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WEEKLY — Current Affairs

NATIONAL NEWS

India's First Wooden Gurdwara Opens in Fazilka, Symbol of Devotion and Design

- **Historic First of Its Kind:** This is the first fully wooden Gurdwara in India, located within the Fazilka Police Lines in Punjab. It's gaining attention for its unique structure and spiritual appeal
- **Built with Imported Wood & Cost:** Constructed using high-quality pine/deodar wood imported from Finland, the build covered an area of approximately 80×160 ft and cost around ₹50 lakh
- **Inspiration from Hemkunt Sahib:** The design draws influence from Sikh shrine architecture, particularly Himachal's Hemkunt Sahib, and features a magnificent wooden truss roof and sturdy pillars
- **Natural Insulation & Ambiance:** Wooden construction provides natural insulation suitable for Fazilka's extreme seasonal temperatures. Warm yellow interior lighting enhances the serene and spiritual atmosphere
- **Initiated by SSP Bhupinder Singh Sidhu:** The project was spearheaded by then SSP Fazilka, Bhupinder Singh Sidhu. Local philanthropists, police officers, and workers rallied to raise funds and complete the structure within four months

6-year-old Teghbir becomes youngest mountaineer to scale Mount Elbrus

- **World Record Achievement:** Teghbir Singh, a 6-year-old from Ropar (Rupnagar), Punjab, climbed Mount Elbrus in Russia—the highest peak in Europe at 5,642 m—setting a world record at 6 years, 9 months, and 4 days, as certified by the Mountaineering Federation of Kabardino-Balkaria
- **Expedition Timeline:** He began the expedition on June 20, 2025, and successfully reached the summit on June 28, 2025, enduring sub-zero temperatures (−10 °C) and thin air conditions throughout the climb
- **Record Surpassed:** He broke the previous record held by Wagah Kushagra (Maharashtra), who had reached the summit at age 7 years, 3 months, in 2024 .
- **Young Adventurer's Earlier Feats:** Earlier in 2024, Teghbir became the youngest Asian to scale Mt. Kilimanjaro (Africa's highest peak) and also trekked to Everest Base Camp, earning places in the India and Asia Books of Records .

NIPCCD renamed as Savitribai Phule National Institute of Women & Child Development

- **Name Change & Legal Basis:** The National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) has been officially renamed the Savitribai Phule National Institute of Women & Child Development, effective June 19, 2025, as per a gazette notification under Sections 12 and 12A of the Societies Registration Act, 1860

- **Honoring a Pioneer:** The renaming honors Savitribai Phule, a 19th-century social reformer, educator, and India's first female teacher, recognized for championing women's rights and challenging caste barriers
- **Government Acknowledgement:** Union Women & Child Development Minister Annpurna Devi called the move a reaffirmation of the government's commitment to women- and child-centric development, describing it as a “tribute to Savitribai Phule's legacy”
- **Expansion of Regional Outreach:** As part of decentralizing its training efforts, the institute is inaugurating a new regional centre in Ranchi, which will serve frontline workers across Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, and West Bengal under flagship initiatives like Mission Shakti, Mission Vatsalya, Mission Saksham Anganwadi, and Poshan 2.0
- **Enhanced Training & Capacity Building:** The Ranchi centre will offer an Advanced Diploma in Child Guidance & Counselling, in addition to supporting research, extension activities, adolescent mental health, and women's empowerment—enhancing region-specific interventions

Bengaluru City University to be Renamed After Former PM Manmohan Singh

- **Official Renaming Announced in Budget:** On March 7, 2025, during the Karnataka state budget presentation, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced that Bengaluru City University will be renamed Dr Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University, marking it as the first Indian university to bear his name
- **Cabinet Approval Finalised:** The Karnataka Cabinet formally approved the decision on July 2, 2025, reinforcing its commitment to honouring Dr. Singh's legacy
- **Tribute to Economic and Infrastructure Contributions:** Dr. Manmohan Singh (1932–2024) is widely acknowledged as the architect of India's economic liberalisation (1991 reforms) and oversaw significant infrastructural milestones, including foundations for Bengaluru Metro, elevated highways, and Kempegowda International Airport
- **Academic Expansion & Integration:** As part of the renaming initiative, the Government Arts College and Government RC College have been integrated as constituent colleges under the university to elevate its academic stature
- **Mixed Public Reaction & Future Plans:** Karnataka Deputy CM DK Shivakumar hinted that more institutions might be renamed after Dr. Singh, highlighting plans for a research centre in his name.

Indore Launches India's First QR-Based Digital House Address System

- **Nation-first initiative:** Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC) has become the first city in India to pilot a city-wide digital house addressing system using QR-coded plates at every residence—starting with Ward 82 in Sudama Nagar from June 29–30, 2025

- **Integrated with national DigiPIN:** The system links each QR-code plate to the central DigiPIN platform (by India Post, IIT Hyderabad, NRSC, ISRO), assigning a GPS-enabled Digital Address Code (DAC) to every house .
- **Multi-functional QR scan:** Scanning the QR code on a smartphone provides instant access to property ownership details, GPS coordinates, cleanliness scores, municipal service status, and enables online payment for water and property taxes and lodging civic complaints
- **Improving civic and emergency services:** This digital address enables faster and more accurate services—e.g., improved e-commerce deliveries, postal services, and timely emergency response via precise geo-coordinates
- **Privacy, expansion & civic feedback:** The plates display only non-sensitive info publicly, while personal data is private. The pilot is free, with plans to expand across ~700,000 households. IMC will refine the system based on public feedback

Slice Launches India's First UPI-Powered Bank Branch in Bengaluru

- **Pioneering UPI-first Physical Branch:** Slice has launched its first-ever UPI-powered physical bank branch and ATM in Koramangala, Bengaluru—making it the first of its kind in India.
- **UPI-Centric Credit Card Integration:** The branch is complemented by the Slice Super-Card, a credit card fully integrated with UPI—no joining or annual fees, 3 % cashback, and the option to convert transactions into three interest-free EMI instalments (“slice in 3”).
- **QR-Based ATM for Cash In/Out:** The UPI ATM enables users to deposit and withdraw cash by scanning a QR code—eliminating the need for traditional debit or credit cards.
- **Instant Onboarding & Digital Experience:** The branch offers streamlined digital onboarding and self-service kiosks, ensuring fast, paperless customer experience with UPI integrated in every customer interaction.

Vibha Devi Makes History as India's First Female E-Voter

- **Name and Background:** Vibha Devi is a resident of Pakdidiyal in the East Champaran district of Bihar. She made history by becoming the first female e-voter in India.
- **Achievement:** Vibha Devi cast her vote using a mobile app, marking a significant milestone in India's electoral history. This innovation aims to increase voter participation, especially among those living abroad or in remote areas.
- **Political Career:** According to PRS Legislative Research, Vibha Devi is a member of the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and represents the Nawada constituency in the Bihar Assembly. She has been in office since November 16, 2020.
- **E-Voting Initiative:** The e-voting system was introduced by the Bihar State Election Commission to facilitate voting for citizens, particularly those who are differently-abled, elderly, or living far from their constituencies.

RECLAIM is being launched by the Ministry of Coal

- **RECLAIM Framework:** RECLAIM stands for a structured Community Engagement and Development Framework tailored for mine closure and repurposing.
- **Objective:** The framework aims to provide long-term sustainability and economic recovery post-mining, focusing on social and ecological transitions in mining regions.
- **Key Features:** RECLAIM includes structured community participation, toolkits and methodologies for mine closure, gender and vulnerability focus, linkage with local governance (Panchayati Raj Institutions), ecological restoration goals, and socio-economic continuity through alternate livelihoods and capacity building.
- **Launch and Collaboration:** The Ministry of Coal launched RECLAIM in collaboration with the Coal Controller Organisation and the Heartfulness Institute.
- **Significance:** RECLAIM is a first-of-its-kind framework for India, introducing a dedicated, people-centric closure policy in the coal sector.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Saudi Deputy Minister receives Ambassador of Myanmar

- **Diplomatic Meeting:** The Saudi Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs received the Ambassador of Myanmar as part of ongoing diplomatic engagements between the two countries.
- **Bilateral Relations:** The meeting focused on strengthening bilateral ties, especially in areas such as trade, investment, and regional cooperation.
- **Regional Stability:** Both sides discussed regional developments and emphasized the importance of stability and peaceful dialogue in Southeast Asia.
- **Humanitarian Concerns:** Issues related to humanitarian aid and the situation of displaced populations, especially the Rohingya crisis, were reportedly raised.
- **Commitment to Dialogue:** The meeting reaffirmed both countries' commitment to maintaining constructive dialogue and enhancing mutual understanding through diplomatic channels.

Foot notes:

About Myanmar-

- **Capital:** Naypyidaw
- **Currency:** Myanmar Kyat
- **Official language:** Burmese

India ranks 99th in UN Sustainable Development Goals Index 2025

- **Historic Top-100 Entry:** India has, for the first time, entered the UN SDG Index's top 100 nations, securing the 99th position out of 167 countries in 2025, marking its best-ever performance

- **Score Improvement & Context:** India achieved a score of 66.95 (often rounded to 67), reflecting gradual year-on-year progress; the country had ranked 109th in 2024 and 112th in 2023
- **Regional & Global Comparison:** Among its South Asian neighbours, India now outperforms Bangladesh (114th) and Pakistan (140th), yet trails behind Bhutan (74th), Nepal (85th), Sri Lanka (93rd), and the Maldives (53rd)
- **Drivers of Progress:** The improved ranking reflects progress in poverty reduction, clean energy adoption, healthcare access, housing schemes, toilets, piped water, and infrastructure development

India, UAE Forge Strategic Partnership in Green Steel & Aluminium Sector

- **High-level Industrial Talks:** During a strategic meeting in Dubai, India's Steel Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy and UAE's Economy Minister Abdulla Bin Touq Al Marri strengthened collaboration under the CEPA. They focused on industrial modernization, clean energy integration, and securing raw materials for low-carbon production
- **Green Steel & Aluminium Vision:** Both nations agreed to explore green steel and aluminium projects by adopting eco-friendly technologies like green hydrogen and energy-efficient production systems in strategic sectors such as automotive and high-end manufacturing
- **Resource Security Cooperation:** India expressed interest in securing long-term access to low-silica limestone and critical minerals from UAE sources—particularly Ras Al Khaimah—to support India's scale-up plans in steel capacity
- **CPSEs Going Global:** Public-sector units like SAIL, NMDC, and MECON have now set up international operations in Dubai. These offices aim to coordinate joint ventures, technology exchange, and trade facilitation for sustainable industrial growth

Jio Becomes World's Largest Fixed Wireless Access Provider

- **Dominant Share in India:** India's TRAI data shows Jio holds approximately 85% of the country's 5G FWA market, with 4.84 million of the 5.72 million total Indian FWA subscribers in January 2025
- **Rapid Growth & Reach Expansion:** Jio connected over 5.6 million premises by March 2025 and is adding roughly 1 million homes per month, accelerating broadband access especially in semi-urban and rural regions
- **Market Gap & Strategy:** With nearly 70% of additions from beyond the top 1,000 towns, Jio's strategy targets bridging India's broadband divide—using 5G standalone, network slicing, and high-speed AirFiber technology to bypass fiber deployment challenges
- **Driven by Automation & AI:** Jio's FWA deployment is powered by automation and AI—using advanced analytics, network slicing, and a digital twin platform to ensure service quality, proactive issue resolution, fraud detection, and personalization

SAIL Opens First Overseas Office in Dubai to Strengthen Global Presence

- **Strategic Global Expansion:** The Dubai office is SAIL's first international representative office and a significant step in its strategy to strengthen its global presence and become a more competitive steelmaker.
- **Gateway to MENA Region:** Dubai's strategic location makes it an ideal hub for SAIL to boost steel exports and forge deeper industry linkages across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.
- **Boosts India-UAE Trade Ties:** The office aims to reinforce trade relations between India and the UAE, aligning with India's vision to enhance its steel industry's global footprint.
- **Supports National Steel Target:** This move contributes to India's ambitious goal of achieving a national crude steel production capacity of 300 million tonnes by 2030.

BANKING NEWS

PhonePe & HDFC Bank partner to launch co-branded credit card

- **Partnership Details:** PhonePe has partnered with HDFC Bank to launch a co-branded credit card, marking PhonePe's entry into the credit card space. The card runs on the RuPay network and integrates directly with Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
- **Card Variants:** The co-branded card is available in two variants: 'Ultimo' and 'UNO'. Both variants offer rewards on popular spending categories like recharge, bill payments, travel, online shopping, groceries, and cabs.
- **Application and Usage:** Eligible PhonePe users can apply for the co-branded credit card directly on the PhonePe Mobile App through a fully digital process. Once approved, users can link the card to UPI and make payments at millions of merchants supporting UPI QR codes.

Foot notes:

About PhonePe-

- **CEO:** Sameer Nigam
- **Headquarters:** Bengaluru
- **Founded:** 2015

Foot notes:

About HDFC Bank-

- **CEO:** Sashidhar Jagdishan
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- **Founded:** 1994

Karnataka Bank MD and Executive Director resign

- **Top leadership exits:** Managing Director & CEO Srikrishnan Hari Hara Sarma and Executive Director Sekhar Rao resigned late on Sunday, June 29, 2025—Sarma citing

personal reasons and a relocation to Mumbai; Rao due to personal constraints and inability to move to Mangaluru

- **Effective dates announced:** Sarma's resignation will take effect on July 15, 2025, and Rao's will be effective from July 31, 2025
- **Triggered by auditor flaggings:** Their resignations follow auditor observations (in FY25) regarding unapproved expenses totaling around ₹1.53 crore that exceeded their delegated authority—a governance concern now claimed to be resolved
- **Interim arrangements put in place:** The board has appointed Raghavendra Srinivas Bhat as interim Chief Operating Officer from July 2, formed a search committee to appoint permanent successors, and initiated substitute arrangements pending RBI approval.

Foot notes:

About Karnataka Bank-

- **Non-Executive Chairman:** P. Pradeep Kumar
- **Headquarters:** Mangalore, Karnataka
- **Founded:** 1924

SEBI appoints Sunil Jayawant Kadam as Executive Director

- **Appointment Date:** Sunil Jayawant Kadam took charge as Executive Director (ED) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on July 1, 2025.
- **Department Oversight:** As ED, he will oversee Information Technology (IT), Investor Assistance & Education (IAE), Economic & Policy Analysis (EPA), Board Cell, and Right to Information (RTI) & Parliamentary Queries (PQ) Cell, including NISM-related matters.
- **SEBI Tenure:** Kadam has been associated with SEBI since 1996, having worked in key departments such as Market Regulation, Surveillance, Investigation, and Corporation Finance.
- **Regional & Academic Roles:** He previously served as Regional Director of SEBI's Northern Regional Office (New Delhi) and as Registrar at the National Institute of Securities Markets (NISM).

Foot notes:

About SEBI-

- **Chairperson:** Tuhin Kanta Pandey
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- **Formed:** 1992

Kesavan Ramachandran appointed as RBI's New Executive Director

- **New Role at RBI:** Kesavan Ramachandran has been appointed as an Executive Director (ED) at the Reserve Bank of India, effective July 1, 2025, marking a major milestone in his central banking career
- **Extensive Banking Experience:** With over three decades in the RBI, Ramachandran has led functions such as currency management, banking and NBFC supervision, risk monitoring, training, and administration
- **Career Highlights:** Previously he served as Principal Chief General Manager in the Risk Monitoring Department, Principal of the RBI Staff College, RBI nominee on Canara Bank's board for over five years, and a member of ICAI's Auditing & Assurance Standards Board for two years
- **New Responsibilities:** In his new capacity, he will head the Department of Regulation (Prudential Regulation Division)—a crucial function ensuring banks' compliance with prudential norms

Foot notes:**About RBI-**

- **Governor:** Sanjay Malhotra
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- **Established:** 1935

Mashreq Becomes First UAE Bank to Enter GIFT City

- **First UAE Bank in GIFT City:** Mashreq has received in-principle approval to establish an International Financial Services Centre Banking Unit (IBU) in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City), making it the first UAE-based bank to do so.
- **Strategic Expansion in India:** This move underscores Mashreq's confidence in India's growing financial ecosystem and its commitment to strengthening trade and investment flows between India, the Middle East, and other global corridors.
- **Broad Range of Services:** The upcoming branch in GIFT City will offer a comprehensive suite of services, including foreign currency loans, trade finance solutions, and treasury and risk management products.
- **Operational by Q4 2025:** The IBU is expected to commence operations by the fourth quarter of 2025, subject to final regulatory clearances from the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA).

DEFENCE NEWS**Fast Petrol Vessel 'Adamya' inducted into Indian Coast Guard**

- **Induction Details:** The Indian Coast Guard inducted 'Adamya', the first of eight Fast Patrol Vessels built by Goa Shipyard Limited, on June 26, 2025, at a ceremony in Goa. The vessel is designed to enhance maritime security and showcases India's growing shipbuilding capabilities.

- **Indigenous Content:** 'Adamyia' boasts over 60% indigenous content, aligning with the government's 'Make in India' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiatives. This highlights India's progress in self-reliant defense manufacturing and reduces dependence on foreign technology.
- **Advanced Features:** The vessel is equipped with state-of-the-art technology, including a 30mm CRN-91 gun, two 12.7mm stabilized remote-control guns, Integrated Bridge System, Integrated Platform Management System, and Automated Power Management System.
- **Operational Capabilities:** 'Adamyia' can operate efficiently in shallow waters, making it ideal for near-shore patrols and rapid response scenarios. Its specialized interception equipment and high-speed capabilities also support environmental protection and anti-smuggling operations.

Sub Lt Aastha Poonia Becomes First Woman Navy Fighter Pilot Trainee

- **Historic Milestone:** Sub Lt Aastha Poonia has become the first woman to be inducted into the fighter stream of Naval Aviation, marking a significant step towards gender inclusivity in the Indian Navy.
- **"Wings of Gold" Recipient:** She received the prestigious 'Wings of Gold' on July 3, 2025, after successfully completing the Second Basic Hawk Conversion Course at INS Dega, Visakhapatnam.
- **Paving the Way for "Nari Shakti":** Her achievement is celebrated as a testament to the Indian Navy's commitment to "Nari Shakti" (women power), fostering equality and opportunity for women in combat roles.
- **Future Pilot of Advanced Jets:** Sub Lt Poonia will now undergo further advanced training, potentially qualifying her to fly carrier-based fighter jets like the MiG-29K or the naval Rafale.

Indian Army Inaugurates Its First FM Radio Station 'Panchshul Pulse'

- **Launch Details:** The Indian Army launched 'Panchshul Pulse' on May 23, 2025, in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand, as part of Operation Sadbhavana, a humanitarian initiative to build relationships with civilians in strategically important areas.
- **Objective:** The radio station aims to enhance civil-military cooperation, promote local culture, and disseminate information on government initiatives, weather updates, and road conditions. It broadcasts on 88.4 FM and can be received within a 12-kilometer radius.
- **Programming:** Panchshul Pulse features diverse programming, including discussions on local issues, interviews with villagers and army personnel, cultural shows, awareness programs on education and healthcare, and stories celebrating the achievements of martyrs and brave soldiers from the region.

- **Vibrant Villages Programme:** The initiative aligns with the Vibrant Villages Programme, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for holistic development of villages along India's northern border.

SPORTS NEWS

Ayush Shetty wins maiden US Open title

- **Tournament Details:** Ayush Shetty clinched his maiden BWF World Tour title at the US Open Super 300, held in Council Bluffs, Iowa, USA. He defeated Canada's Brian Yang in the men's singles final with a score of 21-18, 21-13 in 47 minutes.
- **Shetty's Performance:** The 20-year-old Indian shuttler dominated the match, showcasing his impressive skills with powerful smashes and precise variations. This win marked his third victory over Yang, having beaten him twice earlier this year at the Malaysia and Taipei Opens.
- **Ranking and Significance:** This title win has likely boosted Shetty's ranking, making him India's No. 2 men's singles player. The victory also ended India's title drought on the BWF World Tour this season.
- **Tanvi Sharma's Performance:** In the women's singles final, 16-year-old Tanvi Sharma finished as runner-up, losing to top seed Beiwen Zhang of the United States in three games (11-21, 21-16, 10-21).

Ons Jabeur retires from Wimbledon match

- **First-Round Exit:** Former two-time Wimbledon finalist Ons Jabeur retired during her first-round match at Wimbledon 2025 against Bulgaria's Viktoriya Tomova. Tomova had won the first set in a tiebreak and was leading 2-0 in the second when Jabeur withdrew.
- **Medical Timeout & Breathing Struggle:** Jabeur appeared uncomfortable in the scorching heat, needed a medical timeout in the first set, and was visibly distressed—at one point crying into a towel. She cited breathing difficulties and asthma complications.
- **Heatwave Conditions:** Temperatures hit around 32–34 °C at Wimbledon on June 30, prompting the All England Club to activate its warm-weather policy. The oppressive heat exacerbated her struggles.
- **Impact on Confidence & Form:** Currently ranked around No. 59, Jabeur admitted the retirement “doesn't help” her confidence amid a particularly challenging season, marred by prior breathing issues at the Australian Open and lingering injuries.

India's Divyanshi clinched gold in the U-15 Girls' Singles

- **Historic Win:** Divyanshi Bhowmick, aged 14, won the U-15 Girls' Singles title at the 29th Asian Youth Table Tennis Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

- **Breaking the Drought:** Her victory ended a 36-year medal drought for India in this age group at the Asian Youth Championships and marked the first U-15 girls' singles gold by an Indian in 21 years
- **Memorable Finals:** In the final, she overcame China's Zhu Qihui 4–2 in a gripping match, showcasing technical skill and mental resilience under pressure
- **Semifinal Triumph:** Earlier, she had prevailed 4–3 against another Chinese player, Liu Ziling, in an intense semifinal—demonstrating her endurance and ability to perform in high-stakes, long-format matches

Shubman Gill became 4th India captain to score consecutive centuries as a Test captain

- **Historic Back-to-Back Test Centuries:** On July 2, 2025, during the Edgbaston Test vs England, Gill scored a century (114*) on Day 1—following his earlier 147 at Headingley—making it back-to-back hundreds as captain
- **Just the 4th to Achieve This for India:** He joins an elite club of only four Indian captains to score hundreds in each of their first two Tests as skipper, following Vijay Hazare, Sunil Gavaskar, and Virat Kohli
- **One of Few to Do It in England:** Gill is the second Indian captain after Mohammad Azharuddin (1990) to notch centuries in both initial Tests of an England series
- **Matched Kohli's Feat in Australia:** His consecutive tons as captain echo Virat Kohli's feat during the 2014-15 Australia tour, making Gill only the second Indian skipper to replicate this across formats
- **Leadership & Form Under Pressure:** In addition to his runs, experts have praised his new-found technical consistency and mental composure, notably his “top hand control” at Edgbaston—a quality former coach Ravi Shastri pointed out

Smriti Mandhana created double records in women's international cricket

- **First Indian Woman with Centuries in All Formats:** She became the first Indian woman to score a century in all three international formats – Tests, One Day Internationals (ODIs), and Twenty20 Internationals (T20Is). Her maiden T20I hundred against England in June 2025 completed this rare feat.
- **Most ODI Centuries in a Calendar Year:** In 2024, Smriti Mandhana scored four ODI centuries, a new record in women's cricket for the most tons in a single calendar year, surpassing the previous record of three.
- **Highest T20I Score by an Indian Woman:** Her 112 off 62 balls against England in the aforementioned T20I also stands as the highest individual score by an Indian woman in T20 Internationals.
- **Most 50+ Scores in Women's T20Is:** She broke the world record for the most 50+ scores in women's T20Is, surpassing Suzie Bates.

- **Most Fours in Women's T20Is:** She also overtook Suzie Bates' long-standing record for the most fours in women's T20Is.

World Champion D Gukesh wins rapid title at Grand Chess Tour 2025

- **Rapid Victory in Zagreb:** Reigning World Champion D Gukesh clinched the rapid title at the SuperUnited Rapid & Blitz tournament in Zagreb, Croatia, part of the 2025 Grand Chess Tour.
- **Impressive Comeback:** After losing his first-round game to Jan-Krzysztof Duda, the 19-year-old Indian Grandmaster staged a remarkable comeback, winning five consecutive games, including a crucial victory over World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen.
- **Dominant Performance:** Gukesh finished with a commanding 14 points out of a possible 18 in the rapid section, showcasing his strong form, mental resilience, and tactical brilliance.
- **Leading the Overall Tour:** This rapid title puts Gukesh in a strong position for the overall Grand Chess Tour 2025, with the blitz segment still to be played. The combined scores of both rapid and blitz will determine the overall winner.

AWARD NEWS

Radhanath Swami Honoured by New York City for Spiritual and Community Leadership

- **Recognition:** Radhanath Swami, a prominent Hindu spiritual leader and senior monk of ISKCON, was conferred with a New York City honor at a special interfaith event hosted at the Bhakti Centre in Manhattan's East Village.
- **Community Service:** The recognition celebrates his decades-long commitment to community service, interfaith dialogue, and spiritual leadership, highlighting his influence as a global interfaith ambassador.
- **Event Details:** The event, titled "Foundation of Future," was attended by city officials, spiritual leaders, and members of New York's Hindu community. Deputy Commissioner of International Affairs Dilip Chauhan presented the award on behalf of Mayor Eric Adams.
- **ISKCON's Impact:** The recognition promotes ISKCON's global outreach in building inclusive spiritual spaces and highlights the acceptance of Indian spiritual philosophies in Western societies.

Commodore Kartik Srimal received the YSM for distinguished leadership

- **Prestigious Award for Distinguished Leadership:** Commodore Srimal was awarded the Yudh Seva Medal for “distinguished service of a high order” as the Fleet Operations Officer of the Indian Navy’s Western Fleet

- **Role in Operation Sankalp:** He played a central role in Operation Sankalp—launched in December 2023—which encompassed anti-piracy, anti-drone, and anti-missile protection throughout the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, North Arabian Sea, and areas off Somalia
- **Exceptional Operational Planning:** The award citation highlighted his “pragmatic, bold and decisive planning,” particularly during complex maritime operations in a volatile environment
- **Operational Command Timeline:** He assumed the post of Fleet Operations Officer for the Western Fleet on December 18, 2023, and led operations for over five months across a region spanning approximately 51 lakh km²

Engineer Amelia Busby receives Nautilus Cadet Award

- **Award & Recipient:** Amilia Busby, a marine engineer and recent cadet, was honored with the 2025 Bevis Minter Award—Nautilus International’s Cadet award recognizing exceptional determination and resilience among Merchant Navy cadets
- **Tribute to Bevis Minter:** The award commemorates Bevis Minter, a former Nautilus Chairman, and celebrates cadets who have successfully overcome significant personal or professional obstacles in their maritime journey
- **Recognition of Resilience:** Nautilus highlighted Amilia’s “determination and resilience”, framing her achievement as emblematic of the highest standards of the new generation of seafarers
- **Professional Background:** Amilia completed a 3-year cadetship, earning an HND in Marine Engineering, and now holds her Engineer's Officer of the Watch (EOOW) Certificate of Competency (Unlimited)

Ravi Shastri honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award

- **SJAM Recognition:** On July 2, 2025, the Sports Journalists’ Association of Mumbai (SJAM) honoured Ravi Shastri with its prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award, recognizing his contributions as both a player and coach
- **Shared the Stage with Other Legends:** He was among 11 celebrated Indian athletes acknowledged at the Bombay Gymkhana—alongside notable names like Shubhangi Kulkarni (women's cricket), Michael Ferreira (billiards), Anjali Bhagwat (shooting), Mervyn Fernandes (hockey), Sanjay Sharma (badminton), and others
- **Absent at the Ceremony:** Unable to attend in person—he was engaged in commentary duties during India’s Test series—his mother, Lakshmi Shastri, received the award on his behalf
- **Beloved Anecdote Recalled:** At the ceremony, Lakshmi nostalgically recounted the story of his six sixes in an over during a 1984–85 Ranji Trophy match. She humorously revealed that the first hint came not from him—but from their family's bhelpuri vendor

Deepika Padukone to get star on Hollywood Walk of Fame

- **First Mainstream Indian Actress:** Deepika Padukone will make history as the first mainstream Indian actress to be honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.
- **Part of Class of 2026:** She has been officially announced as one of the honorees for the Hollywood Walk of Fame Class of 2026, specifically in the Motion Pictures category.
- **Global Recognition:** This honor solidifies her status as a global icon and recognizes her significant contributions to cinema on an international scale, following her Hollywood debut in "xXx: Return of Xander Cage" (2017) and various global appearances.
- **Prestigious Company:** Deepika will join an illustrious list of international celebrities being inducted in 2026, including names like Emily Blunt, Timothée Chalamet, Rami Malek, Rachel McAdams, Stanley Tucci, and Demi Moore.

S.R.N. Mehta School Wins Top Prize in NASA Contest

- **Global Recognition:** S.R.N. Mehta CBSE School from Kalaburagi, India, won the first prize in the NASA-NSS Space Settlement Design Contest 2025, bringing international acclaim to their school and country.
- **Winning Project "IRA":** Their team of 11 Grade 8 students secured the top spot with their project, "IRA," which focused on designing a sustainable and future-ready space colony capable of supporting human life.
- **Prestigious Competition:** The NASA-NSS Space Settlement Design Contest is a renowned global competition organized by the NASA Ames Research Center and the National Space Society (NSS), encouraging students worldwide to envision future space living.
- **International Presentation:** The winning team was invited to the International Space Development Conference (ISDC-2025) in Orlando, Florida, where they presented their project via poster and oral presentation to over 250 experts, including space scientists and astronauts.

PM Modi Receives Trinidad and Tobago's Highest Civilian Award

- **Historic First for a Foreign Leader:** On July 4, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with "The Order of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago," the nation's highest civilian award, becoming the first foreign leader to receive this distinction.
- **Recognition of Global Leadership and Humanitarian Efforts:** The award was bestowed in recognition of PM Modi's influential global leadership, his deep engagement with the Indian diaspora worldwide, and his significant humanitarian contributions, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Strengthening Bilateral Ties:** The award ceremony, held during PM Modi's official visit to Port of Spain, highlighted the enduring friendship and deep cultural and historical ties between India and Trinidad and Tobago.

- **Dedicated to 1.4 Billion Indians:** Upon receiving the honor, PM Modi humbly dedicated it to the 1.4 billion people of India, emphasizing that it symbolizes the shared pride and eternal friendship between the two nations.

APPOINTMENT & PERSON IN NEWS

Lieutenant General DS Rana Takes Over as Colonel of the Garhwal Rifles Regiment

- **Appointment:** Lieutenant General Dinesh Singh Rana has taken over as the 23rd Colonel of the Regiment of Garhwal Rifles, succeeding Vice Chief of the Army Staff Lieutenant General N.S. Raja Subramani. The ceremony was held at the Garhwal Rifles Regimental Centre in Lansdowne, Uttarakhand.
- **Background:** Lt Gen Rana is a decorated officer with nearly 40 years of experience, having held various operational, instructional, and staff appointments across different terrains and theaters. He was commissioned into the 10th Battalion of The Garhwal Rifles on December 19, 1987.
- **Leadership Role:** As Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Command, Lt Gen Rana brings strategic acumen and operational expertise to the role.
- **Regimental Legacy:** The Garhwal Rifles, established in 1887, is one of the most decorated and battle-hardened infantry regiments of the Indian Army, comprising 27 battalions. The regiment has a glorious history of courage, discipline, and dedication, with over 25,000 casualties recorded in multiple wars.
- **Ceremonial Handover:** The handing over ceremony included a Guard of Honour and a solemn wreath-laying at the War Memorial, paying tribute to the fallen heroes of the regiment.

Ravi Agrawal's Tenure as CBDT Chairman Extended Till June 2026

- **Extension Details:** Ravi Agrawal's tenure as Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has been extended for one year, from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, or until further orders.
- **Appointment Basis:** The extension is on a contract basis, with terms and conditions applicable to re-employed Central Government officers, in relaxation of the Recruitment Rules.
- **Background:** Agrawal, a 1988-batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer, took over as CBDT Chairman in June 2024, succeeding Nitin Gupta, a 1986-batch IRS officer. He had been serving as Member (Administration) in the CBDT since July 2023.
- **Role and Responsibilities:** As CBDT Chairman, Agrawal leads India's apex policy-making body for direct taxes, formulating and implementing direct tax policies, overseeing the Income Tax Department, and advising the Finance Minister on direct tax matters.

Foot notes:

About CBDT-

- **Minister of Finance** : Nirmala Sitharaman
- **Headquarters**: New Delhi
- **Founded**: 1964

Air Marshal S Sivakumar assumes charge as Air Officer-in-Charge Administration

- **Formal Assumption of Charge**: Air Marshal S. Sivakumar took over as AOA at Air HQ in New Delhi on 1 July 2025, succeeding in managing all administration-related functions of the Indian Air Force
- **Distinguished Service Record**: Commissioned into the Administration branch of the IAF in June 1990, he brings over 35 years of service, holding an MBA in HRM (Pondicherry University) and an MPhil in Defence & Strategic Studies (Osmania University)
- **Key Command & Staff Appointments**: He has held a range of significant roles such as Senior Air Traffic Control Officer, Chief Administrative Officer of a premier flying station, Air Officer Commanding of an Equipment Depot, Assistant Chief of Air Staff (Works), and Director General (Administration) at Air HQ
- **International Mission Experience**: Air Marshal Sivakumar represented the IAF in a United Nations mission in Congo, demonstrating his operational versatility
- **Decorated Officer**: He is a recipient of the Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM), awarded for distinguished service of a high order

Rear Admiral V Ganapathy Takes Command of MILIT Pune

- **Assumed Command on 30 June 2025**: Rear Admiral V. Ganapathy officially took charge as Commandant of the Military Institute of Technology (MILIT), Pune on 30 June 2025, at the institute under the Integrated Defence Staff, Ministry of Defence
- **Flag Officer with Diverse Experience**: He is a Flag Officer of the Indian Navy with extensive operational, staff, and instructional assignments, recognized for his operational insight and institutional leadership
- **Impressive Academic Credentials**: Rear Admiral Ganapathy is an alumnus of the College of Defence Management, Defence Services Staff College, and National Defence College.
- **Leadership in a Time of Technological Evolution**: His appointment coincides with the Indian Armed Forces' drive toward rapid technological transformation and greater jointness across Army, Navy, and Air Force operations .
- **Mandate of MILIT Pune**: As Commandant, he leads a premier tri-services technical institute that trains mid-career officers from all three services and friendly foreign armed forces in niche domains such as cyber, AI, aerospace, and systems integration.

Nandan Nilekani appointed as Chief Mentor for India Energy Stack

- **Official Appointment by Ministry of Power:** On June 28, 2025, the Ministry of Power appointed Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani as the Chief Mentor of a newly launched task force charged with developing the India Energy Stack
- **Aiming to Build a Digital Public Infrastructure for Energy:** The India Energy Stack (IES) is conceived as a unified digital backbone for India's power sector, enabling real-time data sharing, better integration of renewables and EVs, and consumer empowerment—mirroring the success of Aadhaar and UPI .
- **Ambitious Pilot Phase Targets:** The initiative will begin with a 12-month pilot in Delhi, Mumbai, and Gujarat, including deployment of the Utility Intelligence Platform for utilities and policymakers .
- **Leveraging Nilekani's Track Record:** Nilekani, the architect of Aadhaar and a key figure behind UPI and India Stack, brings a proven track record in scaling digital public infrastructure—expected to accelerate modernization of India's power distribution

Goyal gets additional charge of CMD of NHPC

- **Appointment Date & Authority:** Rajendra Prasad Goyal, currently NHPC's Director (Finance), has been assigned the additional charge of Chairman & Managing Director effective July 1, 2025, on directions from the Ministry of Power
- **Second Interim Stint:** This marks his second stint as interim CMD—he previously held the role from March 1, 2024, to August 7, 2024
- **Predecessor's Retirement & Successor in Waiting:** The charge was assigned following the superannuation of Raj Kumar Chaudhary on June 30, 2025. Meanwhile, Bhupender Gupta (Director, Technical, THDC) has been recommended by PESB for formal CMD appointment
- **Veteran Career & Expertise:** With over 36 years at NHPC (joining in 1988), Goyal is a finance specialist, a member of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India, and holds an M.Com from University of Rajasthan

Foot notes:

About NHPC-

- **Chairman & MD:** Shri Raj Kumar Chaudhary
- **Headquarters:** Faridabad
- **Founded:** 1975

Google Cloud elevates Sashikumar Sreedhara as MD for India business

- Sashikumar Sreedharan has been appointed Managing Director (MD) of Google Cloud India, effective July 1, 2025
- He succeeds Bikram Singh Bedi, who led the India cloud arm for about 4.5 years and will now take on regional strategic responsibilities across Asia Pacific

- Sreedharan brings over 30 years of experience, including roles at Microsoft India (MD of enterprise business), SAP, and IBM
- Since joining Google Cloud as COO for APAC in September 2023, he has overseen broad regional operations from Bengaluru
- In his new role, he'll lead the go-to-market strategy in India, focusing on enterprise, digital-native clients, partners, developers—and especially scaling the company's AI-first agenda

Sudhanshu Mittal re-elected as president of Kho Kho Federation of India

- **Unanimously Re-elected President:** On July 2, 2025, Sudhanshu Mittal was re-elected—by unanimous consent—as President of KKFI for another four-year term, in a ceremony overseen by returning officer Dr. Kamini Lau
- **Leadership Team Named:** Upkar Singh Virk (Punjab Kho Kho Association) was appointed General Secretary, and Govind Sharma (Maharashtra Kho Kho Association) took over as Treasurer. Additionally, the governing body includes eight Vice Presidents, four Joint Secretaries, and 13 Executive Members
- **Vision for Global Expansion:** Mittal expressed his ambition to increase Kho Kho's international footprint—growing from 58 to 90 participating countries within the year—and aiming for inclusion in the 2030 Asian Games and 2032 Summer Olympics
- **Structured Development & Transparency:** General Secretary Virk highlighted a focus on systematic sport development, transparency within KKFI operations, and transforming Kho Kho into a modern global sport rooted in cultural tradition

Pakistan Becomes President of the UN Security Council

- **Term and Membership:** Pakistan has assumed a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council for the 2025-26 term, marking its eighth term in the council. It secured 182 votes in the 193-member UN General Assembly to become a non-permanent member.
- **Presidency Term:** Pakistan will hold the presidency of the Security Council for the month of July, following the English alphabetical order of member states' names.
- **Priorities and Focus Areas:** Pakistan is expected to prioritize peacekeeping and humanitarian issues, particularly in conflict zones like Gaza and Kashmir.
- **Diplomatic Leverage:** Pakistan aims to use its position to strengthen ties with the Taliban in Afghanistan, leveraging support from allies like Russia and China for diplomatic rehabilitation efforts.

Indigo appoints Amitabh Kant as non- executive director

- **Strategic Insight and Governance:** As a Non-Executive Director, Amitabh Kant will bring independent oversight, strategic guidance, and constructive challenge to IndiGo's executive management, leveraging his vast experience in public policy and governance.

- **Rich Administrative Experience:** Kant has a distinguished career spanning over four decades in the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), holding key positions like CEO of NITI Aayog and India's G20 Sherpa, which will be invaluable for IndiGo's growth.
- **Facilitating Growth and Expansion:** His deep understanding of government policies, infrastructure development (including airports), and international relations is expected to greatly benefit IndiGo, especially as the airline pursues its ambitious international expansion plans.
- **Boosting Tourism and Connectivity:** Kant's past roles in driving initiatives like "Incredible India" and "God's Own Country" in Kerala tourism align with IndiGo's vision of transforming Indian airports into global hubs and fostering trade, tourism, and investment.

Shri Sanjib Kumar Saha Takes Charge as Head of Project, NTPC

- **New Role as HOP:** He assumed the role of Head of Project at NTPC Vindhyachal, effective July 2nd, 2025.
- **Seasoned Professional:** Shri Saha is a highly experienced professional with an illustrious career spanning over 34 years at NTPC.
- **Educational Background:** He holds a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Calcutta University and a Master's degree in Power Systems from IIT Delhi.
- **Extensive NTPC Experience:** He began his journey at NTPC in 1991 as an Executive Trainee and has held various key leadership positions across multiple NTPC stations, including Farakka, Badarpur, Lara, Kahalgaon, Telangana, and Vindhyachal.
- **Expertise and Leadership:** He is recognized for his expertise in electrical maintenance, operations, and fuel management, demonstrating visionary leadership and commitment to operational excellence.

Achal Sinha appointed as Non-Official Independent Director of NMDC Ltd

- **New Board Appointment:** Shri Achal Sinha has been appointed as a Non-Official Independent Director on the Board of NMDC Limited, a prominent Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the Ministry of Steel.
- **Term of Appointment:** His tenure as a Non-Official Independent Director will be for a period of three years, effective from July 3, 2025.
- **Extensive Experience:** Shri Sinha brings over 35 years of extensive experience, particularly in the fields of agriculture and social service, with a focus on rural development and sustainable farming.
- **Background in Agriculture and Social Service:** A Botany graduate from Patliputra University, Patna, he has been instrumental in promoting innovative agricultural models, supporting farmers, and facilitating eco-friendly techniques in Bihar.

Foot notes:

About NMDC-

- **Chairman-Cum-Managing Director:** Amitava Mukherjee
- **Headquarters:** Hyderabad
- **Founded:** 1958

Sarada Bhushan Mohanty to Be Next CMD of IREL (India) Limited

- **Selected for Top Post:** Sarada Bhushan Mohanty, currently serving as Director (Finance) at IREL (India) Limited, has been chosen by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) to be the next Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the company.
- **Internal Promotion:** This is a significant internal promotion, recognizing his "strong financial skills and long-term contributions to IREL's growth," as he was already a functional director within the company.
- **Rigorous Selection Process:** His selection came after a competitive interview process conducted by the PESB on July 4, 2025, which included 12 candidates from various public sector undertakings and government departments.

Foot notes:

About IREL-

- **Chairman & MD:** D. Singh
- **Headquarters:** 1207
- **Founded:** 1950

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Asteroid Day observed on 30 June

- **Date and Purpose:** International Asteroid Day is observed on June 30 every year to raise awareness about asteroids and the potential threats they pose to Earth. The day aims to educate the public about asteroid risks and impact hazards.
- **Tunguska Event:** The date June 30 was chosen to commemorate the Tunguska event, a massive asteroid explosion that occurred over Siberia, Russia, on June 30, 1908. This event is considered one of the largest asteroid impacts in Earth's recent history, flattening around 2,000 square kilometers of forest.
- **United Nations Recognition:** The United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution in December 2016, declaring June 30 as International Asteroid Day. The day encourages investment in space science and technology, and helps develop strategies for asteroid detection, tracking, and deflection.
- **Asteroid Facts:** Asteroids are small, rocky objects that orbit the Sun, and most of them reside in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. They vary in size, shape, and composition, and some are even hundreds of miles in diameter.

GST Day observed on 01st July

- **Commemorates GST Implementation:** GST Day marks the anniversary of the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India, which was officially rolled out on 1st July 2017, unifying multiple indirect taxes under one system.
- **Major Tax Reform in India:** The GST is considered India's biggest tax reform since Independence, replacing various central and state taxes like VAT, excise duty, service tax, etc., with a single, unified tax structure.
- **Celebrated by Government Bodies:** The Ministry of Finance, CBIC (Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs), and GST Council commemorate this day with events, discussions, and awards to honor top-performing GST officers and contributors.
- **Highlights of 2025 Observance:** In 2025, the government highlighted record GST collections, better compliance rates, and new tech-driven initiatives like AI-based GST fraud detection, e-invoicing expansion, and GST 2.0 roadmap.

International Day of Cooperatives celebrated on July 5, 2025

- **Annual Global Celebration:** The International Day of Cooperatives (CoopsDay) is celebrated annually on the first Saturday of July, which falls on July 5, 2025, this year.
- **Theme for 2025:** The official theme for CoopsDay 2025 is "Cooperatives: Driving Inclusive and Sustainable Solutions for a Better World."
- **Part of UN International Year of Cooperatives:** This year's celebration holds extra significance as it falls during the United Nations International Year of Cooperatives (IYC2025), a once-in-a-decade opportunity to highlight the cooperative model's contributions.

OBITUARY NEWS

Former England batter Larkins passed away

- **Age and Date of Passing:** Wayne Larkins passed away at the age of 71 on June 28, 2025, after a short illness at University Hospital, Coventry.
- **Career Highlights:** Larkins played 13 Tests and 25 ODIs for England between 1979 and 1991, including an appearance in the 1979 World Cup final. He scored winning runs against West Indies in 1990.
- **Domestic Career:** Larkins spent most of his domestic career with Northamptonshire, playing over 700 matches and scoring 29,929 runs. He later played for Durham, leaving a lasting impression.
- **Ban and Controversy:** Larkins was banned for three years due to his participation in the unofficial 1982 rebel tour of South Africa, which might have impacted his international career.

Shafali Jariwala passed away due to heart attack

- **Cause of Death:** Shefali suffered a cardiac arrest, which is different from a heart attack. Cardiac arrest occurs when the heart suddenly stops beating properly, whereas a heart attack happens when the blood flow to the heart is blocked.
- **Hospitalization:** She was rushed to Bellevue Multispeciality Hospital in Mumbai by her husband Parag Tyagi, but was declared dead on arrival. Her body was later taken to Cooper Hospital for further procedures.
- **Investigation:** There's no indication of foul play, and her friend Pooja Ghai revealed that Parag Tyagi was questioned by the police as part of the routine investigation.
- **Tributes:** Several celebrities, including Aly Goni, Rajiv Adatia, and Divyanka Tripathi, paid their condolences on social media, mourning her sudden demise.

Renowned Hypnotist Dr. BV Pattabhiram passed away

- **Date and Cause:** Dr. Pattabhiram passed away on Monday night, June 30, 2025, at his residence in Hyderabad due to a cardiac arrest at the age of 75
- **Academic Credentials:** He held postgraduate degrees in psychology and philosophy, a PG Diploma in guidance and counselling, and earned a PhD from Osmania University for his thesis titled “Yoga and Hypnotism – A Pragmatic Approach”.
- **Pioneer in India:** He founded India’s first magic school, which was recognised by the Limca Book of Records, and was an acclaimed illusionist, hypnotist, author, and personality development coach.

Liverpool & Portugal forward Diogo Jota & his brother passed away

- **Tragic Car Accident:** Liverpool and Portugal forward Diogo Jota, 28, and his younger brother, André Silva, 25, were killed in a car crash in Zamora, Spain, on Thursday, July 3, 2025.
- **Vehicle Veered and Caught Fire:** Their Lamborghini veered off the road and burst into flames, with no other vehicles involved. Authorities are investigating the cause, with a tire blowout during an overtaking maneuver being a potential factor.
- **Both Professional Footballers:** Diogo Jota was a prominent player for Liverpool and the Portuguese national team, while André Silva was also a professional footballer, playing for F.C. Penafiel in Portugal's lower divisions.
- **Recently Married:** Diogo Jota had married his longtime partner Rute Cardoso just two weeks prior to the accident; they had three young children together.

Julian McMahon, Star of ‘Fantastic Four’, passed away

- **Passed Away at 56:** Australian-American actor Julian McMahon, known for his charismatic roles, died on July 2, 2025, at the age of 56.
- **Private Battle with Cancer:** His wife, Kelly Paniagua, confirmed that he passed away peacefully in Clearwater, Florida, after a private and courageous battle with cancer.

- **Iconic Role as Doctor Doom:** McMahon was widely recognized for his portrayal of the iconic villain Doctor Doom in the 2005 film *Fantastic Four* and its 2007 sequel, *Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer*.
- **Versatile Career in TV and Film:** Beyond *Fantastic Four*, he had a significant career in television, with lead roles in popular series like "Nip/Tuck" (for which he received a Golden Globe nomination), "Charmed," and "FBI: Most Wanted."



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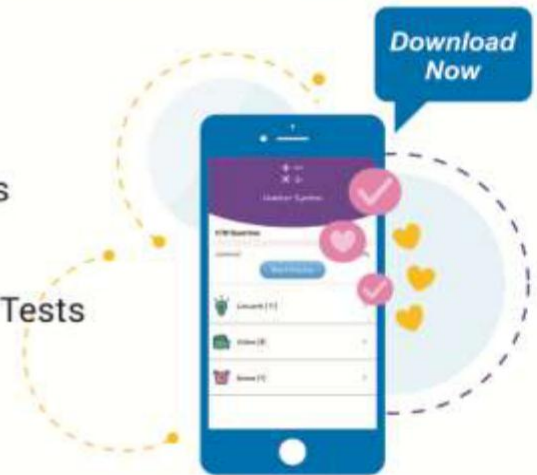
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