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Current Affairs

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Grandmaster P Iniyan Wins 62nd National Chess Championship



1. 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.
- **Double Triumph:** This win, combined with his earlier National Rapid Championship title, positions Iniyan for future international competitions with his rating surpassing 2600, further solidifying his reputation as a top chess player in India.



2. 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 and advancing innovation in line with ICAO's No Country Left Behind initiative.



3. 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.
- **Digital Transformation Expertise:** He has expertise in digital lending, corporate credit, and treasury, and has led significant digital transformation initiatives, including implementing WhatsApp banking, video KYC, and doorstep banking.
- **Educational Background:** Pandey holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering and a postgraduate management qualification specializing in finance and marketing.
- **Achievements:** During his tenure, Pandey has implemented various digital solutions and played a crucial role in the bank's digital transformation, including overseeing corporate credit, treasury, and digital lending initiatives.



Foot notes:

About Union Bank-

- **Non-Exe Chairman:** Srinivasan Varadarajan
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- **Founded:** 1919

4. 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.
- **Competition Experience:** She has been competing at a high level, including a fourth-place finish in the women's 49kg category at the 2024 Paris Olympics.
- **Upcoming Events:** She is currently preparing for the 2025 World Weightlifting Championships, a major event in the weightlifting calendar.



5. 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.
- **Season Highlights:** With this victory, Alcaraz now boasts 67 wins and eight titles in 2025, solidifying his lead in the ATP rankings. He's tied with Alexander Zverev for the most titles among men born since 1990.
- **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.



6. Ambica Anand appointed as Director in the Ministry of Steel

- **Appointment Details:** Ambica Anand, a 2009 batch Indian Statistical Service (ISS) officer, has been appointed as Director in the Ministry of Steel, effective from the date of joining for a period of four to five years.
- **Central Staffing Scheme:** Her appointment is under the Central Staffing Scheme, which allows officers to serve in



various positions across the government for a specified period.

- **Appointment Approval:** The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet has approved her appointment, as per the latest government notifications.
- **Background:** Ambica Anand has been entrusted with significant responsibilities in her new role, contributing to the Ministry's efforts in steel production, distribution, and policy-making.

7. 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.
- **Previous Role:** Before assuming the role of Commandant, Maj Gen Srinivas was responsible for planning and executing operational logistics in the Western Command theatre, including during Operation Sindoor, where his leadership in logistics management proved pivotal.
- **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.



8. 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 Udhamandalam.
- **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.
- **Dr. James' Affiliation:** Dr. James is affiliated with Bharathidasan University, where he has made significant contributions to environmental science research.

9. 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.
- **Joint Presentation:** The award was jointly presented by philanthropist Amit Sachdeva and the Aditya Birla Group, underscoring the recognition of Motupalli's efforts across industries.



10. Padma Vibhushan vocalist Pandit Chhannulal Mishra passed away

- **Contribution to Music:** Pandit Mishra was known for his expertise in various genres, including Khayal, Thumri, Dadra, Chaiti, Kajri, and Bhajan. He was particularly famous for his renditions of Purab Ang thumri.
- **Awards and Recognition:** He received several prestigious awards, including the Padma Bhushan (2010) and Padma Vibhushan (2020), India's second-highest civilian honor, for his contributions to Indian classical music.
- **Legendary Vocalist:** Pandit Chhannulal Mishra was a renowned Hindustani classical vocalist known for his expertise in various genres, including Khayal and Thumri.
- **Padma Vibhushan Awardee:** He was honored with the Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian award, recognizing his significant contributions to Indian classical music.



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