

THE DAILY GK DOSE

DILIP KUMAR ASSUMES CHARGE AS CVO OF SAIL

- **Extensive Background & Expertise:** A 2002-batch IRSME officer, Kumar brings over two decades of experience from the Indian Railways. His expertise spans train operations, rolling stock maintenance, and human resource management, having previously served as the Additional Divisional Railway Manager (East Central Railway).
- **Track Record of Innovation:** He is highly regarded for several key initiatives, including launching the first ISO 9001 certified train in the East Central Railway and leading the nationally acclaimed Madhubani Railway Station beautification project.
- **Academic & Global Credentials:** An alumnus of IIT BHU (Mechanical Engineering), he has received advanced management training at INSEAD Singapore and ICLIF Malaysia. His role at SAIL is aimed at strengthening transparency, integrity, and anti-corruption frameworks within the steel giant.

UNESCO ADDS 12 NEW GLOBAL GEOPARKS, EXPANDING NETWORK TO 241 SITES

- **Livelihood-Led Growth:** The roadmap transitions from basic digital inclusion (like Aadhaar/UPI) to high-productivity systems focused on job linkages and digital advisory for farmers.
- **Phased Implementation:** Phase II (2035–2047) will

specifically focus on integrating Indian MSMEs into global value chains through grassroots innovation.

- **Urban Governance:** Alongside this, a new framework titled "Moving Towards Effective City Government" was released to empower "Million-plus Cities" with better fiscal and administrative autonomy.

SC DECLARED RIGHT TO SAFE ROAD TRAVEL PART OF ARTICLE 21 OF CONSTITUTION



- **Constitutional Integration:** The Court ruled that the "Right to Life" is not merely about physical existence but includes the right to live with dignity and safety. Since road accidents are a leading cause of unnatural death in India, the state is now constitutionally obligated to provide safe, hazard-free infrastructure as a prerequisite for protecting the lives of its citizens.
- **Zero-Tolerance for Highway Obstructions:** A major focus of the ruling was the strict prohibition of heavy vehicles parked on National Highways. The Court observed that stationary trucks on high-speed corridors are "death traps," and it directed authorities to ensure mandatory 24/7 patrolling and the creation of designated "Rest and Parking Bays" away from main carriageways.

IMPORTANT FACTS

CM OF INDIAN STATES (2026)

- **Andhra Pradesh:** *N. Chandrababu Naidu*
- **Arunachal Pradesh:** *Pema Khandu*
- **Assam:** *Himanta Biswa Sarma*
- **Bihar:** *Nitish Kumar*
- **Chhattisgarh:** *Vishnu Deo Sai*
- **Goa:** *Pramod Sawant*
- **Gujarat:** *Bhupendrabhai Patel*
- **Haryana:** *Nayab Singh Saini*

C V ANAND APPOINTED AS NEW DGP OF TELANGANA

- **Distinguished Career & Profile:** A 1991-batch IPS officer, Anand is currently serving as the Special Chief Secretary (Home). He has over 35 years of service, including nearly a decade in Maoist-affected districts, for which he received the President's Gallantry Medal in 2002.
- **Technological Reformer:** He is widely credited with pioneering modern policing initiatives in Telangana, such as the creation of SHE Teams for women's safety, the implementation of e-challans for traffic enforcement, and the massive expansion of CCTV surveillance in Hyderabad and Cyberabad.
- **Deep Local Expertise:** Anand served as the Commissioner of Police for both Hyderabad City (twice) and Cyberabad.

RITHIKA SRI SCRIPTS HISTORY AS INDIA'S FIRST TRANSGENDER UMPIRE

- **Pioneer of Institutional Change:** Rithika was instrumental in pushing the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA) to update its official systems. For the first time in its history, the TNCA included an "Other" category in its state-panel umpire application forms, allowing transgender individuals to apply under their true identity.
- **Proven Track Record:** Before her formal transition, she built a solid technical foundation by officiating over 300 matches in the Salem and Namakkal districts. Her expertise and "unbiased calls" earned her the respect of players and officials, eventually leading her to clear the Coimbatore District Cricket Association (CDCA) exams in February 2026.
- **Overcoming Social Barriers:** Despite facing initial discrimination and being denied entry to some grounds, she received strong backing from district cricket officials. She is currently preparing for the TNCA State Panel exams in June 2026, with the long-term goal of becoming a BCCI-accredited umpire.

INDIA, KENYA SIGN CBIC-KRA CUSTOMS COOPERATION PACT

- **Pre-Arrival Data Exchange:** The core of the pact is the exchange of pre-arrival information for goods. This allows customs officials to receive and process shipment data before cargo physically

arrives, enabling them to flag high-risk consignments while ensuring legitimate goods pass through without delay.

- **Enhanced Ease of Doing Business:** By streamlining customs procedures and reducing manual inspections, the agreement is designed to lower transaction costs and "turnaround time" for traders. This is critical as bilateral trade reached a record \$4.31 billion in 2025–26, a 25% increase over the previous year.
- **Strengthening Risk Management:** The MoU provides a formal framework for intelligence sharing between the CBIC and KRA. This collaboration is intended to combat commercial fraud, smuggling, and trade-based money laundering, ensuring a more secure and transparent trading corridor.

SUMITRA GUHA & LAXMAN KRISHNARAO HONOURED AT SUR JYOTSNA NATIONAL MUSIC AWARDS 2026



- **Stalwarts of Hindustani Music:** The 2026 awards recognized Padma Shri Sumitra Guha and Pandit Laxman Krishnarao Pandit. Both are esteemed figures in the Hindustani classical tradition—Guha is renowned for her soulful renditions across various gharanas, while Pandit is a distinguished representative of the Gwalior Gharana, known for

preserving the traditional Khayal style.

- **Institutional Legacy:** The awards are instituted by the Lokmat Media Group in memory of Jyotsna Darda, the founder of Lokmat Sakhi Manch. The initiative aims to provide a national platform that bridges the gap between established maestros and emerging talent in Indian classical music.
- **National Expansion & Cultural Impact:** While the main ceremony was held in Delhi and presented by Supreme Court judge Justice Sandeep Mehta, the 2026 edition saw the awards reach nine cities across India, including Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Pune.

RENOWNED PHOTOGRAPHER RAGHU RAI DIES AT 83

- **Chronicler of Modern India:** Rai is best known for his haunting and visceral documentation of India's most pivotal moments. His most famous works include his coverage of the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War and his iconic, world-renowned images of the 1984 Bhopal Gas Tragedy, which brought the human cost of industrial negligence to the global forefront.
- **A Magnum Pioneer:** In 1977, he was handpicked and nominated by the legendary Henri Cartier-Bresson to join Magnum Photos, becoming one of the first Indian photographers to be part of the prestigious international cooperative. He later served as the chief photographer for The Statesman and India Today.
- **Decorated Legacy:** Rai was awarded the Padma Shri in 1972 for his wartime coverage. Beyond breaking news, he was celebrated for his intimate portraits of figures like Mother Teresa, Indira Gandhi, and the Dalai Lama.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

29.04.2026 / WEDNESDAY

- **International Dance Day: 29th April**
- **Theme 2026: Celebrating Movement, Expression & Cultural Unity**
- **The 19th edition of the World Dance Day celebrations featured the "Young Dancers Festival," showcasing traditional forms.**