



#### 1. India Clinches Silver at Sultan of Johor Cup 2025

• **Tournament Outcome**: India finished as runners-up in the Sultan of Johor Cup 2025, losing to Australia 1-2 in the final, despite being one of the three-time champions of the tournament.



- **Final Match Details**: Australia won the final match 2-1, with Ian Grobbelaar scoring the winning penalty goal with just two minutes left in the fourth quarter. Anmol Ekka had equalized for India in the second quarter after Australia's initial lead.
- India's Performance: The Indian team had a strong run in the tournament, winning three out of five matches and drawing one, but a loss to Australia in the final match took away their chance of winning the title. They had victories against Great Britain (3-2), New Zealand (4-2), and Malaysia (2-1), and a thrilling 3-3 draw against Pakistan.
- **Points Table**: India finished second in the points table with 10 points, behind Australia who topped the table with 11 points from five matches. Great Britain secured third place with 7 points.

# 2. Masako Nozawa Becomes First Voice Actor to Receive Japan's Cultural Merit Award

• **Historic Achievement**: Masako Nozawa, the legendary voice behind Goku in the Dragon Ball franchise, has become the



first voice actor to receive Japan's prestigious Person of Cultural Merit recognition, a testament to her lifelong contribution to Japanese culture and the global legacy of Dragon Ball.

- **Award Details**: The Person of Cultural Merit distinction comes with a lifelong pension of 3.5 million yen per year and acknowledges exceptional contributions to the advancement of Japanese culture, with 21 individuals chosen for the 2025 honors.
- Career Highlights: Nozawa has had a career spanning over six decades, voicing iconic characters like Goku, Gohan, Goten, and Bardock in Dragon Ball, Kitaro in GeGeGe no Kitaro, and early Doraemon adaptations, cementing her status as one of the most influential figures in Japanese voice acting history.
- **Impact on Voice Acting Industry**: Nozawa's recognition signals a new era for voice actors, validating their work as a serious art form and paving the way for future generations to be recognized for their contributions to Japanese culture.

#### 3. Neeraj Chopra Conferred Honorary Rank of Lieutenant Colonel

• **Honorary Rank**: Neeraj Chopra, the Olympic gold medalist javelin thrower, was conferred the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Territorial Army by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on October 22, 2025.



- **Recognition of Achievements**: The rank recognizes Chopra's outstanding achievements and exemplary service to the nation, with Defence Minister Singh describing him as an "epitome of perseverance, patriotism, and the Indian spirit of striving for excellence".
- **Military Career**: Chopra joined the Indian Army as a Naib Subedar on August 26, 2016, and was promoted to Subedar in 2021 and Subedar Major in 2022, showcasing his dedication and commitment.
- Awards and Accolades: Chopra is a recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Padma Shri, Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, Arjuna Award, Param Vishisht Seva Medal, and Vishisht Seva Medal, highlighting his contributions to sports and national pride.

#### 4. India-South Korea Hold First Bilateral Naval Exercise IN-RoKN

• Exercise Details: The exercise took place on October 13, 2025, at the Busan Naval Base in South Korea, marking the first-ever bilateral naval exercise between India and South Korea.





- **Participating Ships**: The Indian Navy's INS Sahyadri, a Shivalik-class stealth frigate, participated in the exercise alongside the South Korean Navy's ROKS Gyeongnam.
- Exercise Structure: The exercise consisted of two phases the Harbour Phase and the Sea Phase. The Harbour Phase included professional exchanges, cross-deck visits, sports events, and training interactions, while the Sea Phase featured joint manoeuvres and coordinated operations.
- Strategic Significance: The exercise demonstrates a shared commitment to a rules-based maritime order and supports regional security architecture through joint naval readiness, highlighting the growing partnership between India and South Korea in the Indo-Pacific region.

#### 5. Tanvi Sharma Clinches Silver at Junior Badminton Worlds Championship

• **Historic Achievement**: Tanvi Sharma, a 16-year-old Indian shuttler, won a silver medal in the girls' singles category at the BWF World Junior Championships 2025, becoming the third Indian female shuttler to achieve this feat after Aparna Popat (1996) and Saina Nehwal (2006).



- **Final Match Details**: Tanvi lost to Thailand's Anyapat Phichitpreechasak in the final with a score of 7-15, 12-15, despite putting up a spirited performance and leading 6-1 and 8-5 in the second game.
- **Double Medalist**: Tanvi became the first Indian shuttler to win multiple medals in a single edition of the World Juniors, bagging a bronze in the mixed team event and a silver in girls' singles.
- **Future Prospects**: Tanvi's performance has marked her as a promising talent for the senior circuit, with her sights set on breaking into the senior circuit and improving her consistency. She aims to work on her patience for longer rallies, endurance, and net game.

#### 6. Jyothi Surekha Becomes First Indian Woman to Medal in Archery World Cup Final

• **Historic Achievement**: Jyothi Surekha Vennam made history by becoming the first Indian woman compound archer to win a medal at the Archery World Cup Final, clinching the bronze medal in Nanjing, China.



• **Flawless Performance**: Vennam secured the bronze medal with a flawless performance, defeating world number two Ella Gibson of Great Britain 150-145 by shooting 15 perfect arrows.



- **Tournament Journey**: Vennam began her campaign with a confident 143-140 win over Alexis Ruiz from the USA in the quarterfinals, but faced a narrow defeat in the semifinals against world number one Andrea Becerra of Mexico 143-145.
- **Bronze Medal Match**: Vennam rebounded impressively in the bronze medal match, shooting 15 consecutive 10s across five ends to outclass Gibson and finish her campaign on a high note.

#### 7. Abhishek Sharma and Smriti Mandhana awarded ICC Player of the Month

• **Abhishek Sharma's Achievement**: Abhishek Sharma was named ICC Player of the Month for his outstanding batting display in the Asia Cup 2025 and ODI series against Australia, scoring 314 runs in seven matches at an average of 44.85 and a strike-rate of 200.



- Smriti Mandhana's Performance: Smriti Mandhana won the award for her impressive batting against Australia women, scoring 58, 117, and 125 in three matches, accumulating 308 runs at an average of 77 and a strike rate of 135.68 in four ODIs.
- Ranking and Tournament Highlights: Abhishek Sharma is currently ranked No.1 batter in T20I batters rankings and was adjudged Player of the Tournament in the Continental Cup.
- **Mandhana's Fastest Hundred**: Smriti Mandhana hit the fastest hundred by an Indian batter during the Australia series, reaching the three-figure mark in 50 deliveries in the third contest.

# 8. Shri Mahesh Kumar Sharma took charge as Director of Finance at NHPC Limited

• **Appointment Details**: Shri Mahesh Kumar Sharma assumed charge as Director (Finance) of NHPC Limited on October 17, 2025, for a five-year tenure, bringing over 30 years of experience in finance, corporate accounts, treasury, and contracts.



• **Background**: Sharma is a Fellow Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and holds a Diploma in Information Systems Audit (DISA) from ICAI, securing All India 3rd Rank. He has previously served as Finance Head of NHPC's Commercial Division and CFO of NHPC Renewable Energy Ltd.



- Experience: Sharma joined NHPC in July 2000 as an Accounts Officer and has held various key roles, including part of the Treasury management team at Corporate Office, Faridabad, and Head of Finance at Pakaldul HE Project. He played a crucial role in the restoration works of Dhauliganga Power Station after the 2013 Uttarakhand flash floods.
- Expertise: Sharma's expertise spans financial management of large-scale infrastructure projects, tariff and regulatory frameworks, and contract management. His appointment is expected to bring valuable financial acumen to NHPC's operations and strengthen its position in the power sector.

#### 9. World Statistics Day observed on 20th October 2025

- Theme: The theme for World Statistics Day 2025 is "Driving change with quality statistics and data for everyone", emphasizing the importance of reliable data in decision-making.
- Date and Frequency: World Statistics Day is celebrated every 5 years on October 20th, with the next occurrences scheduled for 2030, 2035, 2040, and 2045.



- Significance: The day highlights the role of statistics in shaping our understanding of the world, informing policy decisions, and driving progress. Statistics play a crucial role in various fields, including science, medicine, finance, and weather forecasting.
- Global Celebration: The United Nations Statistical Commission coordinates the global celebration, which includes a 24-hour non-stop global webinar marathon. This event brings together voices from around the world to showcase innovations and advancements in statistics.

### 10. Former Kenya PM Raila Amolo Odinga passed away

- Raila Odinga passed away in India due to cardiac arrest while undergoing treatment at an Ayurvedic facility in Kochi.
- Odinga was laid to rest on Sunday, October 19, 2025, in his ancestral home in Bondo, near Lake Victoria, Western Kenya, with full military honors. Leaders from across Africa and beyond paid tribute to his legacy, describing him as a champion of



democracy and a symbol of hope. • Odinga was a towering figure in Kenyan politics, serving as Prime Minister from 2008 and playing a crucial role in shaping the country's democracy. He



- was known for his advocacy for multi-party democracy and constitutional reforms.
- Odinga's death has left a void in Kenyan politics, with many wondering what the future holds for his Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) party and the country's political landscape. President William Ruto has committed to ensuring ODM remains part of the government in 2027.

