 1, 1933:** The RIAF commissioned its first squadron, No.1 Squadron, with four Westland Wapiti biplanes and five Indian pilots.
- **World War II:** Following its distinguished service in World War II, the IAF was granted the prefix 'Royal' in 1945.
- **1950:** With India becoming a republic, the prefix 'Royal' was dropped, and the force was formally constituted as the Indian Air Force (IAF).

The IAF's motto, "नभः स्पृशं दीप्तम्" (Nabhah Sparśam Dīptam), meaning "Touch the Sky with Glory," is taken from the eleventh chapter of the Bhagavad Gita, reflecting the force's pursuit of excellence and commitment to the nation.

World Post Day 2025: Celebrating Local Service and Global Reach



World Post Day is celebrated annually on October 9th to mark the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874 in Bern, Switzerland. The day is an international observance aimed at raising awareness about the vital role of the postal sector in people's and businesses' everyday lives and its immense contribution to global social and economic development.

2025 Theme: #PostForPeople: Local Service. Global Reach.

The official theme for World Post Day 2025 is "#PostForPeople: Local Service. Global Reach." This theme highlights the enduring power of the postal service to connect communities locally while simultaneously serving as an essential link to the wider world.

- **Local Service:** This aspect emphasizes the deep roots of post offices within communities, often serving as critical points for services like financial transactions (money orders, pensions), bill payments, and, especially in remote areas, access to the digital economy.
- **Global Reach:** This acknowledges the unparalleled global network coordinated by the UPU, which facilitates international communication, cross-border e-commerce, logistics, and the efficient exchange of goods and documents worldwide.

History and Significance

World Post Day has been celebrated since it was officially declared at the 1969 Universal Postal Congress in Tokyo, Japan. The date was chosen to commemorate the founding of the UPU, which was established to create and maintain a single postal territory for the reciprocal exchange of mail.

The Universal Postal Union (UPU)

The UPU, now a specialized agency of the United Nations, is one of the world's oldest international organizations. Before its creation, sending mail internationally was a complicated, slow, and expensive process, requiring separate agreements between every country. The UPU standardized postal services, creating a uniform, efficient global system that revolutionized communication and trade.

International Day of the Girl Child October 11, 2025

Today, October 11, 2025, is the International Day of the Girl Child, a global observance that celebrates girls' empowerment, education, and leadership. This year's theme, "The Girl I Am, The Change I Lead: Girls on the Frontlines of Crisis," highlights the strength and resilience of girls worldwide, particularly those facing crises like climate change, conflicts, and health emergencies.

Theme for 2025: "The girl I am, the change I lead: Girls on the frontlines of crisis"

The 2025 theme, developed through consultations with girl organizations and UN partners, calls for the global community to recognize and support the vital leadership of girls who are often the most impacted by, yet are actively responding to, multiple crises worldwide.

Significance

1. Recognition of Girls' Unique Rights and Challenges: The day was established by the UN General Assembly in 2011 to specifically recognize that girls face unique challenges and discrimination simply because of their gender and age. While there is an International Women's Day and an International Day of the Child, neither fully addresses the distinct position of adolescent girls. This observance highlights issues like:

- **Access to Education:** Globally, millions of girls remain out of school, facing barriers like child marriage, poverty, and gender-based violence.
- **Health and Nutrition:** Girls often face poorer health and nutritional outcomes, and limited access to essential services, especially during crises.
- **Violence and Exploitation:** Girls are disproportionately vulnerable to child marriage, sexual violence, trafficking, and other harmful practices.

2. Amplifying Girls' Leadership and Agency: The 2025 theme emphasizes that girls are not merely passive recipients of aid; they are leaders, change-makers, and solution-bringers. In the face of conflict, climate change, humanitarian emergencies, and economic insecurity, girls are:

- Organizing in their communities for climate justice.
- Advocating for an end to gender-based violence.
- Mobilizing peers to recover from crises and build peace.

The day serves as a rallying cry to ensure that girls' voices are heard, their actions are recognized, and their needs are prioritized in policymaking, humanitarian responses, and development programs.

3. Call to Action: Investing in Girls' Future: Empowering and investing in adolescent girls is not only a moral



imperative but also a smart economic decision. When girls are educated, healthy, and safe, they have the potential to change the world as tomorrow's workers, entrepreneurs, mentors, and political leaders. The day urges key actions, including:

- **Advocacy:** Calling for policies that protect girls' rights and enable their leadership, especially in crisis settings.
- **Support:** Lending dedicated funding and programs that meet the unique needs of girls in crises, including mental well-being and education.
- **Visibility:** Sharing girls' stories and celebrating their achievements to amplify their voices and limitless potential.

4. Alignment with Global Goals (Beijing Declaration): The 2025 observance takes on special significance as it marks thirty years since the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995)—the most progressive blueprint for advancing the rights of women and girls. International Day of the Girl is a moment to assess the progress made and renew commitment to the goal of gender equality, ensuring that every girl can realize all her rights.

Noble Prize Winners 2025



The 2025 Nobel Prizes recognize groundbreaking achievements across six categories. The awards honor discoveries and contributions in physiology or medicine, physics, chemistry, literature, peace, and economic sciences. This year's winners were recognized for their pioneering work in areas such as immune tolerance, quantum technology, sustainable materials, literary innovation, democratic rights advocacy, and economic growth. Their research and achievements have the potential to drive significant advancements and inspire future generations.

Category Laureates Rationale

Physics John Clarke, Michel H. Devoret, and John M. Martinis

For the "discovery of macroscopic quantum mechanical tunnelling and energy quantisation in an electric circuit." Their work, performed in the mid-1980s, demonstrated that quantum mechanical effects (like tunneling and discrete energy levels) could be observed in an electrical circuit large enough to be held in a hand. This groundbreaking research laid the essential foundation for developing the next generation of quantum technology, including quantum computers.

Chemistry Richard Robson, Susumu Kitagawa, and Omar Yaghi

For "creating molecular constructions with 'rooms' in between" (Metal-Organic Frameworks or MOFs). They developed a new form of molecular architecture where metal ions act as cornerstones linked by long organic molecules, creating crystals with large internal cavities. These porous MOF materials have applications in storing desired gases or chemicals, such as trapping moisture from the air to get water or absorbing ethylene gas to slow the ripening of fruit.

Physiology or Medicine Mary E. Brunkow, Fred Ramsdell, and Shimon Sakaquchi

For their groundbreaking discoveries concerning peripheral immune tolerance that prevent the immune system from attacking the body's own tissues (autoimmunity). Their research—specifically the discovery and understanding of a key regulatory mechanism—laid the foundation for a new field of research and has spurred the development of new treatments for cancer and autoimmune diseases.

Literature László Krasznahorkai (Hungarian author)

For his "compelling and visionary oeuvre that, in the midst of apocalyptic terror, reaffirms the power of art." His works are known for their profound, complex prose and dark, apocalyptic themes that explore the human condition in times of great uncertainty and fear, ultimately highlighting the enduring strength of artistic expression.

Peace María Corina Machado (Venezuelan politician)

For her "tireless work promoting democratic rights for the people of Venezuela and for her struggle to achieve a just and peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy." The Norwegian Nobel Committee praised her as an extraordinary example of civilian courage, recognizing her role as a key, unifying figure in the

country's political opposition against an entrenched authoritarian regime.

Economic Sciences (Sveriges Riksbank Prize) Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt

For "having explained innovation-driven economic growth." Mokyr was recognized for identifying the historical prerequisites for sustained technological progress, while Aghion and Howitt were honored for developing the theory of "sustained growth through creative destruction," which explains how new innovations constantly replace older products and industries, driving long-term economic expansion.

The Nobel Prizes: Overview

The Nobel Prizes are a set of international awards handed out annually for achievements in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, and Peace. The prizes were established by the will of Swedish inventor and industrialist Alfred Nobel (1833–1896). The first prizes were awarded in 1901.

- The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel was established by Sweden's central bank in 1968 and is administered and presented alongside the original five Nobel Prizes.
- Each laureate receives a gold medal, a diploma, and a monetary award (which, in 2025, was approximately 11 million Swedish kronor).
- A prize may be shared by up to three individuals, while the Peace Prize can also be awarded to institutions and organizations.

New Delhi 2025 World Para Athletics Championships: A Historic Success

The 12th edition of the World Para Athletics Championships, the biggest competition for para-athletes outside of the Paralympic Games, was held in New Delhi, India, from September 27 to October 5, 2025. The event marked a significant milestone as it was the first time India and South Asia had hosted the championships, positioning the nation firmly on the global para-athletics map.



Key Details and Organization

- Host City & Venue: New Delhi, India, at the iconic Jawaharlal Nehru (JLN) Stadium.
- Dates: September 27 to October 5, 2025 (9 days of competition).
- Scale: The championships drew over 2,100 participants, including more than 1,000 elite athletes, from over 100 nations. It was the largest-ever para-sport gathering organized in India.
- Events: A total of 186 medal events were contested, featuring a full program of track and field disciplines for athletes across various impairment classifications (including visual, intellectual, cerebral palsy, amputation, and spinal cord injury).
- Infrastructure: The Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium was upgraded with a new, world-class MONDO track and enhanced athlete-friendly, accessible facilities, earning international praise for its high standards of organization and technical conduct.

Significance and Legacy for India

The 2025 Championships were heralded as a new era for para-sport in India.

- Best-Ever Performance: The host nation delivered its most successful performance in the history of the championships. India finished in 10th position in the medal tally, securing a record total of 22 medals (6 Gold, 9 Silver, and 7 Bronze).
- Inclusivity and Awareness: Beyond the competition, the event served as a powerful catalyst for promoting inclusion and raising awareness about para-sports within India and across the globe.
- International Praise: The World Para Athletics (WPA) body presented the organizers with a trophy for the successful hosting of the event, with WPA and IPC presidents expressing eagerness for India to host more such major international para-sport events in the future.

Athlete Highlights

The competition saw numerous record-breaking performances and triumphs of human will:

- Indian Stars: Indian para-athletes, many supported by the government's Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), shone brightly on home soil. Highlights included Paralympic champion Sumit Antil (Javelin F64) winning his third world title, and Shailesh Kumar clinching India's first gold of the championships in the Men's High Jump T63 with an Asian record.
- Global Dominance: Countries like Brazil and the People's Republic of China led the medal table, underscoring their strength in the sport.

Police Commemoration Day: October 21st



The Police Commemoration Day is observed annually on October 21st across India to pay solemn tribute to the thousands of police personnel who have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty, both domestically and while defending the nation's borders. It is a day of remembrance, honor, and a reaffirmation of the nation's gratitude for the selfless service of the police forces.

Declaration of Commemoration Day

In January 1960, the Annual Conference of Inspectors General of Police of States and Union Territories made the solemn decision that October 21st would henceforth be observed as "Commemoration Day" or "Martyrs' Day" by all police forces in India, in memory of the sacrifices made at Hot Springs and to honour all police personnel who lay down their lives in the service of the nation.

Significance of the Day in Modern India

The day is a moment for the entire nation to reflect on the immense sacrifices made by police forces in various domains:

- Counter-Insurgency and Terrorism: The day honors the

personnel who have fallen in the fight against terrorism, militancy, and insurgency in regions like Jammu and Kashmir, the Northeast, and the 'Red Corridor' (Naxal-affected areas).

- Maintenance of Law and Order: It pays tribute to the countless lives lost in performing routine yet dangerous duties, such as crime prevention, traffic control, investigation, and maintaining public order.
- Humanitarian Service: It acknowledges the police's role in disaster relief operations, the COVID-19 pandemic response, and other humanitarian challenges, where they often act as first responders.
- National Security and Integrity: The day reinforces the police forces' paramount role in safeguarding the nation's internal security and territorial integrity, often serving in extremely challenging environments.

Observances and Tribute (2025)

The main observance of Police Commemoration Day takes place at the National Police Memorial (NPM) in New Delhi.

The National Police Memorial

Dedicated to the nation by the Prime Minister in 2018, the NPM is the central site of reverence. It comprises three main elements:

- Central Sculpture: A 30-foot high granite monolith cenotaph that symbolizes the strength, resilience, and selfless service of police personnel.
- The Wall of Valour: A long wall on which the names of over 35,000 police martyrs who have sacrificed their lives since India's Independence in 1947 are inscribed.

Commemorative Events

On October 21st, the main function is customarily presided over by the Union Home Minister, involving:

- Commemoration Parade: A joint parade of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and the Delhi Police.
- Wreath-Laying Ceremony: Senior dignitaries lay wreaths at the National Police Memorial to pay homage to the martyrs.
- Reading of the Roll of Honor: The names of the police personnel who attained martyrdom in the previous year are read out across the country to acknowledge their supreme sacrifice.

Across all states and Union Territories, police units hold similar parades and ceremonies at local police memorials, often accompanied by community-engagement activities such as blood donation camps, essay competitions, and motorcycle rallies to foster stronger bonds between the police and the public.

United Nations Day 2025: Celebrating 80 Years of Global Unity

October 24, 2025, marks a significant milestone: the 80th anniversary of United Nations Day. This annual observance commemorates the entry into force of the UN Charter in 1945, the founding document that officially established the United Nations as an international body committed to peace, human rights, and social progress.

The Significance of 80 Years

The 2025 observance is particularly important as the UN reaches its 80th anniversary. The theme and focus for the year reflect this milestone, often centered on "The United Nations at 80: Building our future together." This focus encourages member states and the global community to reflect on the organization's legacy while also addressing the urgent challenges of the 21st century.

Since its founding, following the devastation of World War II, the UN has evolved into the world's most universal international organization. Its core mission, as laid out in the Charter, remains:

- To maintain international peace and security.
- To develop friendly relations among nations.
- To achieve international cooperation in solving global problems.
- To be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends.

Key Focus Areas for the 80th Anniversary

The 80th anniversary is a moment to not only celebrate achievements, such as preventing a third world war and advancing human rights, but also to propel forward key initiatives:

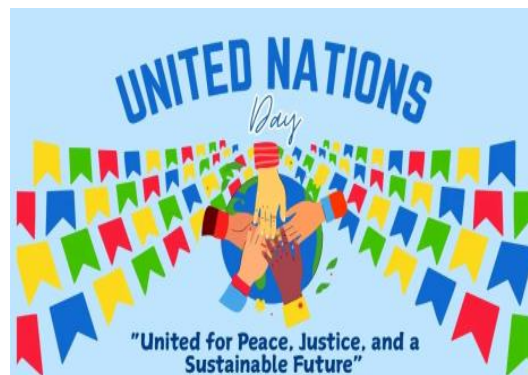
- The UN80 Initiative: This is a push for modernization and reform across the UN system, aiming to make the organization more agile, effective, and responsive to present and future global challenges like the climate crisis, growing inequality, and technological disruption.
- The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): United Nations Day reaffirms the commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, focusing on the global effort to achieve peace, prosperity, and a healthy planet. Events often highlight goals like Quality Education (SDG 4) and Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions (SDG 16).
- "Our Common Agenda" and the "Pact for the Future": These are forward-looking processes aimed at strengthening global governance, accelerating the SDGs, and ensuring a multilateral system that is "fit for the future" for all peoples.

Commemorations Around the World

United Nations Day is traditionally marked globally by:

- Official meetings and discussions at the UN Headquarters in New York and offices worldwide, including high-level Security Council debates reflecting on the future of the organization.
- Cultural performances, exhibits, and educational events to inform the public about the UN's goals and work.
- Public engagement from governments, civil society, and schools, often centered around themes of peace, unity, and global partnerships.

As the UN celebrates 80 years, United Nations Day 2025 serves as a powerful call for nations to renew their commitment to multilateralism, work collectively, and uphold the principles of the UN Charter, ensuring it remains a symbol of hope for a better world.



International Animation Day: October 28, 2025

International Animation Day (IAD) is a global observance held annually on October 28 to celebrate the art of animation, honor its creators, and recognize its profound cultural and technological impact worldwide. In 2025, IAD falls on a Tuesday.

History and Significance of the Date

International Animation Day was proclaimed in 2002 by the International Animated Film Association (ASIFA), an organization officially recognized by UNESCO. The date, October 28, was chosen to commemorate the anniversary of a pivotal moment in the art form's history:

- **The World's First Public Animation:** On October 28, 1892, French inventor Charles-Émile Reynaud presented his Théâtre Optique (Optical Theatre) at the Musée Grévin in Paris.
- **Pioneering Technique:** Reynaud's system, using his Praxinoscope invention, projected hand-painted, moving images onto a screen before a public audience. His show, featuring pantomimes like *Pauvre Pierrot!*, marked the first time projected animated images were publicly exhibited, setting the stage for the animation industry that would follow.

By celebrating this date, ASIFA pays tribute to the pioneers who transformed simple drawings into a dynamic medium of expression.

The Role of ASIFA and the Annual Poster

As the coordinating body, ASIFA is central to the global celebration.

- **Global Coordination:** ASIFA coordinates events and helps promote the celebration in over 50 countries, with local chapters organizing

screenings, workshops, and exhibitions.

- **The IAD Poster:** Each year, ASIFA commissions a notable animator to create an original art poster for International Animation Day. This poster is then adapted and used by coordinating bodies worldwide.
- **2025 Poster Artist:** For IAD 2025, the official poster was generously created by Croatian animator and film director Lucija Mrzljak. Her design embraces a classical, hand-drawn aesthetic, with the central inspiration being the concept of animation as "light in the dark," a creative force that illuminates and brings life to the unseen.

Worldwide Celebration and Impact

IAD serves as a platform to highlight animation's rich heritage, its technical evolution, and its role as a powerful, non-verbal form of cross-cultural communication.

Key Celebrations

Across the globe, cultural institutions, animation schools, studios, and enthusiasts participate through events such as:

- **Film Screenings:** Showcasing a diverse range of animated works, from historical classics and experimental shorts to full-length features and student films. These often include the Film Program Exchange organized by ASIFA, featuring curated selections of international shorts.
- **Workshops and Demonstrations:** Offering hands-on opportunities to learn about various animation techniques, including traditional 2D, stop-motion, claymation, and cutting-edge 3D and computer-generated imagery (CGI).



- **Panel Discussions and Exhibitions:** Animators, writers, and technical artists participate in discussions about the craft, the industry's future (including the integration of AI), and exhibitions of artwork, concept design, and production stills.

Significance of Animation

Animation is celebrated for its versatility and profound impact:

- **Limitless Storytelling:** It's a medium that transcends the limitations of live-action film, providing an unparalleled canvas for imaginative narratives and fantastical ideas.
- **Cultural Bridge:** Since many animated films are non-verbal or are easily dubbed, animation acts as a universal language, allowing stories and cultural expressions to be shared across linguistic and national borders.
- **Education and Awareness:** Animation is an essential tool in education and public health, simplifying complex ideas and delivering vital information in an accessible and engaging manner.

International Animation Day ultimately recognizes the countless artists, scientists, and technicians who continually push the boundaries of this dynamic art form, inspiring new generations of creators.

C.P. Radhakrishnan Elected as India's 15th Vice President



Early Life & Background

- Full Name & Birth: Chandrapuram Ponnusamy Radhakrishnan, born on 20 October 1957 in Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu
- Education: Earned a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) from V. O. Chidambaram College in Thoothukudi. During college, he excelled in sports—particularly table tennis, and was also a long-distance runner; he enjoys cricket and volleyball

Political Roots

- RSS & BJP Association: Began his political journey in the early 1970s via the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), joining its political wing, Bharatiya Jana Sangh, by 1974. He later became a key figure in the BJP, particularly in Tamil Nadu
- Tamil Nadu Leadership: Served as state secretary of BJP in 1996 and then state president between 2003–2006. Belongs to the Kongu Vellalar Gounder community, known for its socio-economic prominence in the state

Parliamentary and Administrative Roles

- Member of Parliament: Elected twice to the Lok Sabha from Coimbatore in 1998 and 1999, securing his reputation as a trusted party leader
- Coir Board: Chaired the Coir Board of India from 2016 to 2020; during his term, coir exports reached a record value exceeding ₹2,700 crore (~USD 325 million)

Gubernatorial Tenure

- Jharkhand Governor: Took office in February 2023
- Additional Charges: Later held additional responsibilities as Governor of Telangana and Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry in 2024
- Maharashtra Governor: Appointed as Governor of Maharashtra in July 2024 and served in that capacity until being chosen as Vice Presidential candidate

Vice Presidential Election: September 2025

- Victory: Elected as India's 15th Vice President on 9 September 2025, securing 452 first-preference votes out of 752 valid ones, defeating former Supreme Court judge B. Sudershan Reddy, who received 300 votes
- Voting Details: Of 781 electors, 767 MPs voted. The high turnout and margin reflected both BJP's strength and opposition cross-voting concerns .
- Role & Significance: Takes on the second-highest constitutional office and becomes the Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha, stepping in as acting President if needed

Reputation & Relations

- Amicable Leadership: Known in Tamil Nadu as "Ajatshatru" for his cordial relationship across party lines—including with DMK & AIADMK—and referred to as "Vajpayee of Coimbatore" for his temperament
- Soft-Spoken & Clean Image: Praised as a disciplined, humble, and unblemished leader both in political and administrative arenas
- Regional Pride: Tamil Nadu leaders hailed him as a "son of the soil" and celebrated his being the third Vice President from the state
- Nationalism and Ideology: Framed his win as a victory of "nationalistic ideology" and reaffirmed commitment to national development and constitutional values
- Federal Harmony Advocate: Emphasizes importance of cooperative federalism, urging stronger ties between the Centre and states for a robust democracy
- Praise from Leaders: Maharashtra's political heavyweights, including CM Fadnavis, Dy CMs Shinde and Pawar, and Union Minister Piyush Goyal, lauded his leadership, humility, and public service record.

International Day of Democracy: 15th September



The International Day of Democracy is observed every year on 15 September. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007 by resolution A/RES/62/7. The goal is to promote and uphold the principles of democracy worldwide, raise awareness among citizens and governments, and encourage the strengthening of democratic institutions. The date ties in with the Universal Declaration on Democracy, adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in September 1997. After various international dialogues on democracy, especially through the ICNRD process (International Conferences on New and Restored Democracies) the idea for a global observance was developed.

Key Principles of Democracy Emphasized

The observance day highlights certain values that are considered essential for democracy to function:

- Free, fair, and regular elections by universal suffrage;
- Respect for human rights, including freedom of expression;
- Participation of citizens in decision-making;
- Rule of law, transparency, accountability of institutions.

Significance / Why It Matters

- It provides a chance to review the state of democracy globally: where it is strong, where it is under threat.
- It reminds governments and citizens of their roles and responsibilities in preserving and improving democratic systems.
- It helps in raising awareness about challenges like disinformation, shrinking civic spaces, inequality, gender barriers, etc.

Theme for 2025

- The theme for International Day of Democracy 2025 is: “Achieving gender equality, action by action.”
- Along with the theme, three priority areas are emphasized:
- Promoting parity in parliaments and politics — aiming for equal representation of all genders in political decision-making.
- Encouraging gender-sensitive institutions — making sure that political and legal systems, public bodies, laws etc. recognize and respond to gender differences and ensure fairness.
- Combating gender-based violence and discrimination — an essential part of ensuring equal participation and safety for all citizens.

The UN Secretary-General, in his message for the day, underlines that democracy and the rule of law are being challenged by disinformation, division, and shrinking civic space, and that upholding gender equality is both a value and practical action.

How It Is Observed / What Can Be Done

- Many countries, civil society organisations, schools, and parliaments hold events: debates, lectures, public forums, awareness campaigns.
- Activities often focus on the yearly theme: for 2025, that means workshops, discussions, policy proposals, or awareness drives on gender equality.
- The day is also used to encourage citizen participation — voting, civic engagement, public dialogue etc.

Challenges Facing Democracy (that the Day Helps Address)

- Gender inequality in political representation: women and gender minorities remain under-represented in most parliaments globally.
- Discrimination & violence against women trying to participate in public life.
- Restricted civic spaces and reduced freedom of expression in many countries.
- Disinformation and polarization, which can undermine trust in democratic institutions.

The International Day of Democracy is more than symbolic—it is a call to action. While democracy may not look the same everywhere, its core values require ongoing work: voices being heard, rights being respected, institutions being accountable. In 2025, focusing on gender equality highlights that ensuring democracy for all requires specific, concrete actions to level the playing field.

Hindi Diwas – 14th September 2025

History

- Hindi Diwas is celebrated every year on 14th September.
- On this day in 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted Hindi, written in Devanagari script, as the official language of India (Article 343 of the Constitution).
- The first official celebration of Hindi Diwas took place in 1953.
- The date was chosen to honor Beohar Rajendra Simha's efforts and also because it was his birthday, one of the strong advocates of Hindi as the official language.

Significance

- The day is observed to promote and spread awareness about the importance of the Hindi language.
- Hindi is one of the most spoken languages in the world, used by over 40% of Indians as their mother tongue.
- It represents not just a language but a cultural identity, symbolizing unity in India's linguistic diversity.
- Hindi Diwas encourages people to respect their mother tongue and to use Hindi more widely in administration, education, and daily communication.

Theme (2025)

The theme for Hindi Diwas 2025 is:

"Hindi: Strength of National Integration and Global Identity."



The 2025 theme emphasizes that Hindi is not only vital for national unity but also has the potential to represent India's heritage on the global stage.

This highlights Hindi as:

- A unifying force for national integration, binding people across different states and linguistic backgrounds.
- A language that carries India's global cultural identity, promoting Indian literature, cinema, and heritage worldwide.

Hindi Diwas reminds us that language is not just a tool of communication but also a bridge of culture and unity. In a multilingual country like India, Hindi plays a central role in connecting diverse communities while also strengthening India's global identity.

Hindi Diwas celebrates the adoption of Hindi as India's official language, promotes linguistic pride, and underlines the role of Hindi in both national integration and global recognition.

World Ozone Day: 16th September 2025

World Ozone Day is celebrated annually on September 16 to raise global awareness about the importance of the ozone layer and the need for its protection. This day commemorates the signing of the Montreal Protocol, an international agreement to reduce substances that harm the ozone layer, which was signed on September 16, 1987.

Theme 2025

The theme for World Ozone Day 2025 is "Ozone for Life". This theme highlights the continuing importance of the ozone layer as an irreplaceable shield for our planet and celebrates the global success and future potential of the Montreal Protocol.

Significance of World Ozone Day

The ozone layer, situated in the Earth's stratosphere, absorbs most of the Sun's harmful UV rays, protecting life on Earth. The significance of World Ozone Day includes:

- **Protecting Human Health:** Reducing the risk of skin cancer, cataracts, and other health issues caused by UV exposure.

- **Preserving Ecosystems:** Maintaining ecological balance and supporting healthy plant growth.
- **Promoting Sustainability:** Encouraging global cooperation and action to prevent ozone depletion.

Importance of the Ozone Layer

The ozone layer is crucial for life on Earth, and its depletion can have severe consequences, including:

- **Increased UV Radiation:** Reaching the Earth's surface, harming humans, animals, and plants.
- **Skin Cancer and Eye Damage:** Increased risk of skin cancer and eye damage in humans.
- **Disrupted Ecosystems:** Affecting marine life, biodiversity, and weather patterns.

Montreal Protocol

The Montreal Protocol is an international treaty aimed at



phasing out ozone-depleting substances. Its success has led to a significant reduction in the production and consumption of these substances, and it is considered one of the most successful environmental agreements.

Celebrating World Ozone Day

Individuals and organizations can celebrate World Ozone Day by:

- **Spreading Awareness:** Educating others about the importance of ozone layer protection.
- **Promoting Sustainable Practices:** Using eco-friendly products, conserving energy, and reducing waste.
- **Organizing Events:** Hosting workshops, seminars, and campaigns to raise awareness about ozone protection.

The 77th Primetime Emmy Awards



The Primetime Emmy Awards, presented by the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, honor outstanding achievements in U.S. primetime television programming. The period of eligibility for the 77th Emmys was June 1, 2024 – May 31, 2025. The Emmys include the main categories (acting, series, writing, directing, etc.), as well as the Creative Arts Emmys for more technical, behind-the-scenes, artistic and production categories.

When & Where

- Date of Ceremony: September 14, 2025.
- Venue: Peacock Theater, Downtown Los Angeles, California.
- Broadcast: The ceremony was aired live on CBS and Paramount+.
- Host: Comedian Nate Bargatze served as the host.

Major Winners & Highlights

Here are the key winners, say what they won, and notable moments:

Category Winner Key

Details / Why It Stood Out

- Outstanding Comedy Series: The Studio It had 23 nominations and won 13 awards in total, becoming the most awarded comedy series in one season.
- Outstanding Drama Series: The Pitt Won Best Drama among other awards; Noah Wyle won for Lead Actor in a Drama Series.

- Outstanding Limited or Anthology Series: Adolescence Dominated its category, winning six awards including Best Limited Series, acting, writing, directing.
- Lead Actor, Comedy Series: Seth Rogen (The Studio) Among his multiple wins, including writing & directing for the same show.
- Lead Actress, Drama Series: Britt Lower (Severance) She won even though Severance had many nominations but didn't win as many big category awards.
- Supporting Actor, Drama Series: Tramell Tillman (Severance) First Emmy win for him.
- Supporting Actress, Drama Series: Katherine LaNasa (The Pitt) Awarded for her role in The Pitt.
- Lead Actress, Comedy Series: Jean Smart (Hacks) Veteran actress; more nominations over her career, and this adds another.
- Supporting Actress, Comedy Series: Hannah Einbinder (Hacks) First win in that category. Her acceptance speech had some political content that drew attention.
- Directing & Writing Awards: The Studio, Adolescence etc. E.g., Adolescence got directing & writing awards in its category; Seth Rogen won for writing & directing for The Studio.
- Severance, despite getting the most nominations, did not dominate in terms of wins in the main televised ceremony.
- Youngest Winner: Owen Cooper (age 15) became the youngest to win for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Limited or Anthology Series or Movie.
- Political Statements: Hannah Einbinder's comment in her acceptance speech (mentioning "Free Palestine") got attention, some of it censored (bleeped) on the live broadcast.

Context & Importance

Notable Moments

- The Studio's Record: The biggest story was The Studio's sweep — 13 wins. It set the record for the most Emmys won by a comedy series in a single season.
- Adolescence's Sweep in its Category: It really dominated the Limited / Anthology categories.
- The Emmys are a barometer for what is regarded as high-quality television in the U.S., both by the industry and (to some extent) by audiences. The 2025 Emmys showed strong success for streaming platforms (Apple TV+, Netflix, HBO Max) as well as established networks.
- Fresh shows making big impacts: The Studio (a first-year comedy) had a breakout performance. That shows that newer content can compete even with more established series.
- The balance of wins vs. nominations: Sometimes a show gets many nominations but fewer wins; nominations are recognition, but wins are what make headlines. Severance is an example — many nominations but less in "major" wins.
- Also, the political speech by Hannah Einbinder reflects how award ceremonies remain a platform not only for celebrating art but also for voices & causes.

Online Gaming Bill, 2025

- **Name & Status:** The “Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025” was passed by both Houses of Parliament (Lok Sabha on 20 August 2025, Rajya Sabha on 21 August 2025) and received the President’s assent on 22 August 2025.
- **Purpose:** To provide a legal framework regulating online gaming in India — including prohibiting online money games (i.e. games involving monetary stakes), promoting safer forms of gaming like e-sports and social games, protecting users (especially minors), and preventing harms like addiction, financial loss, fraud.
- **Territorial Extent:** Applies throughout India, including to games operated from outside India if they are accessible to Indian users.

What it Prohibits

The Act bans a number of things related to online money gaming:

- **Offering / Aiding / Abetting:** No person is allowed to provide online money games or help in running them.
- **Advertising / Promotion of online money games** is prohibited. That includes direct or indirect advertising or inducement.
- **Financial Transactions:** Entities like banks or financial institutions must not facilitate payments or authorizations for online money games. That means both the platform and the payment handlers can be held liable.
- **Blocking:** The government can block access to real-money gaming services (if they breach the law) even if they are outside India, if they are accessible to Indian users.

Regulatory / Promotive Measures

While banning or restricting money games, the Act also includes constructive/promotive elements for other kinds of gaming:

- **Recognition & development of e-sports:** The Act empowers the government to recognise, register, regulate, and promote e-sports, support tournaments, infrastructure, research, etc.
- **Promotion of online social and educational games:** Encouraging games that are non-monetary (no financial stakes), those which build skills, help learning etc. These can be registered, recognised, and promoted under the law.

Offence Penalties



Offering online money games Up to 3 years imprisonment, fine up to ₹1 crore. Repeat offences may have higher penalties.

Advertising online money games Up to 2 years imprisonment, fine up to ₹50 lakh.

Financial facilitation (banks etc.) Also liable under the Act.

- **Other enforcement tools:** The Act gives power to block access to offending platforms, remove / disable content, etc. Also powers to investigate, etc.
- **When It Comes Into Force:** The Act is passed and in law, but not yet enforced. It will be enforced on 01st October 2025. Until that date, the prohibition / regulation provisions don't apply.

Implications / Explanation

- This is a blanket ban on online money games, regardless of whether they are “skill-based” or “chance-based”. Many games which earlier claimed to be “games of skill” (e.g., fantasy sports, certain quiz / prediction games, etc.) are swept under the ban if users pay or stake money expecting reward.
- Platforms that previously operated real money games will need to shift models (if they want to stay legal) — either move to non-monetary versions (social games), or get registered as e-sports platforms under the conditions the Act prescribes. They will also need to remove or stop facilitating deposits, etc.
- Advertisers, influencers, and media channels will need to be careful: promoting/broadcasting advertisements for real money games can lead to penalties. Those who advertise such games (directly or indirectly) are liable.
- Financial sector / payment infrastructure is affected: Banks, payment services, etc., must not facilitate money flows for prohibited games. They could face liability.

World Environmental Health Day: 26th September

World Environmental Health Day is celebrated annually on September 26th to recognize the crucial link between the environment and human health. The day was established in 2011 by the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) to raise global awareness of environmental health issues and to promote the work of environmental health professionals. It serves as a reminder that a healthy planet is essential for the health of its people.



Theme for World Environmental Health Day 2025

The theme for World Environmental Health Day 2025 is "Clean Air, Healthy People." This theme highlights the critical importance of air quality for public health and emphasizes the direct link between air pollution and a wide range of health problems.

Why This Theme?

The focus on clean air is a direct response to a major global health crisis. Air pollution is a silent killer, contributing to millions of premature deaths worldwide each year. The World Health Organization (WHO) identifies air pollution as one of the greatest environmental risks to human health. Both ambient (outdoor) and household (indoor) air pollution can lead to serious health issues, including:

- Respiratory illnesses: Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, bronchitis, and lung infections.
- Cardiovascular diseases: Heart attacks, strokes, and irregular heart rhythms.
- Neurological impacts: Emerging evidence suggests a link between air pollution and neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.
- Cancer: Exposure to certain air pollutants is a known risk factor for lung cancer.

The "Clean Air, Healthy People" theme serves several key objectives:

- Raise Awareness: It seeks to inform the public, policymakers, and industries about the sources and health consequences of air pollution.
- Promote Action: It calls on governments and organizations to implement policies and regulations that improve air quality, such as transitioning to renewable energy, promoting public transport, and reducing industrial emissions.
- Highlight the Role of Environmental Health Professionals: The theme also acknowledges the vital work of environmental health professionals who are on the front lines, monitoring air quality, enforcing regulations, and educating communities.
- Encourage Individual Responsibility: It reminds individuals that they too can contribute to cleaner air by making sustainable choices in their daily lives, such as using less energy, opting for walking or cycling, and proper waste disposal.

By focusing on clean air, World Environmental Health Day 2025 aims to mobilize a global effort to combat air pollution and create healthier, thereby safeguarding the well-being of present and future generations.

India Clinches Asia Cup 2025 Title with Five-Wicket Victory over Pakistan



India lifted the Asia Cup 2025 trophy after defeating arch-rivals Pakistan by five wickets in a high-voltage final, adding another glorious chapter to one of cricket's most celebrated rivalries.

Match Summary

The title clash, played at a packed stadium, lived up to the hype as both teams showcased competitive cricket. Pakistan, after being put in to bat first, posted a challenging total of 253 runs in 49.3 overs. Their innings was anchored by a fighting half-century from Babar Azam, while Imam-ul-Haq and Shadab Khan chipped in with valuable contributions. India's bowling attack, led by Jasprit Bumrah and Kuldeep Yadav, struck at regular intervals to restrict Pakistan from reaching a bigger score.

Chasing 254 for victory, India had a shaky start as they lost both openers early. However, a crucial partnership between Virat Kohli and Shubman Gill steadied the innings. Kohli's experience combined with Gill's composure allowed India to regain control. After their dismissals, Rishabh Pant's quickfire knock

accelerated the chase, before Hardik Pandya's unbeaten 45 sealed the win with an over to spare.

Turning Points of the Match

- Kuldeep Yadav's Middle Overs Spell – Kuldeep dismissed Babar Azam at a crucial stage, breaking Pakistan's momentum.
- Kohli-Gill Partnership – Their 98-run stand shifted the pressure back onto Pakistan's bowlers.
- Hardik's Finishing Touch – A composed and powerful innings under pressure ensured India crossed the finish line without late drama.

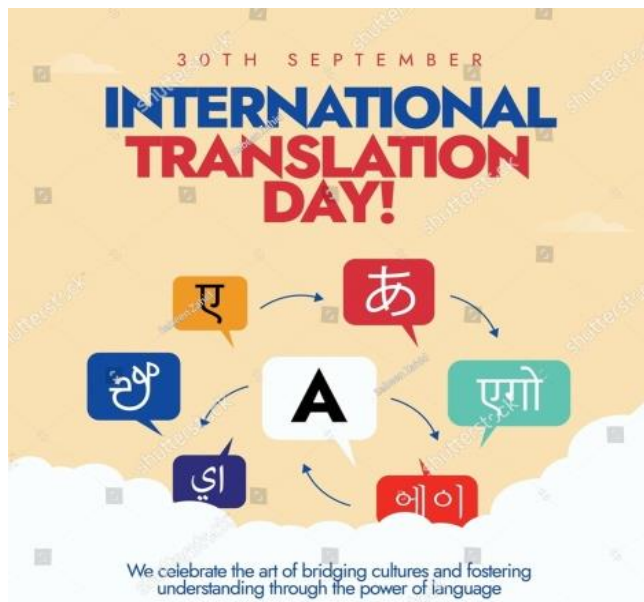
Key Performances

- Virat Kohli – 72 runs (match anchor in the chase).
- Hardik Pandya – 45* (match-winning finishing knock).
- Kuldeep Yadav – 3/42 (turning point in the first innings).
- Babar Azam – 65 runs (top scorer for Pakistan).

Historic Significance

With this triumph, India claimed their eighth Asia Cup title, reaffirming their dominance in the tournament's history. The victory was particularly significant as it came against traditional rivals Pakistan in a closely fought final delighting Indian fans worldwide.

International Translation Day: 30th September



International Translation Day is celebrated annually on September 30th to honor the work of language professionals and their vital role in connecting people and fostering understanding across linguistic and cultural divides. The day commemorates the feast of St. Jerome, the patron saint of translators, who is known for his translation of the Bible into Latin.

World Translation Day 2025: *"Translation, Shaping a Future You Can Trust"*

The official theme for International Translation Day 2025, as chosen by the International Federation of Translators (FIT), is "Translation, Shaping a Future You Can Trust." This theme underscores the crucial role of human translators, interpreters, and terminologists in an era defined by rapid technological advancements and the proliferation of information, both accurate and inaccurate. It is a direct call to action for language professionals to be the guardians of authenticity and reliability in a globalized world.

Why the 2025 Theme is Critical

The "Translation, Shaping a Future You Can Trust" theme addresses the increasing need for dependable and ethical communication. It focuses on three key areas:

- **Human Expertise Over Artificial Intelligence:** While machine translation and AI tools are becoming more common, this theme highlights that human creativity, cultural understanding, and critical thinking are irreplaceable. For high-stakes communication—such as in diplomacy, medicine, or legal matters—human translators ensure not just linguistic accuracy, but also cultural sensitivity and ethical integrity. They are the essential link that builds genuine trust between parties.
- **Combating Misinformation:** In a world where fake news and disinformation can spread rapidly across languages, professional translators play a pivotal role. Their work ensures that critical information, whether related to public health, safety, or political events, is conveyed accurately without being misinterpreted. The theme positions them as key players in maintaining a truthful global dialogue.
- **Preserving and Revitalizing Indigenous Languages:** This year's focus also extends to the unique challenges faced by Indigenous languages. The theme emphasizes that the preservation and revitalization of these languages require not just technological support, but a community-led, human-centric approach. Translators with lived experience and deep cultural knowledge are essential for ensuring that the spiritual and cultural depth of these languages is accurately and ethically preserved for future generations.

In essence, the theme for International Translation Day 2025 is a powerful statement about the enduring value of human skill and integrity. It encourages language professionals to be proactive in using their expertise to build a more connected, transparent, and trustworthy world.

Shirish Chandra Murmu Appointed as RBI Deputy Governor

Shirish Chandra Murmu has been appointed as the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) by the government, according to a recent government notice. Here's what you need to know about his appointment and the RBI's deputy governors:

About Shirish Chandra Murmu:

Although specific details about Murmu's background are limited in the provided search results, his appointment suggests he will play a crucial role in shaping India's monetary policy and financial regulations.



Current Deputy Governors of RBI:

The RBI typically has four Deputy Governors, including those from within the RBI and external appointments. Let's look at some key information about the current or recent Deputy Governors:

- Michael Patra: A career central banker, Patra has been instrumental in policy decisions, including monetary policy and financial stability.
- M. Rajeshwar Rao: Another key figure in RBI's policy framework, Rao's expertise spans financial markets, monetary policy, and international finance.
- T. Rabi Sankar: Known for his work on digital payments and financial technology, Sankar's role involves overseeing developments in the fintech space.

Role of Deputy Governors:

Deputy Governors of the RBI are pivotal in:

- Monetary Policy: They contribute to decisions on interest rates and money supply.
- Financial Stability: They work on maintaining stability in the financial system.
- Regulatory Oversight: They oversee banking and financial institutions.
- Developmental Functions: They promote financial inclusion and development.

Impact of the Appointment:

Shirish Chandra Murmu's appointment as Deputy Governor is expected to bring fresh perspectives to the RBI's policy decisions. His role will likely involve working closely with the Governor and other Deputy Governors on key issues affecting India's economy and financial sector.



NATIONAL NEWS

OCTOBER 2025

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw Launches NIELIT Digital University Platform

- **Launch Date:** The NIELIT Digital University platform was launched on October 2, 2025.
- **Objective:** The platform aims to democratize access to high-quality digital education, offering industry-focused programs in emerging technologies.
- **New Centers:** The launch event included the virtual inauguration of 5 new NIELIT centers in Muzaffarpur, Balasore, Tirupati, Daman, and Lunglei.
- **Industry Collaboration:** The event featured partnerships with leading industry partners to strengthen industry-academia collaboration.
- **Reach and Impact:** With 56 NIELIT centers, 750+ accredited institutes, and 9,000+ facilitation centers.

India has been re-elected to Part II of the ICAO Council

- **Re-election Term:** India has been re-elected to the ICAO Council for a three-year term, from 2025 to 2028, during the 42nd ICAO Assembly Session held in Montreal, Canada.
- **Part II Representation:** India is part of Part II of the Council, which comprises states that make the largest contribution to the provision of facilities for international civil air navigation.

- **Founding Member and Continuous Presence:** India has been a founding member of ICAO since 1944 and has maintained an uninterrupted presence on the Council for 81 years, showcasing its commitment to global aviation standards.
- **Commitments for 2025-2028:** India's re-election reflects its commitment to strengthening aviation safety, security, and sustainability, as well as promoting equitable global connectivity.

R Venkataramani re-appointed as Attorney General of India

- **Re-appointment Date:** R Venkataramani was re-appointed as the Attorney General of India on September 26, 2025, for a two-year term.
- **Term Duration:** His re-appointment is effective from October 1, 2025, and will last for two years.
- **Role and Responsibilities:** As Attorney General, he will represent the government in litigations, advise on complex legal issues.
- **Background:** Mr. Venkataramani, 75, succeeded veteran jurist K.K. Venugopal after completing his predecessor's term when he first assumed office on October 1, 2022.
- **Authority:** The Attorney General is a constitutional position appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Union government, and holds the right to appear in any court across the country.

India's first officially child marriage free district is Balod

- **Zero Child Marriages for Two Years:** The designation was granted after no cases of child marriage were reported in the district for two consecutive years. This status was confirmed following a rigorous verification process.
- **Complete Certification Coverage:** The entire district, including all 436 Gram Panchayats and 9 urban bodies, received formal certificates from the state government, certifying them as child marriage-free.
- **Part of a National Campaign:** Balod's success is a major milestone under the national initiative, 'Child Marriage-Free India' (also known as Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat), which was launched by the Prime Minister in August 2024.

Uttarakhand Becomes First State to Abolish Madrasa Board

- **Abolition of Madrasa Board:** The Uttarakhand government has abolished the Madrasa Education Board Act, 2016, and the Non-Government Arabic and Persian Madrasa Recognition Rules, 2019, effective July 1, 2026. This move aims to bring minority education into the national mainstream.
- **New Education Authority:** A new authority, the Uttarakhand Minority Education Authority, will regulate, modernize, and maintain quality checks on institutions operated by minority

communities. This authority will ensure that education in these institutions aligns with the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) and National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

- **Uniform Education System:** The decision aims to introduce a uniform education system, where students from all backgrounds, including those in madrasas, will follow a standardized curriculum and evaluation framework. This will enable students to access higher education and professional courses on par with other students.
- **Inclusion of Other Minority Communities:** The new bill extends recognition to educational institutions belonging to other minority communities.

India's smartphone exports hit record \$13.4 billion

- **Record Export Value:** India achieved a record-breaking \$13.4 billion in smartphone exports in the first half of FY26 (April-September 2025), marking a significant milestone in the country's emergence as a global smartphone manufacturing hub.
- **Apple's Dominant Role:** Apple drove this growth, accounting for over 75% of shipments, with \$10 billion worth of iPhone production under the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme. This highlights Apple's increasing reliance on India as a key production center.
- **Strong US Demand:** The US was a major market for these exports, accounting for over half of India's smartphone exports in recent months. This underscores the importance of the US-India trade relationship.
- **Growth Drivers:** The Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme

played a crucial role in boosting local production and exports. Other brands like Motorola also contributed, with their exports growing sevenfold.

The National Red List Roadmap & Vision 2025-2030 launched

- **Launch and Objective:** The National Red List Roadmap was launched at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Abu Dhabi to create a nationally coordinated framework for assessing, documenting, and protecting India's vast array of species. The roadmap aims to establish a science-based re-listing and threat evaluation system.
- **Scope and Coverage:** The initiative will assess approximately 11,000 species, including 7,000 species of flora and 4,000 species of fauna, across India's diverse ecosystems.
- **Importance for India's Biodiversity:** India is one of the world's 17 megadiverse countries, hosting nearly 8% of global flora and 7.5% of fauna, with four biodiversity hotspots.

India rolled out AI-powered UPI payments within ChatGPT

- **Pilot Project Launch:** India has launched a pilot project enabling AI-powered UPI payments within ChatGPT, allowing users to make transactions directly from the platform.
- **Partnership:** The project is a collaboration between the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), Razorpay, and OpenAI, with banking partners Axis Bank and Airtel Payments Bank.

- **Key Features:** The AI-powered payment system uses natural language processing to interpret user commands, validates transactions, and ensures secure payments through UPI.
- **Security Measures:** The system employs end-to-end encryption, on-device biometric authentication, and multi-factor authentication to ensure secure transactions.
- **Potential Impact:** This development could revolutionize digital payments in India, making transactions more convenient and seamless, while also paving the way for wider adoption of AI-powered payment systems.

Bharath Thammineni Becomes First Indian to Climb 9 Peaks Above 8,000m



- **Historic Indian Record:** Bharath Thammineni becomes the first Indian mountaineer to successfully summit nine of the world's 14 peaks that are above 8,000 meters (known as the eight-thousanders).
- **Final Summit:** Cho Oyu: The historic feat was completed with the successful ascent of Mount Cho Oyu (8,201m), the world's sixth-highest mountain, on October 14, 2025.
- **List of Major Summits:** His nine 8,000m summits include the iconic peaks of Mount Everest (8,848m), Kangchenjunga (8,586m), Lhotse (8,516m).

SEPTEMBER 2025

Rajnath, Yogi inaugurate India's largest aero engine test bed in UP

- **Inauguration:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath jointly inaugurated India's largest aero engine test bed in Lucknow.
- **Facility Purpose:** The test bed is designed for testing and validating aero engines, crucial for strengthening India's aerospace and defence self-reliance.
- **Strategic Importance:** The facility supports the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, reducing dependence on foreign testing facilities.
- **Key Agency Involved:** Developed under the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) / DRDO collaboration (depending on official details, can confirm exact body).
- **Regional Boost:** The project not only strengthens India's defence ecosystem but also positions Uttar Pradesh as a defence and aerospace hub.

Odisha Ranks 5th in E-Bus Adoption, Plans 1,000+ Fleet

- **National Ranking:** Odisha secured the 5th position in India for electric bus (e-bus) adoption.
- **Current Status:** The state has already introduced e-buses in key cities under the 'Location Accessible Multimodal Initiative (LAccMI)' scheme.
- **Expansion Plan:** Odisha government announced plans to expand its e-bus fleet to over 1,000 buses in the coming years.
- **Objective:** The move aims to promote green public transport,

reduce carbon emissions, and improve urban mobility.

- **Significance:** With this step, Odisha is set to become a leading state in sustainable transport, aligning with India's net zero and clean energy goals.

India's First Port-Based Green Hydrogen Project at VOC Port

- **Project Inauguration:** Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, inaugurated the project on September 5, 2025, marking a significant step in India's clean energy transition.
- **Green Hydrogen Production:** The Rs 3.87 crore pilot facility produces 10 Nm³/hr of green hydrogen, powering streetlights and an electric vehicle charging station in the port colony, making VOC Port the first Indian port to generate green hydrogen.
- **Green Methanol Bunkering Facility:** Alongside the hydrogen project, Sonowal laid the foundation for a Rs 35.34 crore Green Methanol Bunkering and Refuelling Facility with a 750 m³ capacity, supporting the proposed Coastal Green Shipping Corridor between Kandla and Tuticorin.
- **Renewable Energy Integration:** The project aligns with India's National Green Hydrogen Mission, aiming to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, promote sustainable energy, and position VOC Port as a key green bunkering hub in south India.

CP Radhakrishnan elected as India's 15th Vice President

- **Election Result:** CP Radhakrishnan won the election with 452 votes, defeating Opposition nominee B Sudershan Reddy who secured 300 votes. A

total of 767 votes were cast, with 752 being valid and 15 invalid.

- **Background:** Radhakrishnan is a veteran of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and has deep roots in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). He served as the BJP's State President in Tamil Nadu from 2004 to 2007.
- **Governor Roles:** Before becoming Vice President, Radhakrishnan served as the Governor of Maharashtra since July 31, 2024, and previously as the Governor of Jharkhand for nearly one and a half years.

Acharya Devvrat Gets Additional Charge as Maharashtra Governor

- **Temporary Appointment:** This is an additional charge for Acharya Devvrat, meaning he will concurrently serve as the Governor of both Gujarat and Maharashtra. This is a temporary arrangement until a permanent Governor for Maharashtra is appointed.
- **Constitutional Mandate:** The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, made the appointment exercising her powers under the Constitution. When the office of a Governor falls vacant, the President can appoint the Governor of a neighboring state to assume the responsibilities.
- **Vacancy due to Vice-Presidential Election:** The need for this appointment arose after C. P. Radhakrishnan, who was serving as the Governor of Maharashtra, was elected as the 14th Vice-President of India.
- **Experienced Administrator:** Acharya Devvrat is a seasoned administrator, having served as the Governor of Gujarat since 2019. Prior to that, he was the Governor of Himachal Pradesh. His experience is expected to ensure the smooth functioning of

the gubernatorial duties in Maharashtra.

Udaipur was awarded the Ramsar Wetland City Accreditation in 2025

- **First Indian Cities to Receive Accreditation:** Udaipur, along with Indore, holds the distinction of being the first two Indian cities to be recognized under the Ramsar Convention's Wetland City Accreditation scheme. This marks a significant milestone for India in its efforts toward urban environmental conservation.
- **Part of a Global Network:** By receiving this accreditation, Udaipur joins a select group of cities worldwide that are recognized for their sustainable wetland conservation practices. This recognition provides the city with international positive publicity and a platform to share its successful strategies with other global cities.
- **Benefits of the Accreditation:** The status as a "Wetland City" will promote eco-tourism and create sustainable livelihoods for local communities. It also reinforces the city's brand as the "City of Lakes" and a model for balancing urban development with ecological preservation.

Marium Fatima Becomes Bihar's First Female FIDE Master

- **Name and Origin:** Marium Fatima is a talented young chess player from Muzaffarpur, Bihar, who has made history by becoming the state's first Woman FIDE Master (WFM).
- **Achievement:** She achieved this milestone at the recently concluded Commonwealth Chess Championship, where she surpassed the 2000 FIDE rating mark required for the prestigious

title, eventually achieving a FIDE rating of 2083.

- **Significance of WFM Title:** The Woman FIDE Master title recognizes Marium's international standard of play, requiring a FIDE rating threshold of 2100+, and marks her as a consistent performer in FIDE-sanctioned events.
- **Recognition and Future Goals:** Marium's achievement has been recognized by the Director General of Bihar State Sports Authority, Ravindran Shankaran.

India rises to 38th position among 139 economies in the Global Innovation Index 2025

- **Rank and Performance:** India has climbed to the 38th position among 139 economies in the Global Innovation Index 2025, solidifying its lead in Central and Southern Asia and maintaining its status as an innovation overperformer for the 15th consecutive year.
- **Key Strengths:** India's strengths lie in its scale, entrepreneurial activity, and growing ability to translate scientific knowledge into commercial impact. It ranks 1st in ICT services exports, 4th in Late-stage VC deals, 8th in Intangible asset intensity, and 11th in Unicorn valuation.
- **Innovation Ecosystem:** India's innovation ecosystem is driven by a dynamic startup scene, a growing private sector, and increasing investment in R&D. However, challenges remain, particularly in infrastructure and R&D spending, which stood at only 0.65% of GDP in 2020.

- **Comparison with Other Economies:** India is part of a group of middle-income economies making significant strides in innovation, including China (10th), Türkiye (43rd), Vietnam (44th), and the Philippines (50th).

AP Bagged 'Best State Award' for Silk Development

- **Award Recognition:** The award acknowledges Andhra Pradesh's efforts in promoting sericulture and silk production, creating a significant impact on the livelihoods of farmers and weavers.
- **Sericulture Development:** The state has implemented various initiatives to improve sericulture practices, increase silk production, and enhance the quality of silk fabrics.
- **Benefits to Farmers and Weavers:** The award-winning initiatives have provided better income opportunities for farmers and weavers, improving their socio-economic status.
- **Contribution to Indian Silk Industry:** Andhra Pradesh's contributions to the Indian silk industry have been significant, with the state being one of the leading producers of silk in the country.
- **Government Support:** The state government's support and initiatives have played a crucial role in promoting sericulture and silk development, enabling Andhra Pradesh to receive this prestigious award.

AUGUST 2025

Sohrai Art of Jharkhand Shines at Rashtrapati Bhavan

- **Sohrai Art Showcase:** The indigenous mural tradition of Sohrai Art from Jharkhand was featured at the second edition of Kala Utsav 2025 – Artists in Residence Programme, held at Rashtrapati Bhavan from July 14 to 24, 2025. This event celebrated India's rich folk and tribal art traditions.
- **Artist Participation:** Ten celebrated Sohrai artists from Hazaribagh district, including Ms. Rudan Devi, Ms. Anita Devi, and Ms. Malo Devi, showcased their traditional artistry to a national audience. They used natural earth pigments and bamboo sticks to create vibrant depictions of animals, plants, and geometric motifs.

IAS Pratyay Amrit Becomes Bihar Chief Secretary

- **Appointment Details:** Pratyay Amrit, a 1991-batch IAS officer, has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Bihar, effective September 1, 2025, replacing outgoing Chief Secretary Amrit Lal Meena.
- **Early Transition:** In a historic move, Amrit will serve as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the Chief Secretary's office from August 4, 2025, ensuring a smooth transition and continuity in governance.
- **Administrative Experience:** Pratyay Amrit has extensive experience in key departments, including Health, Disaster Management, and Development Commissioner, showcasing his transformative administrative skills.

Punjab became the first state to empanel sign language experts under the Juvenile Justice Act

- **Empanelled Professionals:** The state will formally empanel sign language interpreters, translators, and special educators.
- **Role:** These professionals will assist children with communication disabilities during legal proceedings, court hearings, and other official matters to ensure fair and impartial outcomes.
- **Deployment:** The experts will be deployed district-wise throughout Punjab to ensure timely and continuous support is available wherever needed.

Bengaluru Ranked 26th in Global AI City Index 2025

- **Ranking and Position:** Bengaluru secured the 26th rank globally, emerging as India's top AI Research & Development (R&D) and data center hub.
- **Indian Cities' Performance:** Bengaluru leads Indian cities in AI innovation and foreign investments, followed by Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, and Kolkata. Mumbai and Delhi are leveraging AI for traffic management and public security.
- **Global Leaders:** Singapore topped the index, driven by strong public-private partnerships in AI applications. Seoul and Beijing ranked second and third, respectively, with notable AI applications in healthcare, education, and transportation.

Rajasthan launched India's first drone-based artificial rain trial

- **India's First Drone-Based Trial:** Rajasthan launched India's first drone-based artificial rain trial at Ramgarh Dam in Jaipur, marking a shift from traditional airplane-assisted cloud seeding to unmanned aerial vehicles.
- **Objective:** The trial aims to enhance rainfall using advanced cloud seeding techniques, potentially providing drought relief for Rajasthan's agriculture sector and helping save crops during dry spells.

India's First Drone-AI Powered Artificial Rain Experiment Launched

- **Experiment Details:** The experiment, a joint project between the Agriculture Department and GenX AI, involves 60 drone cloud seeding test flights over Ramgarh Dam. State Agriculture Minister Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena inaugurated the project.
- **Technology Used:** Cloud seeding involves dispersing substances like silver iodide or dry ice into clouds to stimulate rainfall. The drones will spray these chemicals into clouds to attract moisture and form larger water droplets that eventually fall as rain.
- **Objective:** The primary goal is to induce rain in areas where clouds form but rain doesn't fall, potentially saving crops during dry spells. If successful, this method could be used across Rajasthan.
- **Challenges:** Cloud seeding requires specific conditions, including moisture-laden clouds and suitable atmospheric instability. The experiment's success depends on these factors, and the outcome may be unpredictable.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



OCTOBER 2025

OpenAI Hits \$500 Billion Valuation After Share Sale to SoftBank

- **Valuation:** OpenAI's valuation has skyrocketed to \$500 billion after a \$6.6 billion secondary share sale, surpassing SpaceX's \$400 billion valuation.
- **Investors:** The share sale involved existing and former employees selling stock to outside investors, including Thrive Capital, SoftBank, Dragoneer Investment Group, Abu Dhabi's MGX, and T. Rowe Price.
 - **Revenue:** OpenAI generated approximately \$4.3 billion in revenue in the first half of 2025, with a projected annual run-rate revenue of \$8.6 billion.
- **Infrastructure Plans:** OpenAI is planning a massive infrastructure project called Stargate, a 10 GW data center project over four years, potentially requiring up to \$500 billion in investment, with Oracle and SoftBank as partners.

Khaled al-Anani appointed as UNESCO's Next Director-General

- **Nomination:** Khaled al-Anani was nominated by UNESCO's Executive Board for the position of Director-General.
- **Background:** El-Anany is an Egyptologist and Professor of Egyptology at Helwan University, with over 30 years of teaching experience. He's held various positions, including Vice Dean of the Faculty of Tourism and Hospitality, Director of the

Open Learning Center, and Head of the Tour Guide Department.

- **Election:** The nomination will be put to a vote by all UNESCO Member States on November 6 during the Organization's General Conference in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. If elected, he'll succeed Audrey Azoulay in mid-November.

Sergio Gor named the youngest U.S. Ambassador to India

- **Early Political Involvement:** Sergio Gor started his political journey as a College Republican and founded the George Washington University chapter of Young America's Foundation. He supported Senator John McCain's 2008 presidential campaign and worked for the Republican National Committee.
- **Republican Party Roles:** Gor served as a spokesman for Representatives Steve King and Michele Bachmann, and later as communications director and deputy chief of staff for Senator Rand Paul. He played a significant role in Paul's office before joining Donald Trump's team.
- **Director of Presidential Personnel Office:** In November 2024, Gor was named director of the White House Presidential Personnel Office, overseeing over 4,000 appointees in the Trump administration.

India UK Launch & Connectivity Innovation Centre

- **Launch and Funding:** The India-UK Connectivity and Innovation Centre was launched on October 10, 2025, with a combined initial investment of £24 million (approximately ₹250 crore) over four years, committed by both countries.
- **Objective:** The Centre aims to advance digital inclusion, next-generation connectivity, and secure communication systems, aligning with the India-UK 2035 Vision and fostering a trusted, inclusive, and resilient digital future.
- **Benefits:** The partnership is expected to deliver tangible socio-economic benefits, including boosting digital inclusion, creating commercial opportunities for telecom and tech startups, and fostering global standards leadership in emerging technologies like 6G and AI-driven communications.
- **Implementation:** The Centre will unite the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India, and the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) under the UK-India Technology Security Initiative.

Sebastian Lecornu Re-Appointed as New PM of France

- **Re-appointment Date:** Sébastien Lecornu was re-appointed as Prime Minister of France on October 10, 2025, after a brief resignation.
- **Previous Role:** Before becoming Prime Minister, Lecornu served as the Minister of the Armed Forces from May 20, 2022, to September 9, 2025.

- **Tenure:** His initial tenure as Prime Minister lasted only 26 days, from September 9, 2025, to October 6, 2025, making it the shortest in the history of the French Fifth Republic.
- **Political Affiliation:** Lecornu is a member of the Renaissance party and has held various positions in the French government, including Minister for Local Authorities and Minister of the Overseas.

IMF raises India's FY26 growth forecast to 6.6%

- **Reason for the Upgrade:** Strong First Quarter Momentum: The primary driver for the upward revision is the "carryover from a strong first quarter" (April-June 2025), where India's GDP grew at an impressive 7.8%. This robust initial performance provides a higher base and greater momentum for the rest of the fiscal year.
- **Resilience Despite Global Headwinds:** The forecast reflects the Indian economy's resilience and strong domestic fundamentals, as the strong Q1 growth is seen as more than offsetting the immediate impact of global challenges, such as the increased US tariffs on Indian imports.
- **Revised Figures:** The new forecast of 6.6% is a 20 basis points (0.2 percentage point) increase from the previous estimate of 6.4% (made in the July World Economic Outlook update).
- **Contrasting Outlook for FY27:** While the FY26 forecast was raised, the IMF simultaneously lowered India's growth projection for FY27 to 6.2% (from 6.4% earlier).

Adani, Google to Build India's Largest AI Data Hub

- **Massive Investment:** Google plans to invest \$15 billion (approximately ₹1.25 lakh crore) over five years (2026-2030) in this initiative, which is its largest-ever investment in India.
- **Location and Scale:** The facility will be India's largest AI data centre campus, located in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. It is planned to have an initial gigawatt-scale (GW) compute capacity, designed for advanced AI workloads.
- **Core Partnership & Technology:** The project is a collaboration between Google and AdaniConneX (a joint venture of Adani Enterprises and EdgeConneX), with Bharti Airtel as a key partner. The hub will house TPU and GPU-based compute power essential for training large AI models.
- **Sustainable Infrastructure:** A major focus is on clean energy. The Adani Group will co-invest in new transmission lines, clean energy generation, and energy storage systems to power the hub sustainably, ensuring its operations are as environmentally conscious as possible.

India Elected to UN Human Rights Council for 2026–28

- **Seventh Term:** The 2026–2028 term is India's seventh stint on the UN Human Rights Council since its creation in 2006. This demonstrates a sustained and continuous involvement in the global human rights body, with mandatory breaks taken in compliance with the rules.

- **Elected Unopposed:** India was elected unopposed to one of the vacant seats in the Asia-Pacific States category. Although unopposed, a pro-forma secret ballot vote was held where India received overwhelming support from the UN General Assembly members.
- **Three-Year Tenure:** The term of membership is for three years, commencing on January 1, 2026. Council members are elected by the UN General Assembly.
- **Commitment to Human Rights:** India's Permanent Representative to the UN emphasized that the election "reflects India's unwavering commitment to human rights and fundamental freedoms." India's candidacy was presented with a focus on its pluralistic society.

Singapore Tops Henley Passport Index 2025

- **Singapore's Top Ranking:** Singapore has reclaimed the top spot in the Henley Passport Index 2025, offering visa-free access to a record 193 destinations out of 227 globally.
- **Top 3 Passports:** Following Singapore are South Korea and Japan, which share the 2nd and 3rd spots, respectively, with visa-free access to 190 and 189 destinations.
- **India's Ranking:** India's passport slipped to Rank 85 in 2025, down from Rank 80 in 2024, reflecting changing visa policies, global security considerations, and diplomatic negotiations affecting Indian travelers.
- **Global Trends:** The index reveals an increasingly competitive landscape in global mobility, with Asian nations dominating the top spots and traditional Western powers like the US and UK experiencing a decline in their rankings.

SEPTEMBER 2025

Dinesh K Patnaik Appointed India's Envoy to Canada

- **New Appointment:** Senior diplomat Dinesh K. Patnaik has been appointed as India's High Commissioner to Canada.
- **Previous Role:** He previously served as Director General of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- **Diplomatic Experience:** Patnaik is a seasoned Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 1990 batch, with experience in Europe, Asia, and Africa.
- **Significance:** As High Commissioner, he will play a key role in strengthening bilateral ties, addressing challenges, and expanding cooperation in trade, education, and diaspora engagement.

Singapore ranked safest in Asia, 6th globally in Global Peace Index'25

- **Global Ranking:** Singapore is ranked 6th globally in the Global Peace Index 2025, making it the only Asian country in the top 10.
- **Asian Ranking:** Singapore is the safest country in Asia, followed by Japan (12th globally), Malaysia (13th globally), and Bhutan (not specified globally).
- **Peace Score:** Singapore scored 1.357 in the index, improving from 1.339 in 2024, reflecting its continued commitment to maintaining social stability.
- **Key Factors:** The ranking considers 23 indicators across three domains: societal safety and security, ongoing domestic and international conflict, and degree of militarization. Singapore excelled in societal safety and security.

Dr. Deepak Mittal appointed as India's New Envoy to UAE

- **Appointment:** Dr. Deepak Mittal, an Indian Foreign Service officer from the 1998 batch, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the United Arab Emirates.
- **Background:** As a seasoned diplomat, Dr. Mittal brings extensive experience to his new role, further strengthening India's diplomatic ties with the UAE.
- **Assumption of Office:** He is expected to take up his new assignment shortly, although the exact date hasn't been specified.

Rohit Rathish appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Seychelles

- **Appointment Details:** Rohit Rathish, a 2006 batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Seychelles, according to the Ministry of External Affairs.
- **Current Role:** Rathish is currently serving as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs and is expected to take up his new assignment shortly.
- **Diplomatic Relations:** India and Seychelles have historically enjoyed close diplomatic relations, with cooperation in areas like defense, security, and economic development. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Seychelles in 2015 marked a significant milestone in bilateral ties.
- **Strategic Importance:** The appointment highlights India's

strategic interest in the Indian Ocean region, where Seychelles plays a crucial role. Strengthening ties with Seychelles is vital for India's maritime security and regional influence.

David Lammy becomes UK Deputy PM after Rayner's exit

- **Reason for Angela Rayner's Exit:** Angela Rayner resigned as Deputy Prime Minister and Labour's deputy leader following a probe into her tax affairs, specifically regarding underpaid stamp duty on an £800,000 flat in Hove.
- **David Lammy's Role:** David Lammy has been appointed as the new Deputy Prime Minister while retaining his position as Justice Secretary, overseeing critical issues like court backlogs, prison capacity, and confidence in the criminal justice system.
- **Responsibilities:** As Deputy Prime Minister, Lammy will stand in for Prime Minister Keir Starmer during his absence and act as a senior sounding board across the government, while also focusing on delivering reforms in the justice department.
- **Labour Party's Next Steps:** Rayner's exit triggers a deputy leadership contest within the Labour Party, which will test the party's coalition and potentially shape its tone and message heading into the next legislative crunch points.

Irfaan Ali re-elected as Guyana President

- **Election Results:** Irfaan Ali won a second term as President, with his People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) securing 36 seats in the National Assembly, an increase of three seats from

the 2020 election. The party garnered over 55% of the popular vote.

- **International Observers:** The election process was monitored by several international groups, including the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Carter Center.
- **Opposition Performance:** The We Invest in Nationhood party, a newcomer led by US-sanctioned businessman Azruddin Mohamed, secured 24.87% of the votes and 16 seats, becoming the primary opposition.

India & Israel Sign Bilateral Investment Agreement

- **Landmark Agreement:** The agreement was signed between Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Israel's Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich in New Delhi, marking a significant step in promoting investments between the two countries.
- **Protection for Investors:** The treaty ensures that Israeli investors in India and Indian investors in Israel receive protection, adhering to international precedents and practices, including a minimum standard of treatment and non-discrimination.
- **Dispute Settlement:** The agreement provides for an independent forum for dispute settlement through arbitration, boosting investor confidence and comfort level.

Irfaan Ali Wins Second Term as Guyana's President

- **Re-election:** Irfaan Ali has been re-elected for a second term as the President of Guyana, following a successful general

election held on September 1, 2025.

- **Party Majority:** His party, the People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C), won a majority in parliament, granting Ali a renewed mandate to lead the country.
- **Oil Wealth:** Ali's re-election comes at a time when Guyana is experiencing vast oil wealth, which is expected to significantly impact the country's economy and development.
- **Geopolitical Challenges:** As President, Ali will have to navigate complex geopolitical challenges, balancing relationships with various countries while making decisions that benefit Guyana's growth and stability.

Norway PM Jonas Gahr Støre Secured 2nd Term

- **Støre's Labour Party-led government** secured a second term after a closely fought election, with the center-left bloc winning a narrow majority of seats.
- The election was heavily influenced by voter concerns over the rising cost of living and the geopolitical impacts of the wars in Ukraine and Gaza.
- The re-election came despite a significant surge in support for the populist, right-wing Progress Party, which achieved its best-ever result and became the second-largest party in parliament.
- Støre's government will remain a minority administration and will rely on smaller, left-leaning parties to pass critical legislation, which will likely involve difficult negotiations on issues such as wealth taxes and future oil exploration.

Larry Ellison Surpasses Elon Musk as World's Richest

- Larry Ellison, co-founder of Oracle, temporarily became the world's wealthiest person, surpassing Elon Musk, after an unprecedented surge in Oracle's stock price.
- The dramatic shift in wealth was triggered by a blockbuster earnings report from Oracle, which included a highly aggressive outlook for its AI-driven cloud services.
- Ellison's fortune increased by an extraordinary amount in a single day, marking the largest one-day wealth increase ever recorded on the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

Dharmendra Pradhan Launches First Overseas Atal Innovation Centre in UAE

- The new center will serve as an innovation hub to nurture joint start-ups and research-led ventures by innovators from both India and the UAE.
- It aims to promote bilateral collaboration in cutting-edge fields like deep tech, AI, clean energy, and healthcare.
- The center is a part of the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), which is a flagship initiative by the Government of India to foster a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.
- This center will also act as a gateway for Indian start-ups to access and penetrate the markets of the Middle East.
- During his visit, Pradhan also launched new academic programs, including a Ph.D. program in Energy and Sustainability.

AUGUST 2025

Moldova became the 107th member of the International Solar Alliance

- **Official Membership Status:** Moldova became the 107th member of the ISA after submitting its Instrument of Ratification in New Delhi—handed over by Moldovan Ambassador to India Ana Taban to ISA's head—on August 4, 2025.
- **Significance of ISA:** Established in 2015 by India and France at COP21, the International Solar Alliance is a global intergovernmental organization focused on promoting solar energy, increasing energy access, and mobilizing international investments for renewable development.
- **Expansion of ISA Membership:** Before Moldova's accession, the ISA had grown to 106 members, including recent additions like Armenia and Malta. Moldova's inclusion highlights the continuing global expansion and importance of the Alliance.

India, Russia Sign Protocol to Boost Industrial, Tech Cooperation

- **Deepening Strategic Partnership:** India and Russia have reaffirmed their strategic partnership by signing a protocol to deepen cooperation in key sectors, including aluminium, fertilizers, railways, and mining technology.
- **Key Focus Areas:** The partnership focuses on cooperation in aerospace science and technology, including establishing a modernized wind tunnel facility, producing small

aircraft piston engines, and joint development in carbon fibre technology, additive manufacturing, and 3D printing.

- **Emerging Areas of Collaboration:** Both countries are exploring opportunities in rare earth and critical minerals extraction, underground coal gasification, and creating modern industrial infrastructure.

Karol Nawrocki sworn in as Poland's president

- **Conservative Background:** Karol Nawrocki, 42, is a historian and politician with a conservative outlook, backed by the nationalist-conservative Law and Justice party.
- **Election Victory:** Nawrocki won the presidential election with 50.89% of the vote, narrowly defeating liberal Warsaw Mayor Rafał Trzaskowski.
- **Domestic Policy:** He has positioned himself as a defender of traditional Polish values, opposing secular trends like LGBTQ+ visibility, and supports socially conservative policies.

India and Philippines Sign MoUs to Strengthen Strategic Partnership

- **Comprehensive Cooperation:** The partnership aims to strengthen cooperation between the two nations in various areas, similar to India's agreements with other countries like Malaysia and Qatar. This includes enhancing economic ties, security cooperation, and cultural exchange.
- **Digital Technology Collaboration:** India and the Philippines may explore collaboration in digital technologies, following the example of India's MoU with Thailand's Ministry of Digital

Economy and Society. This could involve joint projects, knowledge sharing, and capacity building.

- **Strategic Partnership Framework:** The partnership will likely be guided by a framework similar to those used in India's agreements with other nations. This framework outlines the terms, objectives, and responsibilities of each party, ensuring a structured and effective collaboration.

Sandeep Arya appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bhutan

- **Appointment Details:** Sandeep Arya, a 1994-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bhutan. He is currently serving as India's Ambassador to Vietnam and is expected to take up his new assignment shortly.
- **Diplomatic Experience:** Arya brings decades of diplomatic experience across Europe, Africa, and Asia. He has held key roles in disarmament and European affairs, and previously served as High Commissioner to Tanzania and Representative to the East African Community.
- **Background:** Arya was born in June 1971 in Kashipur, India, and holds multiple degrees, including a B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering, M.Tech in Nuclear Engineering, M.A. in Economics, and an MBA. He is fluent in Hindi, English, and Russian.
- **India-Bhutan Relations:** Arya's appointment is seen as a continuation of India's strong commitment to Bhutan. His vast experience in diplomacy, security, and regional affairs



G.K. ONE LINER

NATIONAL NEWS

- Who became the first Indian to climb nine peaks above 8,000 meters?

Bharath Thammineni

- Which shipyard has been granted Mini Ratna status?

Hindustan Shipyard

- Which two organizations signed a MoU to develop indigenous automotive solutions?

C-DAC and ICAT

- Which Indian institutions joined GBA for the Water Security and Resilience Project?

IISc and IIT Madras

- What new scheme was launched by PM Modi for farmers?

Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana

- DRDO signed a MoU to develop how much capacity of solar projects across India?

300 MW

- Which scheme was launched by the Labour Minister in 2025?

"Vishwas" Scheme

- Which initiative was launched by Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu?

Fare Se Fursat

- Who launched the NIELIT Digital University Platform?

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw

- Which district became India's first officially child marriage free district?

Balod

- Which state became the first in India to abolish its Madrasa Board?

Uttarakhand

- India's smartphone exports hit a record of how much in 2025?

\$13.4 billion

- Who became the first Indian to win the Mrs Universe Crown?

Sherry Singh

- What roadmap was launched for biodiversity assessment in India?

The National Red List Roadmap & Vision 2025-2030

- Which AI-powered service was rolled out within ChatGPT by India?

AI-powered UPI payments

- Who launched the NIELIT Digital University Platform?

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw

- India has been re-elected to which part of the ICAO Council?

Part II

- Who has been re-appointed as the Attorney General of India?

R. Venkataramani

- Which IAS officer is set to become the new Chief Secretary of Delhi?

Rajeev Verma

- Which Indian state granted agricultural status to livestock & poultry farming for the first time?

Maharashtra

- Which company unveiled India's largest green hydrogen plant?

Larsen & Toubro (L&T)

- What is India's new rank in the Global Passport Rankings 2025?

77th position

- Who has been elected as India's 15th Vice President?

CP Radhakrishnan

- Which organizations signed a MoU to empower tribal students via Eklavya Schools?

Coal India & NSTFDC

- PhonePe partnered with which institutions on Udyam initiative?

SIDBI & MSME Ministry

- Who has been given additional charge as Maharashtra Governor?

Acharya Devvrat

- Which IIM launched its first global campus in Dubai?

IIM Ahmedabad

- Which institute launched the AI-based mental health program 'Never Alone'?

AIIMS Delhi

- TCIL signed a MoU with which bank to boost IT infrastructure and banking tech?

Punjab National Bank (PNB)

- Which Indian city was awarded the Ramsar Wetland City Accreditation in 2025?

Udaipur

- NIFT Patna signed a MoU with ABFRL to empower which women's group?

Jeevika Women

- Who became Bihar's first female FIDE Master?

Marium Fatima

- Which Indian institute signed a MoU with Vietnam National University?

IIT Kanpur

- What is India's rank in the Global Innovation Index 2025 among 139 economies?

38th

- Which state bagged the 'Best State Award' for Silk Development?

Andhra Pradesh

- Who took oath as the Chief Justice of Patna High Court?

Justice Pavankumar Bhimappa

- Which Jharkhand art form was showcased at Rashtrapati Bhavan?

Sohrai Art

- Who became the new Chief Secretary of Bihar?

IAS Pratyay Amrit

- Which state became the first to empanel sign language experts under the Juvenile Justice Act?

Punjab

- Which Indian city ranked 26th in the Global AI City Index 2025?

Bengaluru

- Which state adopted the advanced 'Garuda Drishti' system to combat cybercrime?

Maharashtra

- Who has been given additional charge as Nagaland Governor?

Ajay Kumar Bhalla

- Which state launched India's first drone-based artificial rain trial?

Rajasthan

- What is SHRESTH, recently launched in India?
- India's First State Health Regulatory

Excellence Index

- Where was India's first Drone-AI Powered Artificial Rain Experiment launched?

Rajasthan

- Which bank launched RemitFIRST2India service?

IDFC FIRST Bank

- Who became the youngest solicitor of England of Indian origin?

Krishangi Meshram

- Which group inaugurated UP's first Hydrogen Plant?

Torrent Group

- Which state was declared the first fully digitally literate state in India?

Kerala

- Which PSB became the first in India to migrate to the bank.in domain?

Punjab National Bank (PNB)

- Which Indian naval ship completed a port call at Surabaya?

INS Kadmat

- What was India's Q1 FY26 GDP growth rate, the highest in five quarters?

7.8%

- Which bank opened its first startup focused branch in New Delhi?

Punjab National Bank (PNB)

- Which state's SIPB approved ₹53,922 crore investment projects?

Andhra Pradesh

- Who flagged off the „U-Special“ bus service for Delhi University students?

Delhi CM Rekha Gupta

- Who was appointed IMF Executive Director for 3 years?

Ex-RBI Governor Urjit Patel

- Who inaugurated MILMEDICON 2025 in New Delhi?

Sanjay Seth

- Which state launched a ₹1 crore insurance scheme for municipal workers?

Andhra Pradesh

- Which city hosted the 3GPP RAN Working Group meetings for the first time?

Bengaluru

- What national guidelines were released for the first time in India in veterinary science?

Veterinary Blood Transfusion Services

- Which e-procurement platform crossed ₹15 lakh crore GMV since 2016?

Government e Marketplace (GeM)

- Where was India's largest aero engine test bed inaugurated by Rajnath Singh and Yogi Adityanath?

Uttar Pradesh

- Which state ranked 5th in e-bus adoption and plans a fleet of 1,000+ buses?

Odisha

- Where has India's first port-based green hydrogen project been launched?

VOC Port

INTERNATIONAL

- Who was sworn in as President of Madagascar after the 2025 military takeover?

Michael Randrianirina

- Who was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Japan?

Nagma Mohamed Mallick

- What new partnership was launched between India and the UK?

Connectivity & Innovation Centre

- Who was re-appointed as the new Prime Minister of France?

Sebastian Lecornu

- What is the IMF's revised FY26 growth forecast for India?

6.6%

- India was elected to which UN body for the 2026–28 term?

UN Human Rights Council

- Which companies are building India's largest AI Data Hub?

Adani and Google

- Which country topped the Henley Passport Index 2025?

Singapore

- Which company reached a \$500 billion valuation after a share sale to SoftBank?

OpenAI

- Who is set to become Japan's first female Prime Minister?

Sanae Takaichi

- Who was appointed as UNESCO's next Director-General?

Khaled al-Anani

- Who became the youngest U.S. Ambassador to India?

Sergio Gor

- Which England all-rounder announced retirement from international cricket?

Chris Woakes

- Which country became the 107th member of the International Solar Alliance?

Moldova

- India signed a protocol with which country to boost industrial and tech cooperation?

Russia

- Who was sworn in as the President of Poland?

Karol Nawrocki

- India signed MoUs to strengthen its strategic partnership with which country?

Philippines

- Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Bhutan?

Sandeep Arya

- Which country emerged as the world's 5th biggest aviation market?

India

- India ranks at what position globally in fish production?

Second

- Who was appointed as the new ambassador of the Netherlands to Azerbaijan?

Marianne de Jong

- Who has been appointed as New Zealand's next ambassador to the US?

Chris Seed

- India became the world's _____ largest automobile market.

Third

- Who was appointed as India's Ambassador to Serbia?

Abhishek Shukla

- India deepened defence ties with which country at the 7th JCDC meeting?

Saudi Arabia

- Which country conducted "Sustainable Power 1404" missile drills?

Iran

- Which country temporarily suspended postal services to the USA?

India

- Which planet's 29th satellite (S/2025 U1) was discovered by NASA?

Uranus

- Which Japanese bank got RBI approval to buy 24.99% stake in Yes Bank?

SMBC (Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation)

- Which two countries will hold the 14th edition of Exercise Maitree at Umroi?

India & Thailand

- Who has been appointed as India's new envoy to Canada?

Dinesh K Patnaik

- Which Asian country ranked safest in Asia and 6th globally in Global Peace Index 2025?

Singapore

- Who has been appointed as India's new envoy to the UAE?

Dr. Deepak Mittal

- Who has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Seychelles?

Rohit Rathish

- Who became UK's Deputy Prime Minister after Angela Rayner's exit?

David Lammy

- Who has been re-elected as President of Guyana?

Irfaan Ali

BANKING & FINANCE

- Who was appointed as RBI's new Executive Director?

Sanjay Kumar Hansda

- Who was appointed as another Executive Director of RBI in 2025?

Sonali Sen Gupta

- Who joined the governing board of the Central Bank?

Maithri Wickremesinghe

- Which bank was named Asia's Safest Bank for the 17th consecutive year by Global Finance?

DBS Bank

- Which banking regulator revised Merchant Trade Transactions Guidelines in 2025?

RBI

- Who has been appointed as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

Shirish Chandra Murmu

- Which bank's MD & CEO, Amitabh Chaudhry, was awarded 'Banker of the Year'?

Axis Bank

- Who has been appointed as MD & CEO of Union Bank of India?

Asheesh Pandey

- Who is the new MD & CEO of Central Bank of India?

Kalyan Kumar

- Who has been recommended by FSIB as Managing Director of LIC?

Ramakrishnan Chander

- Who was appointed Executive Director of Axis Bank?

Neeraj Gambhir

- Which bank was named the World's Best Consumer Bank 2025?

State Bank of India (SBI)

- Which payments bank was added to RBI's Second Schedule?

NSDL Payments Bank

- LIC tied up with which bank for bancassurance services?

AU Small Finance Bank

- Which bank launched FCNR deposits & Explorer savings account for NRIs and seafarers?

Equitas Small Finance Bank

- Which bank became a corporate agent for Shriram Life Insurance?

Equitas Small Finance Bank

- Which firm got RBI approval for investment in IDFC First Bank?

Warburg Pincus

- Which NBFC had RBI's restrictions withdrawn recently?

Religare Finvest

- Who has been appointed as AsiaPacific IB Co-Head at Citibank?

Kaustubh Kulkarni

- Who has been appointed as the next MD of SBI?

Ravi Ranjan

- Which company signed a Service Level Agreement with UCO Bank?

Vortex Engineering.

- Which bank will NICBL merge with, as approved by RBI?

Saraswat Co-operative Bank.

- Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of IndusInd Bank?

Rajiv Anand.

- Who has been appointed as Group Chief Compliance Officer of ICICI Bank?

Anish Madhavan

- Who has been appointed as CFO of Punjab National Bank (PNB)?

Raman Grover

- Which new digital financing scheme has Bank of Baroda launched?

'bob Digi Udyam'

- Who has been reappointed as Chairman of Yes Bank?

R Gandhi

- Which bank has partnered with DPIIT to boost startups?

ICICI Bank**NEW APPOINTMENTS**

- Who became the first Indian MD & CEO of Hyundai India?

Tarun Garg

- Who took charge as Director (Finance) at NHPC Limited?

Shri Mahesh Kumar Sharma

- Who was elected as the new President of Bolivia?

Rodrigo Paz

- Who was named Chair of the WIPO Advisory Board?

Justice Prathiba Singh

- Who became President of ASSOCHAM in 2025?

Nirmal Minda

- Who was appointed as Chief Product Officer at Google Cloud?

Karthik Narain

- Who was accredited as India's next Ambassador to El Salvador?

Raj Kumar Singh

- Who became the first transgender member of the SC-appointed committee?

Akkai Padmashali

- Who was appointed Executive Director of Axis Bank?

Neeraj Gambhir

- India was re-elected Vice-Chair of which global anti-doping body?

COP10 Bureau

- Who was named Torchbearer for Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics?

Abhinav Bindra

- Who joined Microsoft and Anthropic as Adviser in 2025?

Rishi Sunak

- Who was appointed Interim CEO of Castrol India?

Saugata Basuray

- Who became President of PHDCCI in 2025?

Rajeev Juneja

- Whose tenure as Chairman of Tata Sons was extended?

N Chandrasekaran

- Who was named Ficci President-Elect for 2025-26?

Anant Goenka

- Who became the first-ever Mental Health Ambassador appointed by Union Health Ministry?

Deepika Padukone

- Who was appointed as IMF First Deputy Managing Director?

Dan Katz

- Who was re-elected as Chairman of AIBI?

Mahavir Lunawat

- Who was appointed as the Chief Secretary of Chandigarh?

H Rajesh Prasad

- Who was appointed Additional Director General in CISF?

Vijay Prakash

- Who became the official ambassador for Ironman India?

Saiyami Kher

- Who was appointed as Deputy Inspector General in NHRC?

Gaurav Garg

- Who was named EPL Ambassador for India?

Sanju Samson

- Who were appointed as new co-CEOs for EMEA by JPMorgan?

Conor Hillery and Matthieu Wiltz

- Who became the Brand Ambassador of Buildathon 2025?

Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla

- Who was appointed chairperson of the NSE Governing Board?

Srinivas Injeti

- Who became the brand ambassador of the Asian Table Tennis Championship 2025?

Sharath Kamal

- Who was accredited as India's Ambassador to the Republic of Honduras?

Raj Kumar Singh

- Who was appointed to lead India's Credit Division at Blackstone?

Apurva Shah

- Which two organizations signed a MoU for renewable energy transition?

IUCN and IRENA

- Who has been appointed as Chief Secretary of Chandigarh?

H. Rajesh Prasad

- Who has been appointed as Additional Director General in CISF?

Vijay Prakash

- Who has been appointed MD & CEO of Tata Motors?

Shailesh Chandra

- Who has been appointed Deputy Secretary in the Department of Defence?

Reema Jain

- Who has been appointed as Chairman of the Advertising Standards Council of India?

Sudhanshu Vats

- Who has taken charge as Director General of CISF?

Praveer Ranjan

- Who will lead Sony Pictures India as its new head?

Gaurav Banerjee

- Who has been re-elected as IPC President for the third and final term?

Andrew Parsons

- Who has been appointed Director in the Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT)?

M. Arvind

- Who has been appointed Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship?

Neeraj Surendran

- Who was selected as Director (Finance) of Goa Shipyard Limited?

Jahangeer Alam Ansari

- Who became Additional Managing Director of BMRCL?

Dr. J Ravishankar

- Which Indian Vice President recently resigned?

Jagdeep Dhankhar

- Who was designated Acting Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court?

Justice Sujit Narayan Prasad

- Who became the new Mission Director of Atal Innovation Mission?

Deepak Bagla

- Who was appointed MD & Group CEO of GIFT City?

Sanjay Kaul (IAS)

- Which top IMF official recently resigned?

Gita Gopinath

- Who was elected Chairman of GCMMF?

Ashok Chaudhary

- Who was appointed Director General in NHRC?

Anand Swaroop

- Who took interim charge as CVO in SJVN Ltd?

Vinita Narera

- Who replaced S K Singla as Principal Resident Commissioner?

A K Yadav

- Who became Private Secretary to a Member of NITI Aayog?

Shri P. Shankar

- Who was appointed IRDAI Chief by the government?

Ajay Seth (Former Finance Secretary)

- Which cricketer was signed as brand ambassador by Skechers?

Mohammed Siraj

- Who was sworn in as Chief Justice of Bombay High Court?

Justice Shree Chandrashekhar

- Who became global brand ambassador for Levi's?

Alia Bhatt

- Who has been named as Hero MotoCorp CEO effective Jan 2026?

Harshavardhan Chitale

- Who was appointed as Special Director in CBI?

Manoj Shashildhar

- Who joined IARC as MD & CEO?

Abhishek Maheshwari

- Who became the Director of AIIA?

Professor Pradeep Kumar Prajapati

- Who was named MD & CEO of Aditya Birla Capital?

Vishakha Mulye

- Who was sworn in as Chief Justice of Manipur High Court?

Justice M Sundar

- Which former diplomat was elected chair of the UN Committee?

Preeti Saran

- Who was appointed as World Bank VP for East Asia & Pacific (EAP)?

Carlos Felipe Jaramillo

- Who was appointed Secretary to Vice-President Radhakrishnan?

Amit Khare

- Who was inducted as Superintendent of Police in CBI?

Astha Modi

- Whose term was extended as Executive Director of PNB?

Shri M. Paramasivam

- Who was appointed as CVO of CMPFO?

Amaresh Kumar

- Who became the DG of ITBP?

Praveen Kumar

- Who was named CFO of P&G Health?

Shashank Srowthy

- Who was appointed as GM of North Central Railway?

Naresh Pal Singh

- Who is the next CMD of Hindustan Salts Ltd?

Varun Kumar Shukla

- Who was given additional charge of Secretary, Inter State Council Secretariat?

Ansuli Arya

- Who was appointed as Additional DG of Indo-Tibetan Border Police?

Mukesh Singh

- Who was elected unopposed as the 37th BCCI President?

Mithun Manhas

- Who became the first Indian cricketer to join the Big Bash League (BBL)?

Ravichandran Ashwin

- Who was appointed as President of ASCI?

Sudhanshu Vats

- Who was appointed Vice-Chair of ASCI?

Subramanyeswar

- Who was given additional charge as CVO of RCIL?

Rajendra Kumar Soni

- Who was named Chairman of Piramal Finance?

Anand Piramal

- Who was named brand ambassador of Nykaa?

Deepika Padukone

- Who was appointed Deputy Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs?

IRS Amrutha Varshini Palla

- Who assumed charge as Controller General of Communication Accounts?

Vandana Gupta

- Who was appointed as new MD of Olectra Greentech?

Ex-Switch Mobility CEO

- Who became brand ambassador of IRTB Bags?

Twinkle Khanna

- Who was selected as the next CMD of Coal India?

B. Sairam

- Who was appointed as Director in the Department of Space?

Sindhu B Rupesh.

- Who became the Head Coach of the Indian Senior Men's Football Team?

Khalid Jamil.

- Who assumed office as Financial Advisor (Defence Services)?

Dr. Mayank Sharma.

- Who became CVO of Northern Coalfields Ltd.?

Ajay Kumar Jaiswal.

- Who was appointed Director in the Department of Higher Education?

Nitish Suri.

- Who was appointed Director in the Ministry of Civil Aviation?

Tanvi Sundriyal.

- Who was appointed Director in the Department of Expenditure?

Isha Khosla.

- Who assumed charge as Chairperson of the Capacity Building Commission?

S. Radha Chauhan.

- Who assumed charge as Controller Personnel Service?

Vice Admiral CR Nair.

- Who was appointed Director in the Ministry of Cooperation?

Sathiya S.

- Who took charge as Vice Chief of Army Staff?

Lt Gen Pushpendra Singh.

- Who became the new CEO of Jaguar Land Rover?

PB Balaji.

- Who was appointed Director of Ambedkar Foundation?

Dr Manoj Tiwari.

- Who took command of the Indian Naval Academy?

Vice Admiral Manish Chadha

- Who became the new Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh?

Shashi Prakash Goyal

- Who was appointed as Member (Financial Services) of the Postal Services Board?

Manisha Sinha

- Who was designated as Deputy Secretary of Pharmaceuticals?

Suvasis Das

- Who was appointed as Director of Census Operations, Goa?

Cheshta Yadav

- Which Bollywood actor became brand ambassador of Zomato?

Shah Rukh Khan

- Who was appointed as Deputy Secretary, Ministry of I&B?

IAS Vikram Singh Malik

- Who became IFA in Indo Tibetan Border Police?

Shyam Sundar Agrawal

OBITUARIES

- Which actor known for playing Karna in Mahabharat passed away in 2025?

Pankaj Dheer

- Which former Prime Minister of Kenya passed away?

Raila Amolo Odinga

- Which renowned singer and actress from South India passed away?

Raavu Balasaraswathi Devi

- Which legendary Indian comic actor passed away in 2025?

Govardhan Asrani

- Which veteran Indian space scientist passed away recently?

Eknath Vasanth Chitnis

- Which industrialist and Chairman Emeritus of Prestige passed away?

TT Jagannathan

- Which Oscar-winning actress passed away in 2025?

Diane Keaton

- Which Goa Agriculture Minister and former Chief Minister passed away?

Ravi Naik

- Which legendary primate expert passed away in 2025?

Jane Goodall

- Which veteran Indian actress passed away recently?

Sandhya Shantaram

- Which Punjabi singer passed away in 2025?

Rajvir Jawanda

- Padma Vibhushan awardee who recently passed away?

Pandit Chhannulal Mishra

- Veteran Gandhian, socialist, and freedom fighter who passed away recently?

G. G. Parikh

- Legendary primate expert who passed away in 2025?

Jane Goodall

- Which veteran Indian actor passed away recently?

Dheeraj Kumar

- Which former Kerala CM passed away recently?

VS Achuthanandan

- Which Oscar-winning songwriter recently passed away?

Alan Bergman

- Which WWE icon and pop culture figure passed away?

Hulk Hogan

- Which Saudi royal known as the 'Sleeping Prince' passed away?

Prince Al-Waleed

- Which legendary Black Sabbath frontman passed away?

Ozzy Osbourne

- Veteran journalist Sankarshan Thakur, who recently passed away, was associated with which field?

Journalism

- Which former Chief Minister of Meghalaya passed away?

D.D. Lapang

- Which boxing legend passed away recently?

Ricky Hatton

- Which Bharatanatyam Guru from Kalakshetra passed away?

Sarada Hoffman

- Which iconic Hollywood actordirector passed away?

Robert Redford

- Which Tamil actor-comedian passed away?

Robo Shankar

- Which Assamese singer passed away?

Zubeen Garg

- Which legendary cricket umpire recently passed away?

Dickie Bird

- Which renowned Kannada novelist passed away recently?

Dr. S. L. Bhyrappa

- Which veteran actor from Kerala passed away recently?

KPAC Rajendran.

- Which actor passed away after a battle with glioma?

Kelley Mack.

- Which former Chief Minister of Jharkhand passed away?

Shibu Soren.

- Which former Vice-Chancellor of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University passed away?

Dr. V. Vasanthi Devi.

- Which former IDBI Chairman & Satyam Reviver passed away?

T N Manoharan.

- Which Malayalam actor and mimicry artiste passed away?

Kalabhavan Navas.

- Who was the Acting President of Myanmar that recently passed away?

U Myint Swe

- Which Olympic hockey medallist & sports administrator recently passed away?

Vece Paes

- Which former Australian captain & coach passed away recently?

Bob Simpson

- Which iconic Punjabi comedian actor recently passed away?

Jaswinder Bhalla

- Who was the FTII alumnus and 'Ramayan' cinematographer who passed away recently?

Prem Sagar

- Which actress from Pavitra Rishta fame passed away recently?

Priya Marathe

- Which Italian fashion icon passed away in 2025?

Giorgio Armani

AWARDS

- Who won the Dr. Divya Ravindran Memorial Award?

Dr. Archana M. G.

- Who became the first voice actor to receive Japan's Cultural Merit Award?

Masako Nozawa

- Which Indian model of aquaculture won global recognition from FAO?

Sundarbans aquaculture model

- Which Indian athlete was conferred the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel?

Neeraj Chopra

- Which company received the Sustainable Supply Chain Partnership Award?

Apical

- Who was awarded the Vir Chakra for gallantry?

Colonel Koshank Lamba

- Who won the British Academy Prize for the book "The Burning Earth"?

Sunil Amrith

- Who won the 2025 Sakharov Prize?

Andrzej Poczobut and Mzia Amaghlobeli

- Which bank was honoured as the World's Best Consumer Bank 2025?

State Bank of India (SBI)

- Which firm led by Abhinav Gupta was honoured at the Times Business Awards 2025?

Stradux

- Who won the 2025 Nobel Prize in Economics?

Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt

- Who became the first Indian to receive the WCPA-Kenton Miller Award?

Dr. Sonali Ghosh

- Which company won the HR Excellence Award at the Fortune Leadership Awards 2025?

TCIL

- Who won the 2025 Abel Prize?

Masaki Kashiwara

- Which organization received the Mahatma Award 2025?

Ashray Akruti

- Who won the 2025 Nobel Prize in Medicine?

Brunkow, Ramsdell, and Sakaguchi

- Who received the 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics?

Clarke, Devoret, and Martinis

- Who was honoured with the 'People Centric Leadership Award'?

Dr. Hemant Sharad Pande

- Who presented the "My Bharat – NSS Awards" for 2022-23?

President of India

- Who were honoured for dedicated service in peacekeeping?

Indian Peacekeepers

- Who won the 2025 Nobel Prize in Chemistry?

Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson, and Omar M. Yaghi

- Which cricketers won Lifetime Achievement Awards in 2025?

BS Chandrasekhar and Brian Lara

- Who won the 2025 Nobel Prize in Literature?

László Krasznahorkai

- Who presented the National Geoscience Awards 2024?

President Droupadi Murmu

- Who received the Lifetime Achievement Award?

Peter Durber

- Which organisation won the BusinessLine Changemaker of the Year award?

DRDO

- Which hotel bagged the 'Best 5-Star Deluxe Hotel' Award?

Novotel Vijayawada Varun

- Which state tourism department won the Global Tourism Award 2025?

Andhra Pradesh

- Who received the Mahatma Award?

Prasanna Kumar Motupalli

- Who received the Tamil Nadu Scientist Award 2022?

Dr. R. Arthur James

- Who was conferred with the National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Award 2025?

Prof. Banwari Lal Gaur

- Which country received the ISSA Award 2025 for 'Outstanding Achievement in Social Security'?

India

- Who received the Mahatma Award for Lifetime Achievement?

Shri Krishna Hegde Miyar

- Which NGO was conferred with the Mahatma Award 2025?

Ashray Akruti

- Who won the Master Award at Golden Apricot Yerevan International Film Festival?

Adilkhan Yerzhanov

- Which institute received the National Geospatial Practitioner Award 2025?

INCOIS

- Who received the Global Impact Icon Award 2025?

Dr. Sazina Khan

- Which Indian app won the WSIS Champion Award 2025 for Digital Governance?

Meri Panchayat App

- Which Telangana district won the Open-Source GIS Cohort Award?

Bhadradi Kothagudem

- Who became the first Indian to win the 'Oscar for Magicians' at FISM 2025?

Suhani Shah

- Which company won the Supplier Excellence Award by BSES?

BHEL

- Which institute bagged a national award for agricultural innovation?

ICAR-SBI Coimbatore

- Who will receive the Kavya Prabha National Award?

Leela Upadhyay

- Who won the Camel International Award?

Younus Ahamed

- Which Union Minister conferred the Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan Awards?

Union Minister for Environment

- Which project won the Data Innovation Award?

PRIO-GRID

- Who was posthumously honoured with the PV Narasimha Rao Award for Economics?

Manmohan Singh

- Which shipyard won the Rajbhasha Kirti Award 2024-25?

Goa Shipyard

- Which district topped the Inspire Award 2025 for Student Innovation?

Muzaffarpur

- Who received the ASME Holley Medal for Engineering Excellence?

Baba Kalyani

- Which bank received the Rajbhasha Kirti Award?

Indian Bank

- Which company won three awards at the 2025 Global Forex Awards?

Vantage

- Who won the Krishi Media Award 2025?

Journalist Amshi Prasannakumar

- Which company won the Golden Peacock Award for Excellence?

Heritage Foods

- Who was honoured with the Excellence in Esthetic Dentistry Award?

Dr. Akanksha Baheti

- Who was honoured with the Vaidya Vibhushana Award?

Dr. Naidu

- Who won the National Award for Best Actor?

Vikrant Massey

- Which organisation won the SKOCH Gold ESG Award 2025?

CONCOR

- Who received the 2023 Dadasaheb Phalke Award?

Mohanlal

- Who presented the 71st National Film Awards?

President Droupadi Murmu

- Which airport won the International Architectural Award 2025?

Guwahati Airport

- Who won the German Urban Development Award?

Jupiter

- Which naval chief received a prestigious military award?

Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Navy

- Who was awarded the Governor's Medallion for Excellence?

Col Jamwal

- Which university received NAAC A++ grade in 2nd cycle of assessment?

Delhi University

- Which women's SHG won UNDP Equator Prize 2025?

Bibi Fatima Women's SHG

- How many BSF personnel received gallantry medals for Operation Sindoor?

16

- Which airport won International Architectural Award 2025?

Guwahati Airport

- Which film by Neeraj Ghaywan won Best Film & Best Director at IFFM 2025?

Homebound

- Who conferred the National Experience Award to retired employees?

Dr. Jitendra Singh

- Which NGO won the 2025 Ramon Magsaysay Award?

Educate Girls

- Who presented the Rashtrapati Award certificates in 2025?

Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya

- Who was conferred with the SCOPE Eminence Award?

C&MD, Engineers India Ltd (EIL)**SPORTS**

- Who won the 125th IFA Shield?

Mohun Bagan

- Which medal did India win at the 2025 Sultan of Johor Cup?

Silver

- Who clinched silver at the Junior Badminton World Championships 2025?

Tanvi Sharma

- Who were named ICC Players of the Month?

Abhishek Sharma and Smriti Mandhana

- Who became the first Indian woman to medal in the Archery World Cup Final?

Jyothi Surekha

- Who won bronze at the ISSF Shotgun Worlds 2025?

Zoravar Singh Sandhu

- Who won bronze at the U23 Wrestling World Championship 2025?

Vishvajit More

- Who became India's third-highest run-getter in ODIs?

Rohit Sharma

- Which country clinched double gold in Kabaddi at the Asian Youth Games 2025?

India

- Who won the F1 US Grand Prix 2025?

Max Verstappen

- Who won the 2025 MLS Golden Boot?

Lionel Messi

- In which weight category did Vishvajit More win bronze at the U-23 Worlds?

55kg Greco-Roman

- Who won India's first MMA bronze at the Asian Youth Games?

Veer Bhadu

- Who won his first ATP title at the Shanghai Masters 2025?

Valentin Vacherot

- Who won the 23rd RCC Classical Cup 2025?

Nithin Babu

- Who won the Women's ODI World Cup clash between South Africa and Bangladesh?

South Africa

- Who won the inaugural Archery Premier League 2025?

Rajputana Royals

- Who won bronze at the Para Powerlifting World Championships 2025?

Joby Mathew

- Where was the 11th Asian Aquatics Championships 2025 held?

Ahmedabad

- Which state won the 30th Senior Women's National Football Championship?

Manipur

- Who became the top assist maker in international football?

Lionel Messi

- Who won his maiden gold at the World Para Athletics Championships?

Nishad Kumar

- Which country topped the medal table at ISSF Junior World Cup 2025 in New Delhi?

India

- What was India's rank at the World Para Athletics Championships 2025?

10th

- Who won the Women's Singles title at Al Ain Masters 2025?

Shriyanshi Valishetty

- Which Indian athletes won gold at Para Athletics Worlds 2025?

Nishad Kumar and Simran

- Who was appointed as India's ODI team captain by BCCI?

Shubman Gill

- Who won India's first-ever medal at the Judo Junior World Championships?

Linthoi Chanambam

- Which Indian pair won gold in the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event at the ISSF Junior World Cup?

Rashmika Sahgal and Kapil

- Which country won the 7th SAFF U-17 Football Championship title?

India

- Who won gold in the 50m rifle 3-positions event at the ISSF Junior World Cup?

Anushka Thokur

- Who clinched her first World Para Archery gold medal?

Sheetal Devi

- Who won silver in Men's Discus Throw F56 at the World Para Athletics Championships?

Yogesh Khatuniya

- Who won gold in Men's Javelin F46 at the same championship?

Rinku Hooda

- Who bagged silver in Men's Javelin F46?

Sundar Singh Gurjar

- Who won the 62nd National Chess Championship?

Grandmaster P. Iniyan

- Who won silver in Women's 48kg category at the World Weightlifting Championships?

Mirabai Chanu

- Who won the Japan Open tennis title defeating Fritz?

Carlos Alcaraz

- Which Indian cricketer set a record in ICC Men's T20I Batter Rankings?

Abhishek Sharma

- Which country clinched One-Two finish in Men's Javelin F44 at the World Para Athletics?

India

- Who won his maiden gold at the World Para Athletics Championships?

Nishad Kuma

- Which country finished as the tabletopper at the ISSF Junior World Cup in New Delhi?

India

- Who dominated the MRF F2000 series at Kari Motor Speedway 2025?

Arjun & Ishaan

- Which major chess event will India host in 2025?

FIDE World Cup 2025

- Which Indian swimmers set new benchmarks recently?
- Srihari Nataraj & B. Benediction Rohit Which team won the U18 Boys' title at Junior National Rugby 7s Championship 2025?

Bihar

- Which Canadian tennis player recently announced retirement?

Eugenie Bouchard

- What medal did India win in badminton at the FISU World University Games?

Bronze

- Who won the Long Jump title at the Portugal Sports Meet?

Murali Sreeshankar

- Who won the Men's Singles title at the Japan Open 2025?

Shi Yuqi

- Who became the first Indian to reach the FIDE Women's World Cup final?

Divya Deshmukh

- Which country will host the Asia Cup in September 2025?

UAE (Hosted by BCCI)

- Who was named captain of the Indian team for the World Racketlon Championship?

Vikramaditya Chaufla

- Which team won the Asia Cup Hockey Championship 2025?

Indian Men's Hockey Team

- Who won the U-19 titles at Indian Junior Open Squash 2025?

Yusha Nafees & Rudra Singh

- Who won the 2025 Italian Grand Prix?

Max Verstappen

- Which medal did India clinch in CAFA Nations Cup 2025?

Bronze

- Who defeated Jannik Sinner to win the 2025 US Open men's singles title?

Carlos Alcaraz

- Which country will host the 28th Asian TT Team Championships?

India

- Which Indian chess prodigy defeated World Champion D Gukesh at FIDE Grand Swiss 2025?

Abhimanyu Mishra

- How many world records did India secure in space exploration in 2025?

Nine

- How many bronze medals did India win at the World Boxing Championships 2025?

Three

- Which team clinched their first-ever T20 win over Hong Kong in Asia Cup 2025?

Bangladesh

- Who won gold at the World Boxing Championships 2025?

Jaismine Lamboria

- Who has been appointed head coach for the 2025–26 Ranji Trophy?

Gary Stead (Ex-NZ coach)

- What was India's overall position at ISSF World Cup 2025?

5th

- Who won the FIDE Women's Grand Swiss 2025?

GM Vaishali Rameshbabu

- Who was named ICC Men's Player of the Month for August 2025?

Mohammed Siraj

- Who became the first Indian to win gold at Speed Skating World Championships?

Anandkumar Velkumar

- Which Indian batter reclaimed No.1 spot in ICC Women's ODI batting rankings?

Smriti Mandhana

- Which Indian spinner became World No.1 bowler?

Varun Chakaravarthy

- Which French footballer announced retirement?

Samuel Umtiti

- Which zone won the Duleep Trophy 2025 after 11 years?

Central Zone

- Which Indian wrestler won her second World Championship medal?

Antim Panghal

- Who became the first Indian to take 100 T20I wickets?

Arshdeep Singh

- Who won gold in the Men's 10m Air Pistol event for India?

Jonathan Gavin Antony

- How many medals did India win at the ISSF Junior World Cup 2025?

Five medals

- Which footballer announced retirement after a 20-year career?

Sergio Busquets

- How many medals did India secure at the Para Archery World Championships 2025?

Three medals

- Which city will host the 11th Asian Aquatics Championship 2025?

Ahmedabad

- Who became the first Indian skater to win a bronze at the World Championships 2025?

Anish Raj

- Who has been appointed head coach of Mumbai Indians?

Lisa Keightley (two-time World Cup winner)

- Who won the Ballon d'Or 2025?

Ousmane Dembele

- Who won gold in the World Speed Skating Championships?

Anandkumar

- Which Indian cricketer broke Virat Kohli's record for fastest ODI century?

Smriti Mandhana

- Who won the first-ever Chess Esports World Cup?

Magnus Carlsen.

- Which FIDE Champion & Grandmaster was felicitated by the Union Sports Minister?

Divya.

- Who won India's first medal at the Asian Surfing Championships?

Ramesh Budihal.

- Who won her first WTA 1000 title in tennis?

Victoria Mboko.

- Who won gold at the U19 Asian Boxing Championships in the women's category?

Nisha & Muskan.

- Who won gold in women's javelin throw for India?

Annu Rani.

- Which country won double gold at the Pan American Hockey Cup 2025?

Argentina.

- Who won the World Championship of Legends 2025?

South Africa Champions.

- Who won the men's triple jump title at Qosanov Memorial 2025?

Abdulla Aboobacker.

- Who won the Hungarian Grand Prix 2025?

Lando Norris.

- Who won the US Kids World Championship in golf?

Vedika Bhansali.

- Who won gold in long jump at Qosanov Memorial 2025?

Murali Sreeshankar.

- Which Indian pair shone at the WTT Star Contender event?

Manush-Diya.

- Who won silver at U17 Wrestling Worlds while Sitender reached the final?

Lacky

- Who won the Armed Forces Inter Services Squash Championship?

Navy

- Who won India's first medal in World Games 2025?

Rishabh Yadav

- Who won Gold in Women's Asian U22 Boxing Championships 2025?

Ritika

- After 20 years, which team qualified for AFC Asian Cup 2026?

India U20 Women

- Who won Silver in Women's 52 kg Wushu at World Games 2025?

Namrata Batra

- Who defeated China's Lei Tingjie in Women's Speed Chess Championship 2025?

Divya

- Who overtook Virat Kohli to become fifth-highest run-getter in T20 cricket?

David Warner

- Who clinched the team titles at Sub Junior Boxing Nationals 2025?

Haryana Boxers

- Who bettered his own national record in men's 3000m race?

Gulveer Singh

- Who won Bronze in Skating at World Games 2025?

Anandkumar

- Who became India's 89th Grandmaster?

Rohith Krishna

- Who is the new head coach of the Indian football team?

Khalid Jamil

- Who won his second WTT Feeder Title recently?

Sathiyam

DEFENCE

- Which exercise was recently conducted by the Indian Army for air coordination?

'Vayu Samanvay' Exercise

- Who assumed command as the Commandant of the College of Defence Management (CDM)?

Major General G. Srinivas

- Which company delivered a GE Aerospace jet engine for Tejas light combat jets?

HAL (Hindustan Aeronautics Limited)

- Who took over as Air Officer-in-Charge Personnel in the Indian Air Force?

Air Marshal Hardeep Bains

- Which naval drill did India and Indonesia conduct in 2025?

Samudra Shakti – 2025

- Which two countries held their first bilateral naval exercise IN-RoKN?

India and South Korea

- Which Indian Navy ship joined the Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JAIMEX) 2025?

INS Sahyadri

- In which multinational air exercise did IAF participate in 2025?

Ocean Sky 2025

- Which countries held the first Joint Carrier Strike Exercise?

India and the UK

- What was the name of the India-Australia military exercise held in 2025?

AUSTRALIND 2025

- Which ship was commissioned by the Indian Coast Guard recently?

ICGS Akshar

- Where was the 'Drone Armour' exercise conducted?

Arunachal Pradesh

- What new platform did DRDO launch for military radio interoperability?

IRSA 1.0

- What indigenous anti-drone grid was launched by the Indian Army?

SAKSHAM

- Who took over as Air Officer-in-Charge Personnel of the Indian Air Force?

Air Marshal Hardeep Bains

- Indian forces joined which military exercise hosted by Russia in 2025?

ZAPAD 2025

- What was the name of the defence exercise launched by India in 2025?

SAJEX 2025

- Which naval ship was commissioned in Gurugram in 2025?

INS Aravali

- The Indian Navy inducted a Tata-made version of which country's 3D radar?

Spain

- Which company built the Navy's first Spanish Lanza-N 3D radar?

Tata

- Which Anti-Submarine Warfare ship was inducted by the Indian Navy?

'Androth'

- Which three countries launched the 'Freedom Edge' military exercise?

US, South Korea & Japan

- India held its first bilateral naval exercise with which country?

Greece

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS



OCTOBER 2025

Sherry Singh Wins India's First Mrs Universe Crown

- **Historic Win:** Sherry Singh made history on October 8, 2025, by becoming the first Indian to win the Mrs. Universe crown at the 48th edition of the pageant in Manila, Philippines.
- **Background:** Sherry is from New Delhi and has a background in business. She won the Mrs. India title through UMB Pageants before representing India at the Mrs. Universe pageant.
- **Advocacy:** Sherry is not just a beauty queen; she's also an advocate for women's empowerment and mental health awareness. She used her platform to speak about important issues and inspire others.
- **Controversies:** Before her win, Sherry faced some controversy surrounding her participation in Mrs. Bharat Universe 2024 and discussions about financial contributions related to her pageant entry. However, she didn't let that stop her from achieving her goal.

President Droupadi Murmu presented the National Geoscience Awards 2024

- **Awards Ceremony:** President Droupadi Murmu presented the National Geoscience Awards 2024 to 20 geoscientists on September 26, 2025, at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre in New Delhi.
- **Award Categories:** The awards were given in 12 categories,

including 9 individual awards and 3 team awards, recognizing outstanding contributions in mineral discovery, mining technology, mineral beneficiation, basic and applied geosciences.

- **Importance of REEs:** President Murmu emphasized the strategic significance of Rare Earth Elements (REEs) in modern technology, including smartphones, electric vehicles, defense systems, and clean energy solutions.

Peter Durber wins Lifetime Achievement Award

- **Award Details:** Peter Durber, associated with Tropifresh, a New Spitalfields exotics importer and wholesaler, received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the FPC Fresh Awards 2025.
- **Event Location:** The awards ceremony was held at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London on September 26, 2025, and was attended by 600 guests from the fresh produce and horticulture sectors.
- **Industry Recognition:** The award recognizes Durber's decades of dedication to the UK exotics market, highlighting his contributions to the industry's growth and development.

DRDO Wins BusinessLine Changemaker of the Year

- **Award Recognition:** The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was recognized for its outstanding contributions to national defense, showcasing its

pivotal role in safeguarding India's borders.

- **Operation Sindoor:** DRDO's award was specifically attributed to its success in Operation Sindoor, where it demonstrated its capabilities in neutralizing enemy assets and enhancing national security.
- **Changemaker Awards:** The award is part of the BusinessLine Changemaker Awards, which honor outstanding achievements in various fields, including education, social welfare, digital innovation, and national defense.

Novotel Vijayawada Varun Bags 'Best 5-Star Deluxe Hotel' Award

- **Award Recognition:** Novotel Vijayawada Varun received the "Best 5-Star Deluxe Hotel" award at the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Excellence Awards 2025, solidifying its position as a top luxury hospitality destination in the state.
- **Award Presentation:** The award was presented by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu to Manish Pathak, General Manager of Novotel Vijayawada Varun, who credited his team's dedication to service excellence and guest satisfaction.
- **Hotel Features:** As Vijayawada's first and only international 5-star deluxe property, Novotel Vijayawada Varun boasts 233 well-appointed rooms, multiple signature dining options, and flexible venues for weddings, conferences, and MICE events.
- **Amenities and Services:** The hotel offers a range of amenities.

Andhra Pradesh Tourism Department Wins Global Tourism Award 2025

- **Award Recognition:** The Andhra Pradesh Tourism Department won the Global Tourism Award 2025, a prestigious international recognition for its outstanding efforts in promoting tourism in the state.
- **Reason for Award:** The award was given for positioning Andhra Pradesh as one of the most promising tourism destinations in the country, showcasing its efforts in developing tourism infrastructure and promoting the state's unique attractions.
- **Award Presentation:** The award was presented in a ceremony held at Yashobhoomi in Delhi, where Nishita Goyal, Tourism Consultant, accepted the award on behalf of the Andhra Pradesh government.
- **Tourism Development:** The state's tourism department has been working tirelessly to develop Gandikota as a promising eco and adventure tourism destination.

Dr. R. Arthur James Receives Tamil Nadu Scientist Award 2022

- **Award Details:** Dr. R. Arthur James, Professor and Chair of the Department of Marine Science at Bharathidasan University, received the Tamil Nadu Scientist Award (TANSA) 2022 in Environmental Science.
- **Award Presentation:** The award was presented by Govi. Chezhaan, Minister for Higher Education, and M. P. Saminathan, Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity, at a ceremony held at the Resource Centre for Tribal

Development in Udhagamandalam.

- **Award Significance:** The TANSA Award is one of the highest recognitions for scientists in Tamil Nadu, acknowledging exceptional contributions to various scientific fields.
- **Cash Prize and Citation:** The award carries a cash prize of ₹50,000 and a citation, symbolizing the State government's encouragement of scientific excellence.

Prasanna Kumar Motupalli awarded Mahatma Award

- **Award Details:** Prasanna Kumar Motupalli, Chairman-cum-Managing Director of NLC India Limited (NLCIL), received the prestigious Mahatma Award in the Individual category for his outstanding leadership in business, sustainability, and social impact.
- **Award Ceremony:** The award ceremony took place at the India International Centre in New Delhi on October 1, 2025, recognizing Motupalli's significant contributions to NLCIL's sustainable and inclusive growth.
- **Leadership Recognition:** The Mahatma Award acknowledges Motupalli's exceptional leadership skills, highlighting his ability to drive business success while prioritizing sustainability and social responsibility.

Prof. Banwari Lal Gaur conferred with National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2025

- **Contribution to Ayurvedic Education:** Prof. Banwari Lal Gaur has spent over six decades contributing to Ayurvedic education and Sanskrit

scholarship, shaping the academic future of Ayurveda.

- **Prolific Writer and Researcher:** He has authored 31 books and over 300 academic works, including 319 publications in Sanskrit, demonstrating his significant impact on Ayurvedic literature.
- **Mentorship:** Prof. Gaur has mentored 24 PhD scholars and 48 postgraduates, highlighting his role in nurturing future generations of Ayurvedic scholars.

India Conferred with ISSA Award for 'Outstanding Achievement in Social Security 2025'



- **Award Recognition:** India has been recognized for its exceptional progress in social protection systems globally, receiving the prestigious International Social Security Association (ISSA) Award 2025.
- **Social Security Coverage Expansion:** The award acknowledges India's historic expansion in social security coverage from 19% in 2015 to 64.3% in 2025, covering over 940 million citizens, as recognized by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).
- **Digital Infrastructure:** India's extensive digital public infrastructure, including the e-Shram portal, has played a crucial role in efficient last-mile delivery of social security.

SEPTEMBER 2025

C&MD, EIL conferred with SCOPE Eminence Award

- Award Conferred: The Chairman & Managing Director (C&MD) of Engineers India Limited (EIL) was honored with the SCOPE Eminence Award.
- Awarding Body: The award was presented by Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE), which recognizes excellence among Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs).
- Category of Recognition: The award acknowledges leadership, corporate governance, innovation, and outstanding contributions to the public sector.
- About EIL: Engineers India Limited is a Navratna PSU under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, specializing in engineering consultancy and EPC services.

Former AP IAS Officer Gets Oxford's Lifetime Award

- Award Recognition: Lakshmikantham received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the University of Oxford (Keble College, O'Reilly Theatre), UK, for his commendable contribution to changing the educational ecosystem. The award was presented at the 14th World Leaders Summit 2025.
- Background: Lakshmikantham is a retired collector and former Joint Executive Officer (JEO) of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD). He has served as the Vice Chair of International Trade and Business Alliances, Europe India Centre for Business and Industry in India.

NTPC Kanti Wins Prestigious Global Water Tech Award 2025

- NTPC's Achievements: NTPC Limited has received several awards and recognitions for its efforts in sustainability and water resource management, such as the Forward Faster Sustainability Award 2025 in the Water Resilience category.
- Water Conservation Efforts: NTPC has been recognized for its water conservation efforts, including NTPC Barauni being ranked #1 in water resource conservation in the national awards.
- Global Recognition: NTPC Limited has gained international recognition, including being ranked 433 in Forbes' Global 2000 list in 2023, showcasing its prominence in the energy sector.

Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja awarded The Prestigious Nari Shakti Puraskar

- Award Details: Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja was awarded the Nari Shakti Puraskar in 2018 by President Ram Nath Kovind for her remarkable achievements in open-water swimming.
- Achievements: She's a renowned open-water swimmer who has completed numerous marathon swims globally, including crossing rivers, lakes, and oceans in countries like the US, UK, Samoa, and South Africa.
- Record-Breaking Feats: Dr. Pahuja is the first Indian to swim across Key West in Florida and complete the Lake Travis Solo in Texas. She's also the first Indian to finish the Tex Robertson Highland Lakes Challenge.

Anand V. Patil to Receive Prof. V.K. Gokak Award

- Award Details: Anand V. Patil will receive the Prof. V.K. Gokak Award on September 7, 2025, in Bengaluru for his significant contributions to Indian literature, particularly children's literature.
- Award Namesake: The award is named after Prof. Vinayaka Krishna Gokak, a renowned literary figure and Jnanpith Award winner who made monumental contributions to Kannada literature.
- Patil's Achievements: Anand V. Patil is a distinguished name in Indian literature, especially in children's literature, and has been honored with the Kendra Sahitya Akademi's Bal Sahitya Award for his impactful work.

Anuparna Roy wins Best Director Award at Venice Film Fest

- Historic Win: Anuparna Roy made history by winning the Orizzonti Award for Best Director at the 82nd Venice Film Festival, a prestigious honor in the film industry.
- Debut Feature Film: The award was given for her feature debut film "Songs of Forgotten Trees", showcasing her talent and potential as a filmmaker.
- Presentation: The film was presented by renowned Indian filmmaker Anurag Kashyap, highlighting the recognition she received from within the industry.
- Achievement for Indian Cinema: Roy's win marks a significant achievement for Indian cinema on the global stage, bringing attention to emerging talent in the country's film industry.

Leela Upadhyay to receive Kavya Prabha National Award

- **Recognition of a Multifaceted Career:** Leela Upadhyay, a correspondent of Dainik Janambhumi, is being recognized for his long and impactful career as a poet, journalist, and lawyer. The award highlights his literary depth, which is reflected in his poems and articles that capture the essence of rural life, cultural roots, and human values in contemporary Assamese literature.
- **Date and Location of Conferment:** The Kavya Prabha National Award will be officially conferred upon Upadhyay during the International Poetry Conference, which is scheduled to be held on November 1, 2025, at Barekuri in the Tinsukia district of Assam.
- **A Voice for the Community:** Upadhyay's work is celebrated for its social sensitivity and its strong connection to the communities he represents. He has been a notable voice in Assamese literature, using his writing as a "mirror of people's lives," and has also earned recognition for his contributions to grassroots journalism.

Camel International Award to Younus Ahamed

- **Award Recognition:** Younus Ahamed has been recognized for his outstanding contributions to global business leadership with the Camel International Award 2025.
- **Current Role:** Ahamed serves as the Executive Director of Dotspace Coworking in the Middle East, showcasing his expertise in leadership and business management.

- **Academic Affiliation:** Ahamed is a PhD student in Computer Science at West Virginia University, focusing on digital health using machine learning and deep learning under Dr. Donald Adjero's guidance.

Union Minister Conferred Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan Awards To Winners

- **Award Ceremony:** The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change organized the Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan Awards & Wetland Cities Recognition Ceremony 2025, where Union Minister Bhupender Yadav conferred awards to the best-performing cities under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).
- **Winners:** Eleven cities were awarded for their outstanding commitment to improving air quality, with winners categorized based on population size. Indore, Jabalpur, Agra, and Surat were among the top performers.
- **National Clean Air Programme:** The NCAP aims to improve air quality in 130 cities across India, with a target to achieve a 40% reduction in PM10 levels by 2025-26.

PRIO-GRID wins data innovation award

- **Prestigious Recognition:** PRIO-GRID received the J. David Singer Data Innovation Award, which is a highly esteemed honor in the field of political science and conflict research. The award recognizes "the best data contribution to the study of any and all forms of political conflict, either within or between nation-states."
- **What PRIO-GRID Is:** PRIO-GRID is a widely used and open-access data framework. It is a spatial grid structure that divides

the entire terrestrial surface of the world into small, consistent grid cells. Each cell contains specific information on a variety of variables, including armed conflicts, socio-economic conditions, ethnic groups, physical attributes, and climatic conditions.

- **Open-Source and Accessibility:** A crucial aspect of PRIO-GRID is that it is open source and freely available to the public. Since its release in 2012, it has been downloaded over 20,000 times, indicating its significant impact on the academic and research communities.

Manmohan Singh Posthumously Honoured with PV Narasimha Rao Award for Economics

- **Posthumous Recognition:** The award was conferred upon the late former Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, after his passing. This honor recognizes his monumental contributions to India's economic landscape and nation-building.
- **Received by His Wife:** At a ceremony held in New Delhi, the award was formally received on his behalf by his wife, Gursharan Kaur. The event was a solemn occasion that brought together a number of academics, policymakers, and supporters of both leaders.
- **Presented by Montek Singh Ahluwalia:** The award was presented by Montek Singh Ahluwalia, a prominent economist and former Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission. Ahluwalia's involvement is particularly significant as he worked closely with Dr. Singh during the period of India's economic liberalization in the early 1990s.

AUGUST 2025

Guwahati Airport Wins International Architectural Award 2025

- Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport's new Terminal 2 in Guwahati has been honored with the International Architectural Award 2025 in the Transport category.
- The prestigious award was presented by The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies.
- The airport's design is inspired by the resilience of bamboo and the elegance of the foxtail orchid, reflecting Assam's rich biodiversity and cultural heritage.

Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Navy Receives Prestigious Military Award

- Award Name: The award is called the Pingat Jasa Gemilang (Tentera) or Meritorious Service Medal (Military), which is Singapore's prestigious military honor.
- Recognition: The award recognizes the Royal Thai Navy's significant contributions to enhancing bilateral defense ties with the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).
- Key Contributions: The Commander-in-Chief's leadership has fostered frequent and meaningful interactions between the two navies, including Navy-to-Navy Staff Talks, professional exchanges, and mutual port calls.

Delhi University awarded highest NAAC A++ grade

in 2nd cycle of assessment

- Accreditation Validity: The accreditation is valid for five years, until 2029.
- Improvement from Previous Cycle: This is an improvement from the previous cycle in 2018, where DU secured an A+ grade with a CGPA of 3.28.
- Commitment to Excellence: DU remains committed to maintaining the highest standards in education, research, and community engagement, reaffirming its position among India's leading institutions of higher learning.

Bibi Fatima Women's SHG Wins UNDP Equator Prize 2025

- Award Winner: Bibi Fatima Women's Self-Help Group from Teertha village in Karnataka's Dharwad district won the prestigious Equator Initiative Award 2025, the only Indian winner among ten global recipients.
- Nature-Based Solutions: The award recognizes community-led nature-based solutions for sustainable development and climate resilience, with this year's theme focusing on women and youth leadership for nature-based climate action.
- Sustainable Practices: The SHG runs a solar-powered millet processing unit producing value-added products, enhancing food security, biodiversity conservation, and women's economic empowerment.

Educate Girls Wins 2025 Ramon Magsaysay Award

- First Indian Organization to Win: Educate Girls has become the first Indian organization to

receive the Ramon Magsaysay Award, considered Asia's equivalent of the Nobel Prize.

- Commitment to Girls' Education: The award recognizes Educate Girls' commitment to addressing cultural stereotyping through education, liberating girls from illiteracy, and empowering them with skills and courage to achieve their potential.
- Impactful Work: Founded in 2007 by Safeena Husain, Educate Girls has reached over 30,000 villages across India's underserved regions, benefiting more than two million girls with a retention rate exceeding 90%.

Col Jamwal awarded with Governor's Medallion for Excellence



- Award Details: Col. R S Jamwal, Director of the National Institute of Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (NIMAS), received the Governor's Medallion for Excellence from Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lt Gen K T Parnaik (Retd) for leading two significant expeditions.
- NIMAS' Role: The Governor urged NIMAS to organize more adventure activities involving local youth, highlighting the institute's potential to nurture the state's untapped talent and produce future champions.



NEW APPOINTMENTS

OCTOBER 2025

Sanae Takaichi set to become Japan's First Female Prime Minister

- **Historic Leadership Role:** Sanae Takaichi is poised to become Japan's first female Prime Minister, marking a significant milestone in the country's politics. She won the Liberal Democratic Party leadership election, setting her up for confirmation by parliament.
- **Conservative Stance:** Takaichi is known for her hardline views on defense, national identity, and economic security. She's a staunch critic of China's expanding influence in the Asia-Pacific region and has pledged to strengthen Japan's military posture.
- **Economic Policies:** Takaichi supports expansive fiscal spending and aggressive monetary easing to stimulate Japan's sluggish economy, echoing her mentor Shinzo Abe's "Abenomics" blueprint. She's also raised concerns about foreign investors' economic influence rules.

H Rajesh Prasad appointed as Chandigarh's Chief Secretary

- **Appointment:** H Rajesh Prasad, a 1995-batch IAS officer from the AGMUT cadre, has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Chandigarh, replacing Mandip Singh Brar.
- **Background:** Prasad has a strong track record in power sector

governance and has held various high-impact administrative positions across states and Union Territories.

- **Previous Role:** Before taking over as Chief Secretary, Prasad served as Principal Secretary, Power Development Department (PDD), Jammu & Kashmir, where he implemented significant reforms in the power sector.
- **Key Strengths:** He is known for his reform-driven leadership style, with expertise in infrastructure development, urban governance, and cross-departmental coordination, which is expected to benefit Chandigarh's administration.

Vijay Prakash appointed as Additional Director General in CISF

- **Appointment:** Vijay Prakash, a 1996-batch IPS officer from Uttar Pradesh, has been appointed as Additional Director General in the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).
- **Tenure:** His appointment is for a period up to December 14, 2028, with a combined tenure of 7 years.
- **Previous Role:** Before this appointment, Prakash served as Inspector General in CISF and ADG, Fire Service, HQRS, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

Shailesh Chandra Appointed MD & CEO of Tata Motors

- **Appointment Details:** Shailesh Chandra has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief

Executive Officer of Tata Motors, effective October 1, 2025, for a three-year term until September 30, 2028.

- **Role and Responsibilities:** He will lead the entity that will retain the Passenger Vehicle (PV), Electric Vehicle (EV), and Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) businesses.

Sudhanshu Vats appointed as the Chairman of Advertising Standards Council of India

- **Appointment:** Sudhanshu Vats, Managing Director of Pidilite Industries Ltd, has been appointed as the new Chairman of ASCI, effective at the 39th annual general meeting, as the council marks its 40th anniversary.
- **Leadership Role:** Vats emphasized the importance of self-regulation in advertising, ensuring ads are executed with integrity, respect for the community, and consideration for consumers, particularly with evolving technologies.
- **Expansion Plans:** ASCI plans to expand its presence in Bengaluru and New Delhi, strengthening its reach across key markets and enhancing its role in promoting responsible advertising practices.

Reema Jain appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Department of Defence

- **Appointment Details:** Reema Jain, a 2013-batch Indian Economic Service (IES) officer, has been appointed as Deputy

Secretary in the Department of Defence, Ministry of Defence, for a tenure of four years.

- Previous Role: Before her current appointment, Reema Jain served as Joint Director in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- Central Staffing Scheme: Jain's appointment is part of the Central Staffing Scheme, which aims to strengthen administrative leadership.

Praveer Ranjan Takes Charge as CISF DG

- Appointment: Praveer Ranjan, a 1993-batch IPS officer, has been appointed as the new DG of CISF, taking over from R S Bhatti in a formal ceremony.
- Background: Ranjan brings 32 years of distinguished service, including leadership roles in airport security, showcasing his expertise in handling critical infrastructure protection.
- Modernization Commitment: As the 32nd DG of CISF, Ranjan has emphasized his commitment to modernizing CISF operations to prepare the force for future challenges.

Gaurav Banerjee to Lead Sony Pictures India

- Leadership Role: Gaurav Banerjee serves as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI), overseeing the company's strategic direction and operational excellence.
- Experience: He brings over two decades of experience in the media and entertainment industry, with a proven track record of translating content strategies into sustained business growth.

- Previous Roles: Before joining SPNI, Banerjee held key positions at Disney+ Hotstar and Star India, where he played a crucial role in developing content and driving subscriber growth.

M Arvind appointed as Director in Department of Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade

- Appointment: M Arvind has been appointed as Director in DPIIT, a key department under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry responsible for promoting industrial development and internal trade.
- Background: M Arvind is a 2011 batch IAS officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre, bringing significant administrative experience to his new role.
- Department's Role: DPIIT plays a crucial role in formulating and implementing industrial policies and strategies to drive India's economic growth and development.

Neeraj Surendran appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship

- Appointment Details: Neeraj Surendran, a 2015 batch Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS) officer, has been appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship for a period of four years.
- Appointment Committee Approval: The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet has approved his appointment, and he will be serving on the new position under the Central Staffing Scheme.

- Effective Date: His appointment as Deputy Secretary became effective after the approval, with October 1, 2025, being the date mentioned in recent updates.
- Responsibilities: As Deputy Secretary, Neeraj Surendran will play a key role in shaping policies and initiatives related to skill development and entrepreneurship in India.

Andrew Parsons re-elected IPC President for 3rd & final term



- Re-election: Andrew Parsons was re-elected as the President of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) for a third and final four-year term, securing 109 out of 177 valid votes at the 2025 IPC General Assembly in Seoul, South Korea.
- Vote Margin: Parsons defeated his opponent, Dong Hyun Bae of South Korea, who received 68 votes, showcasing a clear mandate from the IPC membership.
- New Leadership Team: Alongside Parsons' re-election, Leila Marques Mota was elected as the First Vice-President, and John Petersson became the Second Vice-President, succeeding Duane Kale of New Zealand who completed his maximum term.

SEPTEMBER 2025

Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh Gets Additional Charge as CMD of NHPC

- **New Role:** Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh has been given the additional charge of Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of NHPC Limited, India's leading hydropower company.
- **Reason for Appointment:** He assumes the role following the retirement/vacancy of the previous CMD, ensuring continuity in leadership.
- **Experience:** Singh has vast experience in hydropower project planning, execution, and management, contributing to NHPC's growth.
- **Significance:** His appointment is crucial for driving clean energy initiatives, hydropower expansion, and renewable energy diversification under India's green energy mission.

OpenAI names ex-Coursera chief Raghav Gupta as Education Head for India and APAC

- **New Appointment:** Raghav Gupta, former Managing Director of Coursera India & APAC, has been appointed as Education Head for India and Asia-Pacific at OpenAI.
- **Role & Responsibility:** He will lead OpenAI's education initiatives in the region, focusing on integrating AI tools into learning, teaching, and skill development.
- **Professional Background:** Gupta has over two decades of experience in edtech, consulting, and business leadership, with stints at Coursera, Aon Hewitt, and Technopak.

- **Strategic Importance:** His appointment comes at a time when AI in education is becoming a key driver for digital learning and workforce upskilling in India & APAC.
- **Significance:** This move strengthens OpenAI's regional presence and aligns with its goal of making AI-powered learning more accessible to students, educators, and institutions.

T.C.A. Kalyani appointed as New CGA of India

- **Appointment:** T.C.A. Kalyani, a 1991-batch officer of the Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS), has assumed charge as the 29th Controller General of Accounts under the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, effective September 1, 2025.
- **Experience:** Kalyani brings over 34 years of experience in public financial management, accounting, and governance, having served in various key ministries, including Defence, Telecom, Fertilizers, Finance, and Home Affairs.
- **Academic Background:** She is a gold medalist in Political Science from Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi, and holds an M.A. in International Politics and M.Phil. in West European Studies from Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Arun Kumar, appointed as Judge of the Allahabad High Court

- **Appointment Notification:** The President of India has appointed Advocate Arun Kumar as a Judge of the Allahabad High Court, effective from the date he assumes charge of his office.
- **Collegium Recommendation:** The Supreme Court Collegium

recommended Kumar's appointment on May 9, 2023, after initially deferring the decision due to an Intelligence Bureau report. The Collegium later reiterated its belief that Kumar was "eminently fit and suitable" for the position.

- **Experience and Credentials:** Arun Kumar, about 51 years old, has over 25 years of experience practicing at the Bar, handling cases in constitutional, civil, and revenue jurisdictions before the High Court.

Ariser onboards Ravindra Jadeja as brand ambassador

- **Partnership Announcement:** Ariser, a smart-casual clothing label, announced Ravindra Jadeja as its brand ambassador, leveraging his popularity and style to promote the brand.
- **Brand Fit:** Jadeja's all-round brilliance on the field resonates with Ariser's promise of style that fits right, feels right, and moves with you, making him a perfect fit for the brand.
- **Quality and Comfort:** Ravindra Jadeja praised Ariser for its focus on quality, comfort, and craftsmanship, stating that the brand delivers on all fronts without a hefty price tag.
- **Marketing Campaign:** A 360-degree campaign across TV, digital, outdoor, and retail touchpoints will feature Jadeja and Ariser's latest collection, showcasing smart-casual menswear.

Kavinder Singh Negi inducted as Superintendent of Police in CBI

- **Appointment Details:** Kavinder Singh Negi, a 2015-batch IRS (Income Tax) officer, has been

inducted as Superintendent of Police in the CBI for a period of four years.

- **Current Role:** Before joining CBI, Negi was serving as Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax in Delhi Headquarters, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- **Induction Alongside Others:** He was inducted alongside another officer, Vedant Kanwar (IRS IT: 2016), who was appointed as Superintendent of Police in CBI for a period of three years.

Rajit Punhani appointed as CEO of FSSAI

- **Appointment Details:** Rajit Punhani, a 1991-batch IAS officer of the Bihar cadre, has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for a specific term, succeeding Ganji Kamala V. Rao.
- **Background:** Punhani brings over three decades of administrative experience across various sectors, including public policy, finance, social security, taxation, health, energy, and governance.
- **Previous Role:** Before joining FSSAI, Punhani served as Secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, where he oversaw initiatives to align skilling with industry demands and global competitiveness.

Bhupender Gupta, a power sector veteran, appointed as Chairman & MD of NHPC

- **Appointment Approval:** The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved Bhupender Gupta's appointment as the new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of

NHPC Limited, a Schedule 'A' Navratna CPSE.

- **Background and Experience:** Gupta is a power sector veteran with over 33 years of experience. He currently serves as Director (Technical) at THDC India Limited and has also been holding the additional charge of CMD at SJVN Limited.
- **Expected Contribution:** With his extensive experience and technical acumen, Gupta is expected to bring continuity and strategic direction to NHPC's ambitious growth plans, focusing on expanding its renewable energy portfolio.

IIFL Home Finance appoints Ajay Sachdewa as Group CBO

- **Appointment Details:** IIFL Home Finance has appointed Ajay Sachdewa as Group Chief Business Officer, effective recently, as part of a strategic move to strengthen its business leadership.
- **Experience:** Sachdewa brings over two decades of experience in financial services and housing finance, having held senior roles at Axis Bank, HDFC Limited, and HDFC Sales.
- **Responsibilities:** As Group CBO, Sachdewa will focus on driving business strategy, expanding distribution networks, enhancing sales productivity, and strengthening customer relationships.
- **Leadership Role:** His appointment highlights IIFL Home Finance's commitment to building a future-ready organization with a strong leadership team.

Arvind Kumar Rawat appointed as Director of

Sugarcane & Vegetable Oil

- **Appointment Details:** Arvind Kumar Rawat, a 2008 batch IRSS officer, has been appointed as Director in the Directorate of Sugarcane and Vegetable Oil under the Department of Food & Public Distribution.
- **Tenure:** The appointment is for a period of five years from the date of assumption of charge or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- **Approval:** The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved Rawat's appointment based on the recommendation of the Civil Services Board.

Piyush Goyal Assumes Charge as Mines Secretary

- **Appointment Details:** Piyush Goyal, a 1994-batch IAS officer of the Nagaland cadre, has officially taken charge as the Secretary of the Ministry of Mines on September 4, 2025, replacing V.L. Kantha Rao.
- **Previous Role:** Before this appointment, Goyal served as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) under the Ministry of Home Affairs, where he played a key role in strengthening data and intelligence integration for national security.
- **Key Responsibilities:** As Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Goyal will lead efforts to expand exploration, modernize mining operations, and attract investments while ensuring sustainability and community welfare.

AUGUST 2025

Sindhu B Rupesh appointed as Director in the Department of Space

- Central Staffing Scheme: Her appointment as an IAS officer (2011 batch, Karnataka cadre) under the Central Staffing Scheme highlights the government's approach to bringing experienced administrative talent.
- Reinforcement of Space Sector: The Department of Space (DoS) is crucial for India's space program, primarily executed through ISRO. Her administrative background suggests a focus on strengthening organizational efficiency and coordination within this vital strategic sector.
- Governance & Administration in Key Sector: Her prior roles as Deputy Commissioner, Director of Information and Public Relations, and Commissioner in BBMP demonstrate a strong background in public administration, citizen-centric governance, and potentially digital transformation.

Khalid Jamil appointed as Head Coach of Indian Senior Men's Football Team

- Return of a Homegrown Coach after a Decade: Khalid Jamil's appointment marks a significant shift in the All India Football Federation (AIFF)'s policy, as he is the first Indian to be appointed as the full-time head coach of the senior men's national team in over 13 years (since Savio Medeira in 2011-12). This signals a renewed faith in domestic coaching talent.
- Focus on "Indian Football Ecosystem": The AIFF's decision

to appoint an Indian coach like Jamil, who has extensive experience across various tiers of Indian club football (I-League, ISL), suggests an intent to leverage a deeper understanding of Indian players, their strengths, weaknesses, and the overall domestic footballing environment.

- Proven Domestic Track Record: Jamil is widely recognized for his remarkable achievements in Indian club football, most notably leading Aizawl FC to a historic I-League title in 2017 against significant odds, and guiding Jamshedpur FC to the ISL playoffs and Super Cup semifinals.

Dr. Mayank Sharma Assumes Office as Financial Advisor (Defence Services)

- Key Appointment in Defence Finance: Dr. Mayank Sharma's assumption of charge as Financial Advisor (Defence Services) is a crucial appointment within the Ministry of Defence. This role is central to managing the substantial defence budget, ensuring financial prudence, and advising on all financial matters related to the armed forces and defence procurement.
- Senior Bureaucratic Role (IDAS): As an officer of the Indian Defence Accounts Service (IDAS), his appointment highlights the specialized expertise required for defence finance.

Ajay Kumar Jaiswal appointed as CVO, Northern Coalfields Ltd.

- Strengthening Vigilance in PSUs: The appointment of a CVO like Ajay Kumar Jaiswal

(an IRSME officer of the 2008 batch) in a major Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) like Northern Coalfields Ltd (NCL) underscores the government's continuous emphasis on improving vigilance and anti-corruption mechanisms within public enterprises.

- Tenure and Independence: CVOs are typically appointed for a fixed tenure (often three years, extendable by two), and they function as an independent authority directly reporting to the Chief Executive of the undertaking.

Nitish Suri appointed as Director in the Department of Higher Education

- Nitish Suri, a 2011-batch Indian Trade Service (ITradeS) officer, has been appointed as Director in the Department of Higher Education.
- This appointment falls under the Central Staffing Scheme and is for a period of five years.
- Prior to this role, Suri was serving as the Joint Director General of Foreign Trade (Joint DGFT).

Tanvi Sundriyal appointed as Director in Ministry of Civil Aviation

- Tanvi Sundriyal, an IAS officer of the 2010 batch from the Madhya Pradesh cadre, has been appointed as Director in the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- This appointment is under the Central Staffing Scheme and will be for a period of five years.
- She will assume charge of her new role from the date she takes over, or until further notice.



OCTOBER 2025

England All-Rounder Chris Woakes Retires from International Cricket

- **Immediate Retirement:** Chris Woakes, 36, has announced his immediate retirement from international cricket, citing the time is right for him to step back.
- **Career Highlights:** Woakes has represented England in 217 games since his debut in 2011/2013, winning two World Cups - the 2019 ICC Men's World Cup and the 2022 ICC Men's T20 World Cup.
- **Statistical Achievements:** Woakes took 192 wickets in 62 Test matches at an average of 29.61, with five five-wicket hauls. He also scored a Test century against India at Lord's in 2018.

Rashmika Sahgal and Kapil Win Gold at ISSF Junior World Cup

- **Gold Medal Win:** Rashmika Sahgal and Kapil won the gold medal in the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event, defeating fellow Indians Vanshika Chaudhary and Jonathan Antony 16-10 in the final.
- **Top-Seeded Qualification:** The duo topped the qualification round with a combined score of 582, setting them up for success in the final.
- **Dominant Performance:** Rashmika and Kapil dominated the final, maintaining their lead from the qualification round to

secure India's third gold medal in the tournament.

- **Recent Form:** The pair had recently won gold in the men's and women's 10m air pistol junior events at the Asian Championships in Kazakhstan, showcasing their strong form.
- **Medal Standings:** This win helped India take the lead in the overall medal standings with 11 medals, including three gold, five silver, and three bronze.

India Win 7th SAFF U-17 Football Title

- **Seventh Title Win:** India won their seventh SAFF U-17 Championship title by defeating Bangladesh 4-1 in penalties after the match ended 2-2 after extra time.
- **Thrilling Match:** The final was a thrilling encounter, with India dominating the early stages and taking a 2-1 lead at halftime through goals from Dallalmuon Gangte (4') and Azlaan Shah KH (38').
- **Penalty Shootout Heroics:** India goalkeeper Manashjyoti Baruah played a crucial role in the penalty shootout, saving a shot from Md Azam Khan and helping India win 4-1.

India's Anushka Thokur Wins Gold in 50-meter rifle 3-positions event

- **Gold Medal Win:** Anushka Thokur clinched gold in the women's 50-meter rifle 3-positions event at the ISSF Junior World Cup, showcasing her exceptional shooting skills.

- **Dominant Performance:** This victory marks Thokur's second gold in the competition, following her earlier win in the 50-meter rifle prone event, demonstrating her consistency and talent.
- **Indian Sweep:** Thokur led a podium sweep for India in the women's 50m rifle events, highlighting the country's strong presence in the sport.

India's Sheetal Devi clinched her first World Para Archery gold

- **Historic Victory:** Sheetal Devi, 18, became the compound women's world champion at the Gwangju 2025 World Archery Para Championships, defeating defending champion Oznur Cure Girdi of Türkiye 146-143.
- **Breakthrough Performance:** Devi's gold medal marks a significant milestone in her career, following her silver medal at the 2023 Pilsen World Championships and bronze at the 2024 Paris Paralympics.
- **Multiple Medals:** In addition to her individual gold, Sheetal won silver in the women's compound team event with Sarita and bronze in the mixed team event with Toman Kumar.

Rinku Hooda Wins Gold, Sundar Singh Gurjar Bags Silver in Men's Javelin F46

- **Record-Breaking Throw:** Rinku Hooda won the gold medal with a championship-record throw of 66.37 meters, breaking a 10-year-old record in the men's F46

javelin throw event at the World Para Athletics Championships 2025.

- India's Dominance: Sundar Singh Gurjar, the reigning world record holder, secured silver with a best throw of 64.76 meters, showcasing India's dominance in the event with a 1-2 finish.

Yogesh Khatuniya Wins Silver in Men's Discus Throw F56 at World Para Athletics Championship

- Event and Medal: Yogesh Khatuniya secured a silver medal in the Men's F56 discus throw event with a best throw of 42.49 meters.
- Competition Details: He achieved this feat at the World Para Athletics Championships 2025 held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi, India.
- Consecutive Silver Medals: This silver medal marks Khatuniya's third consecutive silver in the World Championships, following his podium finishes in 2023 and 2024.

Grandmaster P Iniyan Wins 62nd National Chess Championship

- Unbeaten Performance: Grandmaster P Iniyan from Tamil Nadu won the championship without losing a single game in 11 rounds, showcasing his exceptional skill and consistency.
- Nine Points Secured: Iniyan accumulated nine points from seven wins and four draws, demonstrating his dominance in the tournament.
- Notable Victories: He secured crucial wins over prominent players like IM Harsh Suresh, GM Deepan Chakkravarthy, and

GM Sasikiran Krishnan, who finished third in the tournament.

- Superior Tie-Break Results: Iniyan's victory was sealed by superior tie-break results, highlighting his ability to perform under pressure.

Mirabai Chanu Wins Silver in Women's 48kg Category at World Championships

- Recent Performance: Mirabai Chanu recently won a gold medal in the women's 48kg category at the 2025 Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in Ahmedabad, lifting a total of 193kg.
- Weight Class Adjustment: Chanu dropped down to the 48kg weight class to adjust to new weight categories implemented for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, after competing in the 49kg category previously.
- Upcoming Events: She is currently preparing for the 2025 World Weightlifting Championships, a major event in the weightlifting calendar.

Carlos Alcaraz defeated Fritz to win the Japan Open title

- Match Result: Carlos Alcaraz defeated Taylor Fritz in straight sets, 6-4, 6-4, to claim his 24th career title and eighth title of the season.
- Tournament Performance: Alcaraz had a remarkable run in Tokyo, dropping only one set throughout the tournament. He overcame a scary ankle injury in his first-round win and still managed to dominate the competition.
- Head-to-Head Record: This win improves Alcaraz's head-to-head record against Fritz to 4-1.

Alcaraz avenged his loss to Fritz at the Laver Cup earlier this month.

- Future Plans: Alcaraz announced that he won't compete in the Shanghai Masters to recover for the rest of the season, aiming to maintain his top ranking.
- Record-Breaking Rating: Abhishek Sharma has achieved the highest-ever rating in the ICC Men's T20I Batting Rankings, scoring 931 points, surpassing Dawid Malan's record of 919 points set in 2020.
- Current Ranking: Although his rating slightly dipped to 926 after a rare failure, he still leads the rankings, ahead of England's Phil Salt by 82 points.
- Indian Dominance: Sharma's achievement adds to India's strong presence in the rankings, with Suryakumar Yadav and Virat Kohli also featuring among the top batters, and Varun Chakravathy topping the bowling charts.

India Clinches One-Two in Men's Javelin F44 at World Para Athletics

- Record-Breaking Rating: Abhishek Sharma has achieved the highest-ever rating in the ICC Men's T20I Batting Rankings, scoring 931 points, surpassing Dawid Malan's record of 919 points set in 2020.
- Current Ranking: Although his rating slightly dipped to 926 after a rare failure, he still leads the rankings, ahead of England's Phil Salt by 82 points.
- Asia Cup Performance: Sharma's record-breaking performance was fueled by his impressive run at the Asia Cup, where he scored 314 runs at an average of 44.85, earning him the Player of the Tournament title.

SEPTEMBER 2025

India Clinches SAFF U-17 Women's Championship Title 2025

- **Championship Victory:** India won the 2025 SAFF U-17 Women's Championship title, showcasing dominance in South Asian women's football.
- **Tournament Host:** The championship was held in Bangladesh, featuring teams from South Asian nations.
- **Final Match:** India defeated Bangladesh in the final to secure the trophy (can confirm exact scoreline if you want).
- **Consistent Success:** This victory highlights India's growing strength in youth women's football, following recent successes at junior levels.

Oscar Piastri Wins Dramatic 2025 Dutch Grand Prix

- **Dramatic Victory:** Oscar Piastri secured a thrilling win at the Dutch Grand Prix, extending his championship lead despite a dramatic late-race retirement of his teammate Lando Norris due to mechanical failure.
- **Race Dynamics:** Piastri started strong from pole position and built a significant lead, but a series of safety car deployments altered the race dynamics. Norris was closing in on Piastri until his car failure.
- **Championship Lead:** Piastri's win increased his championship lead to 34 points, putting him in a strong position to claim the title. His consistency and resilience have been key factors in his success.

Starc Retires from T20Is to Focus on Tests & ODIs

- **Retirement Announcement:** Australian fast bowler Mitchell Starc has announced his immediate retirement from T20 International cricket, effective immediately, to focus on Test matches and One-Day Internationals.
- **Reason for Retirement:** Starc cited the physical demands of international cricket and his desire to prioritize Test cricket, which has always been his top priority.
- **Career Highlights:** Starc played 65 T20I matches, taking 79 wickets, and was part of the 2021 T20 World Cup-winning squad. He's Australia's second-highest T20I wicket-taker, behind spinner Adam Zampa.

GM Pranav Venkatesh Wins Fujairah Global Superstars 2025

- **Convincing Victory:** Pranav Venkatesh won the Fujairah Global Superstars 2025 chess tournament, scoring 7 points out of 9 and finishing a full point ahead of his nearest rivals.
- **Tournament Performance:** He achieved a remarkable performance rating of 2843, showcasing his exceptional skill and dominance in the tournament.
- **Key Wins:** Pranav defeated notable players like Nihal Sarin, Alan Pichot, and Amin Tabatabaei, demonstrating his ability to handle pressure and outmaneuver strong opponents.

Mitchell Starc officially retired from international T20 cricket

- **Retirement Announcement:** Mitchell Starc has officially announced his retirement from T20 International cricket to focus on his Test and ODI career,

prioritizing Australia's upcoming Test series against India and the 2027 ODI World Cup.

- **T20 Career Highlights:** Starc featured in 65 T20Is, taking 79 wickets, which places him second on Australia's all-time list for T20 wickets, showcasing his importance to the team.
- **Future Focus:** Starc's decision allows the Australian team to prepare for the T20 World Cup, giving younger players opportunities to shine, and enables him to extend his Test and ODI careers.

Sakshi & Bartwal Wins for India in World Boxing Championships

- **Sakshi's Dominant Win:** Sakshi Chaudhary won her bout in the women's 54 kg category with a dominant RSC (Referee Stopped Contest) victory over Ukraine's Viktoriia Shkeul, winning the opening round 5-0.
- **Pawan Bartwal's Hard-Fought Win:** Pawan Bartwal secured a winning start for India in the men's 55 kg bout, defeating Brazil's Michael Douglas Trindade with a split decision (3:2).
- **Contrasting Victories:** Sakshi and Bartwal's wins were contrasting, with Sakshi dominating her opponent while Bartwal had to fight hard for his victory.

Veteran Spinner Amit Mishra Retires After Two-Decade Cricket Career

- **Retirement Announcement:** Veteran leg-spinner Amit Mishra has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, ending a professional career spanning over two decades.

- **Career Highlights:** Although specific details about his career highlights aren't available in recent reports, Amit Mishra is known for his skills as a leg-spinner and his contributions to Indian cricket.

India Wins Historic Men's Compound Archery Gold at World Championships

- **First-Ever Medal:** India won its first-ever gold medal in Men's Compound Archery at the World Championships, marking a historic milestone for the sport in the country.
- **Competition Location:** The championship took place in Gwangju, where the Indian team made their mark by reaching the final and securing the top spot.
- **Team Effort:** The victory showcases the team's exceptional skill, strategy, and teamwork, highlighting the growth and development of archery in India.
- **Global Recognition:** This achievement has garnered attention globally, with the World Archery Federation recognizing India's dominance in the sport.

Aryna Sabalenka retains women's singles title in US Open tennis

- **Dominant Performance:** Sabalenka showcased exceptional skill and composure, winning her fourth Grand Slam title overall and her first of the season in Flushing Meadows.
- **Back-to-Back Wins:** This victory marks the first time a woman has won the US Open in consecutive years since Serena Williams in 2014, solidifying Sabalenka's position as a top player.
- **Challenging Conditions:** The match was played under the roof

at Arthur Ashe Stadium, which affected Anisimova's serve due to glare, making it difficult for her to see the ball.

Indian Men's Hockey Team Crowned Asia Cup Champions 2025

- **Victory Over South Korea:** India beat South Korea 4-1 in the thrilling final of the Hockey Asia Cup 2025, held at the Rajgir Sports Complex.
- **Fourth Asia Cup Title:** This victory marked India's fourth Asia Cup title, adding to their previous wins in 2003, 2007, and 2017.
- **Direct Qualification to World Cup:** The win earned India direct qualification to the FIH Hockey World Cup 2026, scheduled to take place in the Netherlands next year. They are now one of the eight confirmed entrants for the World Cup.

Max Verstappen Wins 2025 Italian Grand Prix

- **Dominant Victory:** Max Verstappen delivered a masterclass performance, winning the Italian Grand Prix by over 19 seconds ahead of Lando Norris. This marked his third win of the 2025 season and second victory on Italian soil.
- **Thrilling Start:** The race began with a thrilling duel between Verstappen and Norris, with the Red Bull driver ultimately taking the lead on lap four and maintaining it throughout the race.
- **Pit Stop Drama:** McLaren pitted Oscar Piastri first, but Lando Norris' slow pit stop dropped him behind Piastri. However, the team ordered Piastri to let Norris pass, citing fairness, and Norris reclaimed second place.

Carlos Alcaraz Defeats Jannik Sinner to Win Second US Open Title

- **Second US Open Title:** Carlos Alcaraz won his second US Open title by defeating Jannik Sinner in the final with a score of 6-2, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4.
- **Dominant Performance:** Alcaraz delivered a dominant performance, showcasing his aggressive gameplay and securing his sixth Grand Slam title at just 22 years old.
- **Rivalry Intensifies:** This victory intensifies the rivalry between Alcaraz and Sinner, who have now met in three consecutive Grand Slam finals this year, with Alcaraz winning six of their seven meetings since 2024.
- **Return to World Number One:** Alcaraz's win propels him back to the top of the ATP rankings, displacing Sinner, and marks a significant milestone in his career.

India to Host 28th Asian TT Team Championships

- **Event Details:** The championships will take place from October 11 to 15, 2025, at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- **First-Time Host:** This will be the first time Odisha has hosted an Asian-level table tennis event, although the state previously hosted the 2019 Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships in Cuttack.
- **Top-Tier Competition:** The event will feature men's and women's team competitions, showcasing Asia's top table tennis athletes.
- **Qualifying Tournament:** The championships will serve as a qualifying tournament for the 2026 ITTF World Team Championships.

AUGUST 2025

Magnus Carlsen Wins 1st Ever Chess Esports World Cup

- **Mainstreaming of Traditional Games in Esports:** Carlsen's victory in the inaugural Chess Esports World Cup signifies a major milestone in the convergence of traditional intellectual games like chess with the rapidly growing esports industry.
- **Technological Integration and Fan Engagement:** The event showcased chess in a dynamic, high-production esports environment, including live stages, commentary, and fan interaction.

Union Sports Minister felicitates FIDE Champion & Grandmaster Divya

- **Historic Win in Women's Chess World Cup:** Divya Deshmukh, at just 19 years old, made history by becoming the first Indian woman to win the FIDE Women's World Cup 2025.
- **Government Support for Sports Ecosystem:** The felicitation by the Union Sports Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, underscores the government's recognition and support for excellence in sports.
- **Role Model for Youth and Gender Parity in Sports:** Divya Deshmukh's achievement at a young age, coupled with the Minister's emphasis on her serving as an inspiration, highlights the potential for greater participation of youth and women in sports.

Ramesh Budihal Wins India's First Medal at

Asian Championships

- **Historic First:** Ramesh Budihal won bronze in the Open Men's category, becoming the first Indian surfer to win an individual medal at the Asian Surfing Championships.
- **Event Details:** The championships were held in Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu, on August 10, 2025.
- **Final Scores:** Budihal scored 12.60 points, finishing behind South Korea's Kanoa Heejae (15.17, gold) and Indonesia's Pajar Ariyana (14.57, silver).
- **Future Significance:** The event also served as a qualifier for the 2026 Asian Games in Japan, marking a big step for India's surfing ambitions.

Canada's Victoria Mboko Wins Her First WTA 1000 Title

- **Opponent:** She defeated four-time Grand Slam champion and former World No. 1, Naomi Osaka, in the final with a score of 2-6, 6-4, 6-1.
- **A "Cinderella" Run:** Mboko, an 18-year-old wild card ranked 85th in the world, had a remarkable tournament. On her way to the title, she defeated four Grand Slam champions: Sofia Kenin, Coco Gauff, Elena Rybakina, and Naomi Osaka.
- **Rankings Boost:** The win propels her from outside the top 80 to a new career-high ranking of World No. 25, making her the top-ranked Canadian player.

Nisha & Muskan Bag Gold Medal At U19 Asian Boxing Championships

- Indian boxers Nisha and Muskan have won gold medals at the U19

Surfing

Asian Boxing Championships in Bangkok, Thailand.

- Nisha, competing in the 54kg category, secured her victory with a decisive 4:1 win over Sirui Yang of China.
- Muskan, in the 57kg category, won her gold medal after a tough 3:2 split verdict against Kazakhstan's Ayazhan Ermek.
- Their achievements were part of a strong performance by the Indian team, which concluded the championships with a total of 14 medals.
- The Indian contingent's impressive medal haul included three golds, seven silvers, and four bronze medals.

India's Annu Rani Wins Gold In Women's Javelin Throw

- **Gold Medal Achievement:** Annu Rani won the gold medal with a best throw of 62.92 meters in the fourth attempt, becoming the first Indian woman to win a javelin gold in Asian Games history.
- **Competition Performance:** Rani's throws included 56.99m in the first attempt, 61.28m in the second, 59.24m in the third, and 62.92m in the fourth, securing India's 15th gold medal in the Asian Games.
- **Medalists:** Sri Lanka's Nadeesha Dilhan won silver with a 61.57m throw, and China's Huihui Lyu took bronze with 61.29m.
- **Background and Training:** Annu Rani, 31, from Meerut's Bahadurpur village, was encouraged by her brother Upendra, who noticed her throwing ability during a cricket match. She practiced with sugarcane sticks and bamboo javelins due to financial constraints.



BANKING NEWS

OCTOBER 2025

Shirish Chandra Murmu Appointed as RBI Deputy Governor

- **Appointment Date:** Shirish Chandra Murmu was appointed as the RBI Deputy Governor, effective October 9, 2025.
- **Term Duration:** His appointment is for a period of three years, starting from October 9, 2025.
- **Predecessor:** He will replace Rajeshwar Rao, whose term as Deputy Governor ends on October 8, 2025.
- **Portfolio Allocation:** The specific portfolio allocation for Murmu has not been announced yet, but the RBI has four Deputy Governors overseeing departments like monetary policy, financial markets regulations, banking supervision, and regulations.

Axis Bank's MD & CEO Amitabh Chaudhry awarded Banker of the Year

- **Leadership Experience:** Amitabh Chaudhry has been the MD & CEO of Axis Bank since 2019, bringing over two decades of banking experience, including previous roles at HDFC Life and Bank of America.
- **Digital Transformation:** Under Chaudhry's leadership, Axis Bank has undergone significant digital transformation, introducing initiatives like the Axis Mobile App, Video KYC, and contactless payments.

- **Strategic Vision:** Chaudhry's strategic vision for Axis Bank includes strengthening digital banking, expanding rural and semi-urban reach, boosting corporate banking solutions, and focusing on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles.

Govt appoints Asheesh Pandey as MD & CEO of Union Bank

- **Appointment:** Asheesh Pandey was appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of Union Bank of India for a three-year term, effective from September 2025, approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
- **Banking Experience:** Pandey brings over 27 years of banking experience, previously serving as Executive Director at Bank of Maharashtra and Chief General Manager and COO at Union Bank of India.
- **Educational Background:** Pandey holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering and a postgraduate management qualification specializing in finance and marketing.

Kalyan Kumar appointed as MD & CEO of Central Bank of India

- **Banking Experience:** Kalyan Kumar has nearly three decades of banking experience, starting as a Rural Development Officer at Union Bank of India in 1995. He has held various leadership roles in branch operations, training, and corporate functions.
- **Digital Transformation Expertise:** Kumar has expertise

in digital transformation, strategic planning, data analytics, economic advisory, and IT excellence, which he applied during his tenure at Punjab National Bank.

- **Merger Experience:** Kumar was closely involved in the amalgamation of Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank into Union Bank of India, showcasing his ability to navigate complex challenges in India's public sector banking landscape.

FSIB recommends Ramakrishnan Chander as LIC's MD

- **Recommendation:** The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) has recommended Ramakrishnan Chander for the role of Managing Director at Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), pending final approval from the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
- **Selection Process:** FSIB interviewed five candidates on September 30, 2025, and selected Chander based on his performance in the interview, overall experience, and suitability for the role.
- **Current Role:** Chander assumed charge as LIC's Chief Investment Officer and Key Managerial Personnel on June 5, 2025, showcasing his expertise and leadership skills within the organization.
- **Leadership Structure:** This appointment is crucial for LIC's continued success, with the insurance giant operating under a robust leadership.

RBI grants SRO status to Finance Industry Development Council

- First SRO for NBFCs: FIDC is the first organization officially recognized as an SRO for the general Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) sector in India.
- Extended Regulatory Arm: It will function as the extended arm of the RBI, aimed at ensuring better regulatory compliance and market discipline among NBFC members.
- Mandate for Compliance: Its core role involves framing and enforcing a Code of Conduct and ethical standards, and monitoring member adherence to RBI guidelines.

World Bank Ups India's FY26 Growth Estimate to 6.5%

- Revised Growth Estimate: The World Bank has increased India's growth estimate for FY26 to 6.5%, up from its previous projection of 6.3% made in June.
- Economic Outlook: This revision reflects the World Bank's confidence in India's economic growth prospects, driven by various factors, including government initiatives and investments.
- Comparison with Previous Projections: The upward revision indicates a positive shift in the World Bank's outlook on India's economy, which is now expected to perform better than previously anticipated.

PayPal Onboards India's UPI as First Payments System Partner

- Integration with PayPal World: PayPal has integrated India's

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) as the first payments system partner on its new platform, PayPal World, enabling seamless cross-border transactions.

- Global Interoperability: This partnership aims to create a global network of digital wallets, allowing users to transact across borders without the need for multiple accounts or platforms.
- Boost to Financial Inclusion: This move is expected to enhance financial inclusion, reduce transaction costs, and spur innovation in fintech, aligning with India's 'Digital India' vision.

RBI unveils four UPI initiatives at Global Fintech Festival 2025

- AI-Based UPI HELP: This AI-powered support system transforms complaint resolution and mandate management, enabling users to check transaction status, raise and track complaints, manage mandates, and access contextual guidance. It's developed using a Small Language Model (SLM) trained on payment data.
- IoT Payments with UPI: This initiative allows transactions directly from connected devices like cars, smart TVs, and wearables, making payments faster, smarter, and frictionless. Users can make instant payments for services like fuel, EV charging, or other services via connected devices.

HDFC Bank Launches "My Business QR"

- Digital Payment Solution: HDFC Bank launched "My Business QR," a digital payment solution for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

- Easy Payments: The solution allows businesses to accept payments digitally through a QR code, making transactions easier and more convenient.
- Simple Setup: Merchants can set up the QR code in minutes, without any additional hardware requirements.

RBI appoints Shri Sanjay Kumar Hansda as new Executive Director

- Appointment: Sanjay Kumar Hansda has been appointed as Executive Director in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) with effect from March 3, 2025.
- Department: He will head the Department of Economic and Policy Research in the RBI, bringing over 30 years of central banking experience to the role.
- Previous Role: Dr. Hansda rejoined RBI on October 6, 2025, after serving as Senior Advisor to the Executive Director (India) at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Sonali Sen Gupta appointed as RBI Executive Director

- Over Three Decades of RBI Experience: She has a career of more than thirty years at the Reserve Bank of India, indicating deep institutional knowledge.
- Multifaceted Expertise: Her experience covers critical functions within the RBI, including Financial Inclusion, Human Resource Management, Banking Regulation.
- Prior Leadership Role: Immediately before her ED appointment, she was serving as the Regional Director for Karnataka at the RBI's Bengaluru Regional Office.

SEPTEMBER 2025

Anish Madhavan appointed as Group Chief Compliance Officer of ICICI Bank

- **Appointment:** Anish Madhavan has been appointed as the Group Chief Compliance Officer (GCCO) of ICICI Bank, effective August 29, 2025, succeeding Subir Saha.
- **Experience:** Madhavan is a seasoned professional with 29 years of experience in banking and finance, and has been associated with ICICI Group for 24 years.
- **Previous Roles:** Madhavan has held key positions within ICICI Bank, including Head of Cards and Payment Solutions, Group Chief Internal Auditor, and Head of Financial Crime Prevention Group.

PNB appointed Raman Grover as CFO

- **Promotion from Within:** Grover's appointment signifies a promotion from within the bank's ranks. Prior to this role, he served as the General Manager of the Finance Division at the Head Office, demonstrating the bank's confidence in its internal talent pool.
- **Extensive Experience:** With over 26 years of experience in the banking sector, Grover brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to his new position. His long-standing career with PNB provides him with a deep understanding of the bank's financial operations and strategic direction.
- **Succession Planning:** This appointment is part of a planned leadership transition. Grover takes over the CFO responsibilities from Dilip

Kumar Jain, who superannuated from the bank's services on August 31, 2025.

BOB launches 'bob Digi Udyam' digital financing scheme

- **Digital Financing Platform:** BOB's 'bob Digi Udyam' is a digital, collateral-free lending platform designed for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) to access working capital loans quickly.
- **Loan Amount and Tenure:** The scheme offers loan amounts ranging from ₹10 lakh to ₹50 lakh with a tenure of 12 months, providing Cash Credit and Overdraft facilities.
- **Credit Guarantee:** The scheme offers collateral-free loans backed by the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), aligning with the Government of India.

DPIIT and ICICI Bank Join Hands to Boost Startups

- **Partnership Details:** DPIIT and ICICI Bank signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on September 4, 2025, to support DPIIT-recognized startups across India under the Startup India initiative.
- **Startup Engagement Programme:** The partnership involves launching a Startup Engagement Programme, offering accelerator access, mentorship, and pilot opportunities to early- and growth-stage startups, hosted on the Startup India portal.
- **Key Benefits:** Startups will gain access to ICICI Bank's Mumbai-based accelerator, workspace, structured curriculum, mentorship from industry leaders, and opportunities for pilot programs with ICICI Bank business units.

R Gandhi Reappointed as Yes Bank Chairman

- **Reappointment Details:** R Gandhi has been reappointed as the part-time non-executive Chairman of Yes Bank for a term from September 20, 2025, to May 13, 2027, as approved by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- **Role and Responsibilities:** As part-time non-executive Chairman, Gandhi will oversee board functions but won't be involved in day-to-day operations.
- **Impact on Yes Bank:** Gandhi's reappointment ensures leadership stability and continuity during the bank's recovery phase post-2020 crisis.

Citibank Appoints Kaustubh Kulkarni as Asia-Pacific IB Co-Head

- **Appointment Details:** Kaustubh Kulkarni has been appointed as the co-head of investment banking for the Asia-Pacific region at Citibank, effective December 2025, pending regulatory approvals. He will be based in Singapore.
- **Experience and Background:** Kulkarni brings nearly three decades of experience from his previous role at JPMorgan, where he held several senior positions, including Senior Country Officer for India, Vice Chair for Asia Pacific, and Head of Investment Banking in India.
- **Strategic Importance:** This appointment is part of Citibank's strategy to expand its investment banking reach in key Asia-Pacific markets, driven by growing deal activity in sectors like technology, healthcare, and renewable energy.

AUGUST 2025

Vortex Engineering Signs Service Level Agreement with UCO Bank

- "Make in India" and Atma Nirbhar Bharat: Vortex Engineering, an India-based company incubated by IIT-Madras, emphasizes domestic design, development, and manufacturing of ATMs. This agreement with UCO Bank directly supports the "Make in India" initiative and the "Atma Nirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India) vision by fostering local innovation and employment in critical banking infrastructure.
- Financial Inclusion and Digital Banking: The deployment of 300 new ATMs, particularly energy-efficient models, is crucial for enhancing banking accessibility and financial inclusion, especially in underserved regions.
- Technological Advancement in Banking Infrastructure: Vortex's focus on innovative ATM solutions, including low-power ATMs and their remote monitoring platform "PERFO," highlights the ongoing technological upgradation in India's banking sector.
- Public Sector Bank Modernization: This partnership signifies UCO Bank's commitment to modernizing its banking infrastructure. For public sector banks, strategic agreements with technology

providers like Vortex are essential to keep pace with evolving digital banking needs and compete effectively in the financial landscape.

RBI approves merger of NICBL with Saraswat Co-operative Bank

- Consolidation in Co-operative Banking Sector: This merger is a significant step in the ongoing consolidation trend within India's urban co-operative banking (UCB) sector. The RBI encourages such mergers to create stronger, more resilient entities and address the financial fragilities observed in some smaller UCBs.
- Protection of Depositors' Interests: A primary reason for such mergers, especially when a weaker bank (like NICBL, which had a negative net worth and was under moratorium due to fraud) is absorbed by a stronger one (Saraswat Co-operative Bank), is to protect the interests of depositors.
- RBI's Regulatory Role and Powers: The RBI's approval, exercised under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, highlights its active role as the regulator of co-operative banks. It demonstrates the RBI's commitment to maintaining financial stability.
- Strengthening Financial Stability & Governance: Mergers help in improving the overall financial stability of the co-operative

banking segment by combining weaker balance sheets with stronger ones.

IndusInd Bank appoints Rajiv Anand as New MD & CEO

- Experience: Rajiv Anand is a seasoned banker with over three decades of experience in the banking and financial services industry. He has a proven track record in scaling retail and corporate banking operations.
- Background: Anand previously served as the Deputy Managing Director at Axis Bank, where he led the wholesale banking business and drove the bank's digital transformation strategy. He retired from Axis Bank on August 3, 2025, upon completion of his third term as a director on the bank's board.
- Appointment Details: Anand's appointment as MD & CEO of IndusInd Bank is effective from August 25, 2025, for a tenure of three years, subject to shareholder approval. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved his appointment.
- Qualifications: Anand holds a degree in Commerce and is a qualified Chartered Accountant. He has deep expertise in capital markets, treasury, and asset management.
- Previous Roles: Before joining Axis Bank, Anand was the founding MD & CEO of Axis Asset Management Co. Ltd.

DEFENCE & TECHNOLOGY



OCTOBER 2025

Indian Army Conducts 'Vayu Samanvay' Exercise

- **Exercise Focus:** The "Vayu Samanvay" exercise focuses on the coordinated use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and counter-UAS measures, showcasing the Indian Army's preparedness in modern warfare.
- **Location:** The exercise was conducted in Ambala, highlighting the army's strategic presence in the region.
- **UAS Warfare:** The exercise demonstrates the army's capabilities in UAS warfare, including surveillance, reconnaissance, and combat operations.

Major General G. Srinivas Assumes Command as CDM Commandant

- **Appointment:** Major General Harsh Chhibber took over as the 27th Commandant of CDM, succeeding Rear Admiral Sanjay Datt, VSM, who retired after 36 years of service in the Indian Navy.
- **Background:** Major General Chhibber is a distinguished officer with a PhD and holds the Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM). He's an alumnus of the National Defence Academy and was commissioned into the Army Service Corps in December 1988.
- **Vision:** He outlined his vision for CDM, focusing on advanced strategic studies, innovative training methodologies, and fostering a culture of continuous

improvement to address global security challenges.

Indian Army Conducts Exercise 'Drone Kavach' in Arunachal Pradesh

- **Objective:** The exercise aimed to validate the Army's operational preparedness for fighting in a drone-dominated battlefield and assess its ability to integrate advanced drone technologies into active combat while developing effective counter-drone measures.
- **Location and Duration:** The exercise was conducted in forward areas of eastern Arunachal Pradesh from September 25 to 28, 2025, and involved the Spear Corps under the Eastern Command.
- **Key Focus Areas:** The exercise emphasized tactics, techniques, and procedures for handling drone warfare, including simulated target acquisition and neutralization operations, active counter-measures like electronic jamming systems, and passive defenses like camouflage and deception.

Major General G. Srinivas Takes Charge as Commandant of CDM

- **New Appointment:** Major General G. Srinivas has taken charge as the Commandant of CDM in Secunderabad, succeeding Lieutenant General Harsh Chhibber, who has been elevated to the post of Director General Information Systems.
- **Background:** Maj Gen Srinivas is a distinguished Gunner Officer with extensive experience in joint

operational planning, defence management, and strategic leadership. He is an alumnus of both the College of Defence Management and the National Defence College.

- **Role of CDM:** The College of Defence Management is a premier tri-services training institution that imparts modern management practices, leadership skills, and joint operational perspectives to senior officers of the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

HAL receives GE Aerospace jet engine for Tejas light combat jets

- **Engine Delivery:** HAL has received the fourth GE-F404-IN20 engine from US-based GE Aerospace for the Tejas Mk-1A program, with 12 engines expected by the end of the current financial year.
- **Contract Details:** The delivery is part of a \$716 million contract signed in 2021 for 99 F404-IN20 engines to power the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mk1A fighter jets.
- **Self-Reliance:** The GE-F404-IN20 engine will enhance the Tejas Mk-1A's combat capabilities, supporting India's push for self-reliance in defence manufacturing under the 'Make in India' initiative.

Air Marshal Hardeep Bains takes over as Air Officer-in-Charge Personnel

- **Appointment** – Air Marshal Hardeep Bains has assumed

charge as the Air Officer-in-Charge Personnel (AOP) at Air Headquarters.

- Responsibilities – As AOP, he will oversee all personnel matters of the Indian Air Force (IAF), including human resource management, training, and welfare.
- Background – He was commissioned in the fighter stream of the IAF and has extensive operational and administrative experience.
- Leadership Roles – He has held key appointments at various command and staff levels, contributing significantly to IAF operations and administration.

Indian Coast Guard Commissions Ship Akshar

- Commissioning Details: The ICGS Akshar was commissioned on October 4, 2025, at Karaikal, Puducherry, marking a significant milestone in India's maritime security.
- Indigenous Manufacturing: The ship is the second vessel in the Adanya-class Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) series, designed and built indigenously by Goa Shipyard Limited, showcasing India's growing self-reliance in defense manufacturing with over 60% indigenous content.
- Operational Roles: The ship will be deployed for surveillance of maritime zones, search and rescue, pollution control, and enforcement of maritime laws, playing a critical role in India's maritime defense.
- Symbolism: The name 'Akshar' means 'imperishable', symbolizing the Indian Coast Guard's unwavering commitment to securing India's maritime interests.

The 'Drone Armour' exercise conducted in Arunachal Pradesh

- Exercise Objective: The exercise aimed to validate the Army's operational preparedness for fighting in a next-generation, drone-dominated battlefield, and to assess its ability to integrate advanced drone technologies into active combat while developing effective counter-drone measures.
- Participating Forces: The exercise involved the Indian Army's Spear Corps under the Eastern Command and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), highlighting the importance of inter-agency collaboration in national security operations.
- Key Activities: The exercise included tactical maneuvers, target acquisition, and neutralization operations, with a focus on both active counter-measures (electronic jamming systems and hard-kill drone interceptors) and passive defenses (camouflage, deception, and dispersion tactics).
- Strategic Importance: The exercise was conducted in forward areas of eastern Arunachal Pradesh, a region critical to India's national security due to its proximity to the China and Myanmar borders.

DRDO Launches IRSA 1.0 for Military Radio Interoperability

- Unified Software Framework: IRSA 1.0 is India's first national software architecture standard for Software Defined Radios (SDRs) used by the Army, Navy, and Air Force, ensuring seamless communication across services.
- Interoperability: The standard enables waveform portability,

allowing different radio systems to communicate with each other securely and efficiently, even in complex multi-domain operations.

- Self-Reliance: IRSA 1.0 aligns with the Government's Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative and Make in India mission, reducing dependence on foreign communication systems and promoting indigenous defence manufacturing.
- Key Features: The standard includes a common software architecture, scalability for next-generation technologies like AI and 5G, and a certification framework for security and reliability.

Indian Army Launches Indigenous 'SAKSHAM' Anti-Drone Grid

- Indigenous Development: SAKSHAM is an indigenous system developed in collaboration with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), showcasing India's growing capability in defense technology under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.
- Real-Time Detection and Neutralization: SAKSHAM detects, tracks, identifies, and neutralizes hostile drones in real-time, providing a unified "Recognised UAS Picture" across the Tactical Battlefield Space (TBS) up to 3,000 meters above ground level.
- AI-Driven Technology: The system uses AI-driven threat analysis, enhancing accuracy and decision-making speed in neutralizing aerial threats. It employs AI-based fusion technologies for automated threat classification and soft/hard kill decision-making.

SEPTEMBER 2025

Army Conducts Yudh Kaushal 3.0 Multi-Domain Drill in Arunachal Pradesh

- **Exercise Conducted:** The Indian Army carried out Yudh Kaushal 3.0, a large-scale multi-domain military drill in Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Objective:** The exercise tested operational readiness, joint warfare capabilities, and integration of modern technology in high-altitude conditions.
- **Forces Involved:** Multiple arms of the Army, including infantry, artillery, aviation, engineers, and electronic warfare units, participated.
- **Strategic Significance:** Conducted close to the LAC (Line of Actual Control) with China, the drill strengthens preparedness against border challenges.

India unveils Vikram 3201, the first fully indigenous 32 bit microprocessor

- **Launch Details:** Vikram-3201 was officially unveiled on September 2, 2025, at the Semicon India Summit in New Delhi, marking a significant milestone in India's semiconductor journey.
- **Design and Fabrication:** This microprocessor was designed by ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) and fabricated at the Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL) in Mohali, showcasing India's end-to-end capabilities in semiconductor technology.
- **Space-Grade Capabilities:** Vikram-3201 is engineered to withstand extreme temperatures, radiation, and vibrations, making it suitable for launch vehicles and

satellites. Its 32-bit architecture enables higher performance and wider memory addressing.

India-Thailand Military Drill Exercise MAITREE-XIV Begins

- **Exercise Details:** The 14th edition of Exercise MAITREE commenced on September 1, 2025, at the Joint Training Node (JTN) in Umroi, Meghalaya, and will run until September 14, 2025.
- **Participating Forces:** The exercise involves 120 personnel from the Indian Army's Madras Regiment and 53 personnel from the Royal Thai Army's 1st Infantry Battalion, 14th Infantry Brigade.
- **Objective:** The primary focus is on enhancing interoperability and mutual understanding between the two armies, particularly in counter-terrorist operations in semi-urban terrain under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

INS Trikand joins Multilateral Exercise In Egypt

- **Exercise Details:** INS Trikand, a stealth frigate of the Indian Navy, has arrived in Alexandria, Egypt, to participate in Exercise Bright Star 2025, a major multilateral drill scheduled from September 1 to 10.
- **Participating Countries:** The exercise involves multiple nations, including India, the United States, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Greece, Cyprus, and Italy, showcasing international cooperation and commitment to regional security.
- **Tri-Service Participation:** The Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force are participating in the exercise, which focuses on

irregular warfare, hybrid challenges, and training together on air, land, and sea to enhance interoperability.

Indian Forces Join Russia's ZAPAD 2025 Military Exercise

- **Exercise Details:** The ZAPAD 2025 military exercise is scheduled to take place from September 10 to 16 at the Mulino Training Ground in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia. It brings together military contingents from several nations to enhance operational readiness and defense engagement.
- **Indian Contingent:** A 65-member tri-services contingent from India, comprising 57 soldiers from the Army (mainly from the Kumaon Regiment), 7 officers and airmen from the Indian Air Force, and 1 representative from the Navy, is participating in the exercise.
- **Significance:** India's participation in ZAPAD 2025 reflects its commitment to global security and stability. The exercise provides a platform for India to exchange operational knowledge, adapt to emerging technologies, and reinforce ties with Russia and other participating countries.

India launched SAJEX 2025

- **Strengthening India-Saudi Trade Relations:** SAJEX 2025 is a B2B (business-to-business) event designed to create a direct platform for Indian jewelry manufacturers and exporters to connect with Saudi Arabian buyers. The exhibition aims to boost India's share in the Saudi market, which is projected to grow to \$8.3 billion by 2030.
- **Focus on Bilateral Economic Partnership:** The expo aligns with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, a

strategic framework to diversify its economy and reduce dependence on oil. By showcasing India's prowess in gems and jewelry, the event leverages the complementary strengths of both economies: India's position as a leading global exporter and Saudi Arabia's large and growing consumer market.

- **Strategic Platform for Diversification:** The launch of SAJEX is a key step for the Indian gems and jewelry industry to diversify its export markets away from traditional destinations like the U.S., where trade has faced recent challenges.

Indian Navy commissioned INS Aravali in Gurugram

- **Focus on Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA):** INS Aravali will play a key role in enhancing India's real-time surveillance and situational awareness across its vast maritime interests. It is designed to work seamlessly with naval units, MDA centers, and other stakeholders, allowing for better information sharing and coordinated responses to potential threats in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- **Alignment with the MAHASAGAR Vision:** The commissioning of INS Aravali embodies the Prime Minister's vision of MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions).

Navy Inducts Tata-Made Spanish 3D Radar

- **First-of-its-Kind Indigenous Capability:** With this induction, TASL has become the first private Indian company to successfully develop and integrate a next-generation naval

surveillance radar system. This achievement is a major step towards India's goal of achieving self-reliance in defense manufacturing under the "Make in India" initiative.

- **Advanced Surveillance Technology:** The Lanza-N is a highly advanced 3D tactical surveillance radar. It is capable of detecting and tracking a wide array of targets, including low-flying and high-flying aircraft, supersonic fighter jets, anti-radiation missiles, drones, and naval platforms.
- **Tailored for the Indian Ocean Region:** The Lanza-N radar has been specifically adapted to perform optimally in the challenging environmental conditions of the Indian Ocean Region, including high humidity and extreme heat.

Tata Builds Navy's First Spanish Lanza-N 3D Radar

- **Partnership:** Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) collaborated with Spanish defence company Indra to develop the Lanza-N 3D Air Surveillance Radar for the Indian Navy.
- **Indigenous Defence Capabilities:** This project marks a significant milestone in India's defence modernization, enhancing the country's indigenous defence capabilities and maritime surveillance.
- **Commissioning:** The radar has been successfully commissioned on an Indian Navy warship, with the rest of the deliveries scheduled in phases under a USD 145-million deal signed in 2020.

Indian Navy Inducts Anti-Submarine Warfare Ship 'Androth'

- **Shipbuilder:** INS Androth was built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) in Kolkata, a leading shipbuilding company in India.
- **Ship Features:** The vessel is 77.6 meters long and 10.5 meters wide, with a draught of only 2.7 meters, allowing it to operate in shallow waters. It's propelled by three diesel-driven water jets, reaching a maximum speed of 25 knots.
- **Armament:** The ship carries lightweight torpedoes, ASW rockets, and mines, as well as a close-in weapon system (30 mm gun) and 16.7 mm stabilized remote-controlled guns.
- **Induction Significance:** INS Androth is the first of a series of eight anti-submarine warfare shallow-watercraft being built for the Indian Navy, marking a significant milestone in the country's indigenous defence capabilities.

US, South Korea & Japan Launch Freedom Edge Military Exercise

- **Exercise Purpose:** The Freedom Edge exercise aims to enhance interoperability among the three nations to maintain peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly in the face of North Korea's military threats.
- **North Korea's Response:** North Korea has protested against the joint drills, warning of military action and criticizing the exercises as an attempt to strengthen a "U.S.-led military bloc."
- **Trilateral Cooperation:** The Freedom Edge exercise demonstrates the growing cooperation between South Korea, Japan and the US.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Directions(1-5) : In each of the following questions a sentence has been divided into five parts which may or may not be properly arranged. You are required to rearrange these parts in order to form a meaningful and coherent sentence. Choose the correct combination from the given options.

1. A developing tropical cyclone (A)/ is expected to strengthen monsoon winds, (B)/ that has been blocking its progression (C)/ over the South China Sea (D)/ helping to erode dry air (E).

- (A) ABCDE (B) DABCE
(C) DABEC (D) ADCBE
(E) ADBEC

2. International flights by Air India and IndiGo (A)/ and military commanders have led to (B)/ high alert and airport closures, (C)/ causing disruptions and cancellations of (D)/ Israeli military attacks on Iran's nuclear facilities (E).

- (A) ABCDE (B) EDABC
(C) EBCDA (D) ADCBE
(E) ABEDC

3. Individuals in India must ensure that their (A)/ health insurance policy includes OPD (B)/ and consumables cover, home care or domiciliary hospitalisation, (C)/ and sufficient sum insured (D)/ to cover high treatment costs for Covid-19 (E).

- (A) ABCDE (B) BCDAE
(C) EABCD (D) EABDC
(E) ABECD

4. The Haifa Port and (A)/ a potential \$10 billion joint venture with Tower Semiconductor (B)/ worries over Adani Group's investments in the Middle East, (C)/ including a billion-dollar stake in (D)/ Israel's strikes on Iran have sparked (E).

- (A) ABCDE (B) CDABE
(C) ABDEC (D) ECDAB
(E) BDAEC

5. India and China have finally decided (A)/ it's a sign of pragmatism that (B)/ to dial down the rhetoric over (C)/ rare earth metals and have signalled (D)/ a willingness to discuss the issue (E)/.

- (A) ABCDE (B) BACDE
(C) DCBEA (D) CDABE
(E) EABCD

Directions(6-7) : In each of the questions given below, four words are given in bold. These words may or may not be in their correct position. Following each sentence, four sequences are provided. Select the sequence of the words which will make the given sentence contextually and grammatically meaningful. If the words are correct at their current position, then choose option (e) as your answer.

6. The future of human reproduction and genetic design is accelerating faster than most people understand, driven not by national **accords** (A) or international **debates** (B), but by software **startups** (C), biotech **investors** (D), and quiet breakthroughs in fertility clinics.

- (A) ADCB (B) DACB
(C) BACD (D) CDAB
(E) No interchange required

7. Among the various **transformation** (A) of Viksit Bharat by 2047, an **urbanised** (B) India is sure to be a principal one, as it is **expected** (C) that urban India will be the engine of growth in this **aspects** (D).

- (A) ACBD (B) DBCA
(C) DCBA (D) ACDB
(E) No interchange required

8. The following question consists of a single question with a single blank. From the five choices given below, pick one correct answer, which will make the given sentence contextually and grammatically meaningful.

The central government's recent proposal to _____ the temperature setting range of air-conditioners has sparked widespread public interest and, predictably, a meme fest on social media.

- (A) streamline (B) categorise
(C) standardize (D) authorise
(E) stabilise

Directions(9-13) : In the following questions, a sentence is given with a highlighted word. Five alternatives follow, each

representing a pair of words. Choose the option that best represents a pair of words similar to the highlighted word.

9. The central bank's intervention had a **transitory** effect on the bond yields, which began rising again once the policy support faded.

- (A) Periodic, Rotational (B) Tangible, Evident
(C) Temporary, Fleeting (D) Inclusive, Holistic
(E) Immediate, Impulsive

10. The central bank's decision to pause rate hikes was largely based on **prudence**, reflecting a cautious approach amid global financial uncertainty.

- (A) Strategy, Planning (B) Caution, Discretion
(C) Forecast, Projection (D) Fluctuation, Instability
(E) Mechanism, Operation

11. The rise in core inflation, despite falling fuel prices, is largely attributed to **entrenched** supply-side constraints in the manufacturing sector.

- (A) Fixed, Deep-rooted (B) Trade, Commerce
(C) Predict, Estimate (D) Moderate, Gradual
(E) Surplus, Overflow

12. The central bank's decision to maintain the policy rate despite rising inflation was seen as a **pragmatic** approach to balancing growth and price stability.

- (A) Strategic, Calculated (B) Dogmatic, Theoretical
(C) Flexible, Cautious (D) Practical, Realistic
(E) Traditional, Standard

13. Despite repeated assurances from regulators, investors remained **apprehensive** about the volatile movements in mid-cap stocks following the sudden sell-off.

- (A) Discreet, Selective (B) Anxious, Uneasy
(C) Vigilant, Prepared (D) Hesitant, Passive
(E) Alert, Rational

Directions(14-18) : A sentence or a part of the sentence is highlighted. Four alternatives marked as (A), (B), (C) and (D) are given as substitutions for the highlighted part, one of which will improve the sentence. Choose the correct alternative. In

case no improvement is needed, choose the option "No improvement is required", i.e., (E).

14. The new banking app **allows to customers access** their accounts seamlessly.

- (A) allows customers to access
(B) allow customers to access
(C) allows to customers to access
(D) allows customers accessing
(E) No improvement is required

15. The compliance officer **ensures that all transactions are monitored** carefully.

- (A) ensure that all transactions are monitor
(B) ensures that all transaction are monitored
(C) ensures that all transactions is monitored
(D) ensure that all transactions are monitored
(E) No improvement is required

16. The financial planner **advise clients to invest** in low-risk funds.

- (A) advises clients to invest
(B) advise clients for investing
(C) advises clients for invest
(D) advising clients to invest
(E) No improvement is required

17. The branch manager **was keen to implementation of** the new policy immediately.

- (A) were keen to implement
(B) was keen for implementing
(C) was keen to implement
(D) was keen on implementation
(E) No improvement is required

18. The economic reforms **is expected to boost** foreign investment significantly.

- (A) are expected to boost (B) is expected for boosting
(C) are expected to boosting (D) is expected to boosting
(E) No improvement is required

Directions(19-25) : Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Sanjay Malhotra's statement that price stability is a necessary but not a sufficient condition to ensure growth is a justification for the apex bank's Monetary Policy Committee's (MPC) decision to slash the policy rate and the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR). While the expectation was a rate cut of 25 basis points, the MPC went in for a 50-point cut at its meeting on Friday. On the back of two earlier reductions in February and April, this brings the cumulative cuts this year to 100 basis points. That clearly shows that the RBI's attention has now shifted to growth. The CRR has been cut by 100 points. The new focus is evident again from Malhotra's words: "It is imperative to continue to stimulate domestic private consumption and investment through policy levers to step up the growth momentum." The muted trend in inflation provided the confidence for the RBI to lower the interest rates. It is also clear that the rate cut was an indication of its lack of confidence in the ability of the economy to sustain the 7.4% growth in the March quarter without more policy support. Inflation had declined to 3.16% in April and is likely to stay subdued. The RBI expects it to average 3.7% in 2025-26, lower than its earlier estimate of 4%. The RBI has projected growth in the current financial year at 6.5%. The country needs a strong push for faster growth, and the RBI is using monetary policy as a tool for it. In the present circumstances, there is little room left for fiscal boosts. The government is not in a position to increase capital expenditure significantly. While the rate cut will make cheaper credit available to corporates and individuals, the CRR cut will enable better transmission as banks will have to keep fewer funds with themselves. It will have to be seen whether the decisions will raise private consumption and put in motion the private capex cycle. Apart from policy support, the outlook is favourable with a likely good monsoon. Malhotra has underlined good performance by corporates, banks, households, the government and the external sector, besides stability on financial, price and political fronts. He has also talked of opportunities in terms of demography, digitisation and domestic demand as favourable factors. But the RBI has also shifted its stance from accommodative to neutral, which shows that there may not be any more rate cuts in the near term. That is

probably because of the uncertainties on the global and domestic fronts, which cannot be ignored.

19. What is the primary reason cited by RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra for cutting both the policy rate and the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)?

- (A) A need to bring down inflation
- (B) A demand from the banking sector
- (C) To stimulate domestic private consumption and investment
- (D) Pressure from the finance ministry
- (E) To prevent fiscal deficit from widening

20. What does the shift from an "accommodative" to a "neutral" policy stance imply?

- (A) The RBI will now focus only on inflation
- (B) Further rate cuts are unlikely in the near term
- (C) The CRR will be increased again
- (D) Fiscal policy will replace monetary policy
- (E) RBI has lost confidence in domestic banks

21. According to the passage, what recent trend in inflation enabled the RBI to reduce the interest rate?

- (A) A sudden spike in prices
- (B) Inflation remaining above 5%
- (C) Consistently muted inflation trend
- (D) Falling global oil prices
- (E) A revision in GDP estimates

22. What is the expected growth rate for India in the current financial year as per the RBI?

- (A) 7.4%
- (B) 6.8%
- (C) 5.9%
- (D) 6.5%
- (E) 4.7%

23. How does the CRR cut help in the monetary policy transmission process?

- (A) By lowering fiscal deficit
- (B) By increasing the repo rate
- (C) By forcing banks to increase interest rates
- (D) By providing subsidies to NBFCs
- (E) By enabling banks to lend more due to lower reserve requirements

24. What macroeconomic conditions are described as supportive or favorable in the passage?

- (A) Rising fiscal spending and high oil prices
- (B) Strong dollar and falling exports
- (C) Fiscal discipline and weak domestic demand
- (D) Increase in gold imports
- (E) Good monsoon and performance of corporates, banks, and households

25. What was the total cumulative policy rate cut by the RBI in the current year, including the latest 50-bps cut?

- (A) 25 basis points
- (B) 75 basis points
- (C) 100 basis points
- (D) 150 basis points
- (E) 200 basis points

Directions(26-30) : Read the following passage and answer the questions as directed. There are some blanks given in the passage. You have to find the appropriate word for the given blank and mark the corresponding option as your answer.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee's decisions show that the central bank is now ____ (A) ____ choosing growth in the perennial growth-inflation trade-off. This is the correct approach at this time. The first major decision was to cut the repo rate by 50 basis points to 5.5%. It comes on the back of two cuts of 25 basis points each, in February and April. With the latest retail inflation coming in at a 69-month low, and generally exhibiting a subdued trend, price stability has now been ____ (B) ____ as a secondary concern. These rate cuts will, once the banks transmit them to borrowers, make it cheaper for companies and consumers to borrow to invest and purchase. The second major decision, of slashing the cash reserve ratio by 100 basis points, will help with the transmission of the rate cuts. The less that banks have to keep with themselves, as ____ (C) ____ by the cash reserve ratio, the more they can lend out — and now at lower rates. It is worth noting, however, that the central bank has again changed its stance. In April, it had moved from being neutral to being accommodative, indicating that it was ____ (D) ____ to cut rates further. It has now moved back to neutral, meaning more rate cuts in the short term are unlikely unless growth falls well short of expectations. This is a

sensible stance to take, given the vast uncertainties that the Indian and global economies are facing. The neutral stance also means that the RBI is equally predisposed to raise rates again in the event of an unforeseen and sustained spike in prices. The monsoon is yet to fully play out, after all. The timing of these decisions is sound. Inflation is low and not likely to jump any time soon if current factors remain unchanged. Further, there are no major elections now that would otherwise have necessitated a pre-emptive strong grip on price levels. On the other hand, growth is lower than it could be. The RBI has projected growth in the current financial year 2025-26 to be 6.5%, which is no faster than what the government provisionally estimated for the previous year. Fiscal policy in terms of government spending has reached the limit of the ____ (E) ____ it can provide. After a decade of increasing outlays, government capital expenditure can at best be maintained at the level it is at but cannot reasonably be expected to grow much further. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and officials in the Ministry of Finance have indicated as much. Apart from developmental and social priorities, the government now has additional defence spending to account for. Monetary policy has to step up and boost growth, and it is good to see the RBI and the government on the same page.

26. Which of the following words most appropriately fits the blank labelled (A)?

- (A) tentatively
- (B) sporadically
- (C) unequivocally
- (D) ambivalently
- (E) inadvertently

27. Which of the following words most appropriately fits the blank labelled (B)?

- (A) reinforced
- (B) ratified
- (C) relegated
- (D) replicated
- (E) retaliated

28. Which of the following words most appropriately fits the blank labelled (C)?

- (A) fabricated
- (B) delegated
- (C) advocated
- (D) stipulated
- (E) compensated

29. Which of the following words most appropriately fits the blank labelled (D)?

- (A) repelled (B) inclined
(C) resolute (D) entrenched
(E) enthralled

30. Which of the following words most appropriately fits the blank labelled (E)?

- (A) strategy (B) surplus
(C) stipend (D) structure
(E) stimulus

Directions(31-35) : In the following questions, five sentences are given in jumbled form. These sentences, when arranged in a proper sequence, form a coherent passage. Rearrange the jumbled sentences in order to form a coherent passage and answer the questions that follow.

- A. The villagers were initially hesitant, as they had never used anything other than firewood.
B. A non-profit organisation recently introduced solar cookers to a remote village in Rajasthan.
C. However, with patient demonstrations and community involvement, the villagers gradually accepted the technology.
D. They conducted training sessions to help people understand how to use and maintain the cookers.
E. Soon, the benefits of the new method became evident—less smoke, faster cooking, and fewer health issues.

31. Which of the following will be the **INTRODUCTORY** sentence after the rearrangement?

- (A) A (B) B (C) C (D) D
(E) E

32. Which of the following will be the **THIRD** sentence after the rearrangement?

- (A) A (B) B (C) C (D) D
(E) E

33. Which of the following will be the **FOURTH** sentence after the rearrangement?

- (A) A (B) B (C) C (D) D
(E) E

34. Which of the following will be the **CONCLUDING** sentence after the rearrangement?

- (A) A (B) B (C) C (D) D
(E) E

35. Which of the following will be the **CORRECT SEQUENCE** after the rearrangement?

- (A) BADCE (B) DEABC
(C) BAEDC (D) DBCAE
(E) ADEBC

Directions(36-40) : In the following questions, two columns are given containing three sentences/phrases each. In the first column, the sentences/phrases are A, B and C, and in the second column, the sentences/phrases are D, E and F. A sentence/phrase from the first column may or may not connect with another sentence/phrase from the second column. From the given options, choose the most appropriate combination using which the sentences/phrases can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. If none of the combinations is correct, choose option E as your answer.

36.

COLUMN I	COLUMN II
A. Hardly had the company announced its quarterly results	D. are advised to diversify their portfolios to minimise long-term risks.
B. Although the proposal seemed promising on paper, the management	E. than she quickly emerged as the ideal candidate for the leadership role.
C. Given the volatile market conditions, investors	F. found it financially unviable during implementation.

- (A) Only A-E (B) Only B-F
(C) Both C-D and B-F (D) Both A-F and C-E
(E) None of these

37.

COLUMN I	COLUMN II
A. Over the years, she has developed a keen interest in	D. to monitor fund utilisation, issues of mismanagement are likely to persist.
B. No sooner had the committee reached a consensus than	E. the central bank may resort to another rate cut to stimulate growth.
C. The results were not surprising, considering the team had barely	F. fresh objections were raised by the opposition.

- (A) Only A-D
(B) Only B-F
(C) Only C-D
(D) Both A-F and C-E
(E) None of these

38.

COLUMN I	COLUMN II
A. If the application is submitted before the deadline,	D. The discrepancy could have been avoided entirely.
B. While the initiative was well-intentioned, its execution	E. lacked the coordination required for large-scale impact.
C. Had the data been verified more thoroughly,	F. Enhance transparency in the selection process and reduce instances of favouritism.

- (A) Only A-D
(B) Both C-D and B-E
(C) Only B-E
(D) Both B-D and C-E
(E) None of these

39.

COLUMN I	COLUMN II
A. The candidate, having demonstrated consistent performance	D. failed to account for several critical socio-economic indicators.
B. Unless the compliance guidelines are updated regularly,	E. In previous roles, was shortlisted without much deliberation.
C. The report, though meticulously drafted,	F. The organisation may face regulatory penalties.

- (A) Both B-F and A-E
(B) Only A-D
(C) Only C-D
(D) All A-E, B-F and C-D
(E) None of these

40.

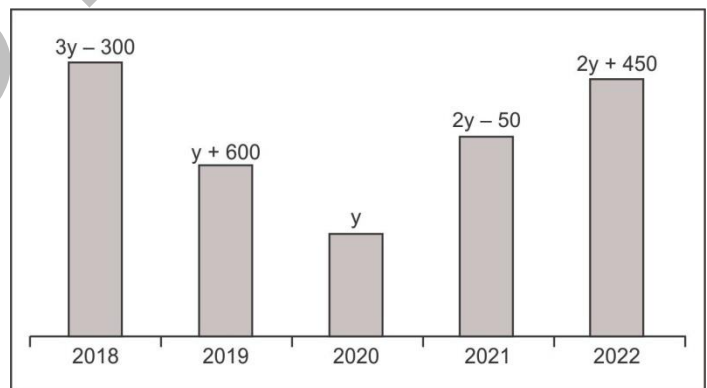
COLUMN I	COLUMN II
A. If chosen for the role, the applicant is expected to	D. relocate within a fortnight and undergo mandatory training.
B. Despite repeated assurances from the vendor,	E. key team members were unavailable due to an ongoing training session.
C. The memorandum, having been reviewed by legal experts,	F. the overall analysis was appreciated by the reviewing committee.

- (A) Only A-D
(B) Only B-F
(C) Only C-D
(D) Both B-D and C-E
(E) Both B-D and C-E

QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

Directions [41-45]: Answer the questions based on the information given below.

Bar graph given below shows the number of employees in a company over the past few years. It is given that there are 2,250 employees in the company in 2022.



41. What is the difference between the number of employees in the company in 2020 and 2021 together and number of employees in the company in 2022?

- (A) 400
(B) 500
(C) 350
(D) 450
(E) None of these

42. Number of employees in the company in 2022 and 2020, together is how much percent of the number of employees in the company in 2019?

- (A) 225%
(B) 190%
(C) 230%
(D) 210%

(E) None of these

43. If 35% employees in the company in 2018 are females, then find the ratio of number of male employees in the company in 2018 to total number of employees in the company in 2019.

(A) 24:29 (B) 26:25 (C) 21:23 (D) 26:29

(E) None of these

44. Find the average number of employees in the company in 2021 and 2022 together.

(A) 2,150 (B) 1,800 (C) 2,200 (D) 2,500

(E) None of these

45. In 2021, 30% employees in the company work in sales department, out of which 225 are females. Find the number of male employees who work in sales department in 2021.

(A) 300 (B) 275 (C) 320 (D) 280

(E) None of these

Directions(46-50): What approximate value will come in place of the question mark (?) in the following question? (Note: You are not expected to calculate the exact value.)

46. $\sqrt{624.92} \times \sqrt{63.92} - 25.09 \times (1.99)^2 = ?^2$

(A) 0 (B) 40 (C) 10 (D) 30

(E) 20

47. $\sqrt{1763.18} \times \sqrt{225.29} \div 3.18 + 12.09 \times 5.01 = ?$

(A) 320 (B) 270 (C) 210 (D) 360

(E) 390

48. $\frac{24.99\% \text{ of } 279.92 + 845.13 \div 13.02}{25.13\% \text{ of } 20.21} = \frac{?}{6.13}$

(A) 190 (B) 272 (C) 232 (D) 128

(E) 162

49. $59.99\% \text{ of } (74.89 \times 7.99) - (2.89)^2 \times 39.07 = \sqrt{?}$

(A) 144 (B) 36 (C) 81 (D) 225

(E) 9

50. $(195.98 + 137.12) \div (10.99^2 - 10.09) \times 20.12 = ?^2 + 24.12$

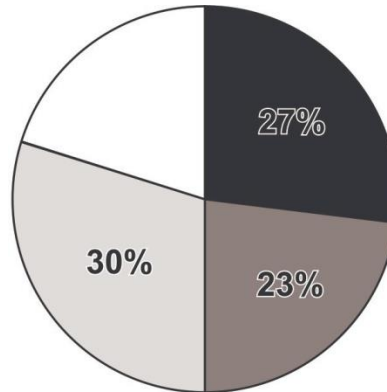
(A) 6 (B) 12 (C) 2 (D) 18

(E) 24

Directions [51-55]: Answer the questions based on the information given below.

Pie chart given below shows the percentage distribution of the number of children in four different villages namely V1, V2, V3 and V4 out of total number of children in all four villages together.

Note: Difference between number of children in V1 and V2 is 480.



■ V1 ■ V2 ■ V3 □ V4

Table given below shows the ratio of number of children who attend school to number of children who do not attend school in each village.

Village	Ratio of number of children who attend school to those who do not attend school
V1	2:1
V2	1:1
V3	5:4
V4	7:5

51. Find the average number of children who do not attend school in villages V1 and V2 together.

(A) 1,260 (B) 1,190

(C) 1,230 (D) 1,240

(E) None of these

52. In village V4, 36% of the children who do not attend school are boys. Find the difference between number of children in V4 who attend school and number of girls in the same village who do not attend the school.

(A) 1,040 (B) 760

(C) 840 (D) 960

(E) None of these

53. What is the ratio of number of children in V1 who attend school to number of children in V3 who attend school?

- (A) 27:26 (B) 23:25
(C) 26:21 (D) 27:25

(E) None of these

54. If number of children who do not attend the school in village V6 is 60% of the number of children who attend school in V2, then find the number of children who do not attend school in V6.

- (A) 828 (B) 924
(C) 760 (D) 698

(E) None of these

55. Number of children who do not attend school in V1 is what percent of the number of children who do not attend school in V3?

- (A) 62.5% (B) 64%
(C) 67.5% (D) 60%

(E) None of these

56. Directions(56-60) : In the questions, two equations I and II are given. You have to solve both the equations to establish the correct relation between x and y and choose the correct option.

I. $2x^2 + 13x + 20 = 0$

II. $3y^2 + 11y + 10 = 0$

- (A) $x > y$
(B) $x < y$
(C) $x = y$ or the relationship cannot be established
(D) $x \geq y$
(E)

57. I. $x^2 - 26x + 160 = 0$

II. $y^2 - 3y - 180 = 0$

- (A) $x > y$ (B) $x < y$
(C) $x \leq y$ (D) $x \geq y$
(E) $x = y$ or the relationship cannot be established

58. I. $x^2 - (5^2 - 1)x + 143 = 0$

II. $y^2 - (4^2 + 3)y + 90 = 0$

- (A) $x > y$
(B) $x < y$
(C) $x = y$ or the relationship cannot be established

(D) $x \geq y$

(E) $x \leq y$

59. I. $x^3 = 1,000 + 331$

II. $y^2 = 196 - 75$

- (A) $x > y$
(B) $x < y$
(C) $x = y$ or the relationship cannot be established
(D) $x \geq y$
(E) $x \leq y$

60. I. $x^2 - 4\sqrt{3}x + 9 = 0$

II. $y^2 - 6y + 8 = 0$

- (A) $x > y$
(B) $x < y$
(C) $x = y$ or the relationship cannot be established
(D) $x \geq y$
(E) $x \leq y$

61. A 120 litres mixture of milk and water contains 35% water. When 24 litres of pure water is added into the mixture, the difference between quantity of milk and water becomes 'P' litres. Find 'P'% of the quantity of milk in the mixture.

- (A) 8.24 litres (B) 10.92 litres
(C) 9.36 litres (D) 8.96 litres
(E) None of these

62. 'A' is 25% less efficient than 'B' whereas 'C' is 25% more efficient than 'B'. 'A' and 'B' started the work together but left after 10 days. 'C' completed the remaining work alone in 10 days. Find the time taken by 'A' and 'C' to complete 80% of the work together.

- (A) 12 days (B) 15 days
(C) 8 days (D) 10 days
(E) None of these

63. Anna and Ben started a business with Rs. 12,500 and Rs. 15,000 respectively. After 6 months, Anna increased his investment by Rs. 2,500 and Sia joined them with Rs. 'Z'. At the end of the year, if profit share of Anna is one third of the total profit received, then find the value of 'Z'.

- (A) 10,000 (B) 30,000
(C) 20,000 (D) 25,000

(E) 18,000

64. Ravi covers 40% of the distance at 20 km/h, 30% of the distance at 10 km/h and remaining distance at 12 km/h. Find the average speed (in m/s) of Ravi.

(A) (40/3) (B) (100/27)

(C) (50/3) (D) (80/27)

(E) None of these

65. Find the slant height of a cone whose height is 20 cm and radius is same as the radius of a sphere whose volume is $38,808 \text{ cm}^3$. (Use $\pi = 22/7$)

(A) 27 cm (B) 33 cm

(C) 25 cm (D) 31 cm

(E) None of these

66. Nikhil invested Rs. '2N' at 25% p.a. simple interest and Rs. '3N' at 20% p.a. compound interest (compounded annually), both for 2 years respectively. If the difference between the interests received from both schemes is Rs. 480, then find the value of 'N'.

(A) 1,800 (B) 1,200

(C) 1,500 (D) 2,000

(E) 900

67. Average runs scored by Sachin in 40 innings were 52. In next 4 innings, his scores were 55, 42, 0 and 60. How many runs he should score in his next inning such that his average increases to 53?

(A) 148 (B) 152 (C) 136 (D) 150

(E) None of these

68. Sum of the cost price of two watches 'P' and 'Q' is Rs. 1,250. Watch 'P' is sold at a profit of 20% whereas watch 'Q' is sold at a profit of 18%. If the sum of their selling prices is Rs. 1,490, then find the difference their cost prices.

(A) Rs. 150 (B) Rs. 400

(C) Rs. 350 (D) Rs. 250

(E) None of these

69. Lakshit spends 24% of his income on food, 25% of the remaining income on rent, (1/3rd) of the remaining income on entertainment, 25% of the remaining income on others and saves the rest which is equal to Rs. 11,970. Find his income (in Rs.).

(A) Rs. 45,000 (B) Rs. 42,000

(C) Rs. 39,000

(D) Rs. 49,000

(E) None of these

70. Sum of the present ages of Chris, Kane and Root is 56 years. Present age of Root is 20 years and ratio of present ages of Chris and Kane is 1:2 respectively. Find the age of Stokes six years hence from now, if he is 3 years younger than Chris.

(A) 15 years

(B) 9 years

(C) 18 years

(D) 12 years

(E) None of these

REASONING ABILITY

71. Choose the correct option which contains the signs of inequality that can replace the symbols ! and ?, respectively in the statement $V \geq S ! T \leq B; K ? L < S > O$, so that both $B > O$ and $T > K$ hold false.

(A) =, ≤

(B) None of these

(C) <, ≤

(D) <, <

(E) ≥, <

72. Choose the correct option which contains the signs of inequality that can replace the symbols & and ∞, respectively in the statement $K > L \leq M \& D; P \geq S \infty L; D \leq J \leq A$, so that both $D > S$ and $A \geq L$ hold true and $K > P$ holds false.

(A) ≤, <

(B) <, =

(C) ≤, ≥

(D) <, >

(E) All of these

Directions(73-74) :Eight persons- A, D, H, K, M, P, S and V are standing in descending order of their heights but not necessarily in the same order. The tallest person is to the right end and the shortest person is to the left end.

Three persons are standing between K and A. Only one person is standing between V and D. S is shorter than M but not the shortest person. Two persons are standing between M and V. The number of persons shorter than P is same as the number of persons taller than K. Only two persons are shorter than M. P is shorter than D but taller than S.

73. Who among the following is the shortest person?

(A) H

(B) V

(C) D

(D) A

(E) K

74. If the height of D is 173cm and the height of K is 168cm, what is the possible height of H?

- (A) 171cm (B) 166cm
(C) 175cm (D) 159cm
(E) 174cm

Directions(75-78) : Seven persons- A, B, C, D, E, F and G were born in the same week starting from Monday. Only one person is born on each day and they have different professions viz., Businessman, Doctor, Engineer, Manager, Lawyer, Teacher and Student, but not necessarily in the same order.

A is doctor and born on Wednesday. Four persons were born between B and G. Lawyer was born immediately after G. C was born immediately after D. Engineer was born immediately after Manager but before Lawyer. G is neither Student nor Engineer. E is a Teacher.

75. Businessman was born on ____.

- (A) Sunday (B) Tuesday
(C) Monday (D) Saturday
(E) Thursday

76. How many person(s) was/were born after the person whose profession is Teacher?

- (A) Two (B) None
(C) One (D) Four
(E) Five

77. Which of the following combination is odd from the rest?

- (A) B – Student (B) E - Manager
(C) C – Engineer (D) G - Businessman
(E) F - Lawyer

78. Who among the following is Lawyer?

- (A) The person who was born on Friday
(B) D
(C) B
(D) The person who was born on Sunday
(E) None of these

79. Select the 1st, 2nd, 6th and 7th letters of the word "FLAWLESS" from the left end of the word to form a four-letter meaningful word(s). If only one word can be formed, then select the

second letter of that word as answer. If more than one word can be formed, then select X as the answer. If no such word can be formed, then select Y as the answer.

- (A) S (B) Y (C) F (D) E
(E) X

Directions(80-82) : In the following question, three statements are given and two conclusions are given below these statements. Choose the option which shows the conclusions which logically follow from the given statements, disregarding the commonly known facts.

80. Statements:

No Crayons is Sketchpen
No Watercolour is Sparkle
Only a few Sparkle is Crayons

Conclusions:

- I: Some Sparkle is not Sketchpen
II: Some Crayons are not Watercolour
(A) Only conclusion I follows
(B) Neither conclusion I nor II follows
(C) Both conclusions I and II follow
(D) Either conclusion I or II follow
(E) Only conclusion II follows

81. Statements:

Only a few Music is Song
All Tune is Audio
Half Song is Tune

Conclusions:

- I: Some Music being Tune is a possibility
II: Some Audio is Song
(A) Only conclusion I follows
(B) Neither conclusion I nor II follows
(C) Both conclusions I and II follow
(D) Only conclusion II follows
(E) Either conclusion I or II follows

82. Statements:

Some cracks are stars.
Some stars are jaws.

No jaw is low.

Conclusions:

I. Some cracks are lows.

II. No crack is low.

(A) If only conclusion I follows.

(B) I only conclusion II follows.

(C) If either I or II follows.

(D) If neither I nor II follows.

(E) If both I and II follow.

Directions(83-87) : Six persons A, B, C, D, E, and F were born either on the 9th or 26th of May, June, and July in the same year, but not necessarily in the same order. They belong to Goa, Assam, Bihar, Kerala, Gujarat and Sikkim.

F was born immediately before D but in different months. The person who was born immediately after D belongs to Goa. Three persons were born between B and E. C belongs to Sikkim and was born after F. Two persons were born between A and the person who belongs to Bihar. The person who belongs to Kerala was born on an even-numbered date but after B. E does not belong to Gujarat.

83. Who among the following was/were born in June?

(A) Both A and C

(B) Both C and F

(C) F

(D) Both A and D

(E) B

84. Person E belongs to _____.

(A) Bihar

(B) Assam

(C) Kerala

(D) Goa

(E) Either (a) or (d)

85. Who among the following was born on the 26th May?

(A) The person who belongs to Gujarat.

(B) The person who belongs to Kerala.

(C) B

(D) E

(E) A

86. Four among the following five pairs are alike in a certain way and thus form a group. Which of the following does not belong to the group?

(A) B and D

(B) F and A

(C) E and F

(D) A and C

(E) D and E

87. Which of the following statement/s is /are true?

I. A was born immediately before C.

II. E was born on an odd-numbered date.

III. B belongs to Bihar.

IV. More than two persons were born after B.

(A) Both I and IV

(B) Only III

(C) Both II and III

(D) II, III and IV

(E) All I, II, III and IV

88. If all the vowels of the word "MOUNTAIN" are changed to the letter immediately succeeding them in the English alphabet series and all the consonants are changed to the letter immediately preceding them in the English alphabet series following which the letters of the word thus formed are rearranged in alphabetical order (from left to right), then which of the following letters will be the fourth from the left end of the final word thus formed?

(A) A

(B) M

(C) J

(D) P

(E) V

89. Eight persons A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H were seated around a circular table facing the centre. H was to the immediate left of B who was opposite of E. E was 2nd to the left of D. G was 3rd to the right of A. C was not neighbouring B. What was the position of F with respect to G?

(A) Immediate left

(B) Immediate right

(C) 2nd to the left

(D) 2 nd to the right

(E) Opposite

Directions(90-92) : Study the following arrangement carefully and answer the questions given below:

In a certain code language some statements are coded as follows:

"Bank Cash Draft Note Count" is coded as "to za ga pu zo".

"Money Flow Cash Bound Draft" is coded as "ta ko ma to ga".

"New Draft Cheque Bank" is coded as "ga jo du za".

"Account Number Bank Cheque Bound" is coded as "ma pk du za rj".

"Fixed Cash Flow Account Note" is coded as "dz to ta pu pk".

90. How "Flow" is coded in given code language?

- (A) ta (B) dz (C) to (D) pu
(E) Can't be determined.

91. Which of the following statement is coded as "rj dz zo" in same code language?

- (A) Fixed Bank Number (B) Bound Fixed Count
(C) Count Fixed Number (D) Either (ii) or (iii)
(E) Number Draft Count

92. How "Bound Cash Rate Deposit" is coded in given code language?

- (A) to uw du ma (B) dz lg to ma
(C) za to ma go (D) ma ga to zg
(E) ma uz lp to

Directions (93-95) : There are six schools in a city. They are - SOS, MFS, HISLOP, MHS, SPS and BWM, such that schools SOS and BWM are 20km apart. SPS is 12 km to the west of MHS, which is 5km to the south of SOS. HISLOP is 30km and 35km to the north of BWM and MFS, respectively. MFS is towards the east of MHS.

93. Four among the following five are alike in a certain way and thus, form a group. Which among the following does not belong to the group?

- (A) SPS-HISLOP (B) SOS-HISLOP
(C) MHS-BWM (D) SPS-MFS
(E) MHS-HISLOP

94. What is the shortest distance between school MHS and school HISLOP?

- (A) $4\sqrt{65}$ km (B) $5\sqrt{65}$ km
(C) $3\sqrt{51}$ km (D) $8\sqrt{51}$ km
(E) None of these

95. What is the direction of school SOS with respect to school BWM?

- (A) West (B) North
(C) South (D) East
(E) None of these

Directions (96-100) : There are two parallel linear rows with five persons sitting in each row. Alternate persons are facing opposite directions, i.e., if a person is facing north, his immediate neighbours will face south and vice versa. T is sitting to the immediate right of D. D and A are facing each other. H is sitting second to the right of L. G is facing south and not sitting in the corner. B is sitting at the corner in the same row as G. M is facing the one who is sitting to the immediate right of N. E is sitting behind the one who is sitting to the immediate right of G. B and E are facing opposite directions and sitting in different rows.

96. Who is sitting second to the right of D?

- (A) B (B) N (C) M (D) G
(E) Nobody

97. Who is sitting opposite to L?

- (A) B (B) G (C) M (D) N
(E) T

98. Who is sitting to the immediate right of A?

- (A) H (B) M
(C) N (D) Nobody
(E) L

99. Which of the following pairs are facing opposite directions in the same row?

- (A) NT (B) ML (C) LN (D) ED
(E) LE

100. Which of the following persons is facing south and sitting at a corner?

- (A) N (B) B (C) E (D) H
(E) M

ANSWER KEY

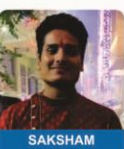
1. (E)	2. (C)	3. (A)	4. (D)	5. (B)	6. (C)	7. (B)	8. (C)	9. (C)	10. (B)
11. (A)	12. (D)	13. (B)	14. (A)	15. (E)	16. (A)	17. (C)	18. (A)	19. (C)	20. (B)
21. (C)	22. (D)	23. (E)	24. (E)	25. (C)	26. (C)	27. (C)	28. (D)	29. (B)	30. (E)
31. (B)	32. (D)	33. (C)	34. (E)	35. (A)	36. (C)	37. (B)	38. (B)	39. (D)	40. (A)
41. (A)	42. (D)	43. (B)	44. (E)	45. (A)	46. (C)	47. (B)	48. (E)	49. (C)	50. (A)
51. (C)	52. (B)	53. (D)	54. (A)	55. (C)	56. (B)	57. (E)	58. (A)	59. (D)	60. (C)
61. (C)	62. (A)	63. (D)	64. (B)	65. (E)	66. (C)	67. (A)	68. (D)	69. (B)	70. (A)
71. (E)	72. (A)	73. (D)	74. (A)	75. (D)	76. (E)	77. (B)	78. (D)	79. (D)	80. (C)
81. (C)	82. (C)	83. (D)	84. (B)	85. (B)	86. (C)	87. (D)	88. (B)	89. (E)	90. (A)
91. (C)	92. (E)	93. (D)	94. (B)	95. (A)	96. (D)	97. (A)	98. (E)	99. (B)	100. (C)

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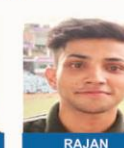
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