

THE DAILY GK DOSE

INDIAN ARMY WON KHELO INDIA WINTER GAMES 2026 CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

- **Hat-trick of Titles:** The Indian Army secured its third consecutive overall championship (having previously won in 2024 and 2025), finishing at the top of the leaderboard with a total of 23 medals (9 Gold, 6 Silver, and 8 Bronze).
- **Dominant Disciplines:** The Army's success was powered by absolute dominance in the Gulmarg leg (snow sports), where they won 8 of their 9 gold medals, specifically sweeping the podium in Nordic skiing and retaining their gold in Ice Hockey during the Ladakh leg.
- **Individual Brilliance:** Skier Mayank Panwar emerged as a standout performer for the Army, earning the title of "slalom man of the Games" by clinching double gold medals in the Slalom and Giant Slalom events.

INDIA'S SPACE ECOSYSTEM GETS CYBER SHIELD AS SIA-INDIA

- **Whole-of-Ecosystem Protection:** The guidelines establish a unified security framework for the entire space value chain, covering orbital assets (satellites), ground stations, communication links, and supply chains. This ensures that every stakeholder—from government agencies to private space-tech startups—has a standardized "defense-in-depth" blueprint.
- **Response to Escalating Threats:** The initiative was fast-tracked due to a massive surge in digital aggression, including over 1.5 million cyberattack attempts recorded during the "Operation Sindoor" simulation and a

sevenfold increase in attacks on government networks.

- **"Secure-by-Design" Mandate:** The framework marks a strategic shift from reactive cyber hygiene to a proactive, mission-assurance model. It mandates that cybersecurity be integrated into the architecture of space systems from the development stage (secure-by-design) rather than being treated as a technical afterthought.

WEST BENGAL ANNOUNCES 'BANGLAR YUVA SATHI' SCHEME



- **Financial Stipend:** The scheme provides a monthly allowance of ₹1,500 directly to the bank accounts of educated but unemployed individuals. This support is intended to help them cover basic costs while they search for jobs or undergo skill training.
- **Targeted Eligibility:** It is specifically designed for permanent residents of West Bengal aged between 21 and 40 years who have passed at least the Madhyamik (Class 10) examination. It excludes those already receiving benefits from other major state social security schemes like Yuvashree or Lakshmir Bhandar.
- **Time-Bound Support:** The assistance is a transitional measure, provided for a maximum period of five years or until the beneficiary secures permanent employment (whichever comes first).

IMPORTANT FACTS

MAJOR EASTERN COAST OF INDIA

- *Visakhapatnam Port- Andhra Pradesh*
- *Paradeep Port- Odisha*
- *Haldia Port- West Bengal*
- *Kolkata Port- West Bengal*
- *Chennai Port- Tamil Nadu*
- *Ennore Port- Tamil Nadu*

REALTIME BIOMETRICS LAUNCHES T502F MINI

- **Aadhaar-Integrated Security:** The device is purpose-built as an Aadhaar-Enabled Biometric Attendance System (AEBAS). It ensures that every attendance entry is tied to a verified identity using STQC-certified fingerprint and face recognition technology, effectively eliminating "proxy marking".
- **High-Performance Hardware:** Despite its "Mini" branding, the terminal features robust specs, including an Octa-Core processor, a 5.5-inch touch display, and a high-capacity battery providing up to 8 hours of backup, making it reliable for field use or areas with inconsistent power.
- **Versatile Connectivity:** To ensure real-time data synchronization across diverse Indian environments, the T502F Mini supports a wide range of connectivity options, including 4G/5G, Wi-Fi, TCP/IP, Bluetooth, and GPS.

ARGENTINE TOMAS MARTIN ETCHEVERRY CLAIMS MAIDEN ATP 500 TITLE

- **Maiden ATP Title:** After previously losing three ATP Tour finals, the 26-year-old Etcheverry clinched his first-ever professional title by defeating Chile's Alejandro Tabilo in a grueling three-set final (3–6, 7–6, 6–4).
- **Marathon Performance:** Due to heavy rain delays in Rio de Janeiro, Etcheverry was forced to play both his semifinal and the final on the same day. He spent a total of over six hours on the court Sunday, coming from a set down in both matches to win the championship.
- **Ranking & Milestone:** The victory propelled Etcheverry 18 places up the ATP rankings to World No. 33. Additionally, he recorded his 100th tour-level match win during the tournament, making him the third Argentine to win in Rio after Diego Schwartzman and Sebastián Báez.

OPENAI APPOINTS ARVIND KC AS CHIEF PEOPLE OFFICER

- **Engineering-Centric Leadership:** Unlike traditional HR executives, Arvind KC brings a "technical engineering depth" to the role. With a career spanning over 25 years at Google, Meta, Palantir, and Roblox, his mandate is to treat organizational design as an engineering problem—building internal systems that allow

technical teams to move fast without sacrificing collaboration.

- **Navigating the AI Transition:** Beyond standard hiring and onboarding, his role is central to OpenAI's mission of modeling the "future of work." He is tasked with overseeing how roles evolve and how employees reskill as AI tools become more integrated into daily operations.
- **Strategic Indian-Origin Appointment:** Arvind KC, an alumnus of the Institute of Chemical Technology (Mumbai) and Santa Clara University, joins a prominent wave of Indian-origin leaders in the AI sector, including OpenAI's own CTO for Applications, Vijaye Raji. He replaces Julia Villagra, who departed the company in August 2025.

NMDC R&D CENTRE AND IIT HYDERABAD SIGN MOU



- **Focus on Green Steel & Sustainability:** The primary objective of the partnership is to develop indigenous, low-carbon technologies for "Green Steelmaking." This includes joint research on iron ore beneficiation, agglomeration, and using domestic raw materials for alternate ironmaking to reduce the industry's carbon footprint.
- **Strategic Mineral Security:** The collaboration focuses on the extraction of critical and rare earth minerals from both primary and secondary sources. This is a vital

move to strengthen India's resource resilience and reduce dependency on imports for high-tech and green energy sectors.

- **Mining 4.0 & Digitalization:** The MoU integrates advanced technology into traditional mining, specifically launching pilot projects for autonomous vehicle movement, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), and drone-enabled surveying to modernize operations and enhance safety.
- ## VETERAN CPI LEADER & FREEDOM FIGHTER R. NALLAKANNU PASSED AWAY

- **Pillar of the Communist Movement:** Fondly known as "Comrade RNK," he served as the State Secretary of the CPI in Tamil Nadu for 13 years (1992–2005). He was one of the last surviving leaders who bridged the era of the Indian independence struggle and post-independence grassroots activism, spending over seven years in prison for his political convictions.
- **Epitome of Simplicity and Integrity:** Renowned for his extraordinary austerity, Nallakannu lived in a rented government flat and never owned a house or a car. He famously returned multiple cash awards—including a ₹1 crore gift from his party on his 80th birthday and the ₹10 lakh Thagaisal Tamizhar award in 2022—donating them back to the party and public relief funds.
- **Environmental and Social Warrior:** Even in his 90s, he remained a tireless activist, notably leading the legal battle at the Madras High Court to ban illegal sand mining in the Thamirabarani River.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

27.02.2026 / FRIDAY

- **World NGO Day: 27th February**
- **Theme 2026: Restoring Dignity Through Inclusion**
- **World NGO Day highlights collective efforts of organizations that address social inequalities & poverty reduction**