

Weekly One Liners 28th July to 3rd August, 2025**Divya Deshmukh Creates History: Wins FIDE Women's Chess World Cup 2025**

India's rising chess star Divya Deshmukh scripted history on July 28, 2025, by defeating veteran Koneru Humpy in the tiebreaks to win the FIDE Women's Chess World Cup held in Batumi, Georgia. At just 19 years old, Divya not only clinched one of the most prestigious titles in women's chess but also became India's fourth female Grandmaster (GM).

A Battle of Generations

The final of the FIDE Women's Chess World Cup was a clash between experience and youthful brilliance. Koneru Humpy, India's first woman Grandmaster and a legend in women's chess, brought her immense experience, being currently ranked World No. 5. Divya Deshmukh, ranked World No. 18, entered the event as an underdog, but showed remarkable determination and composure against her senior. The two classical games played earlier had ended in draws, pushing the match into rapid tiebreaks.

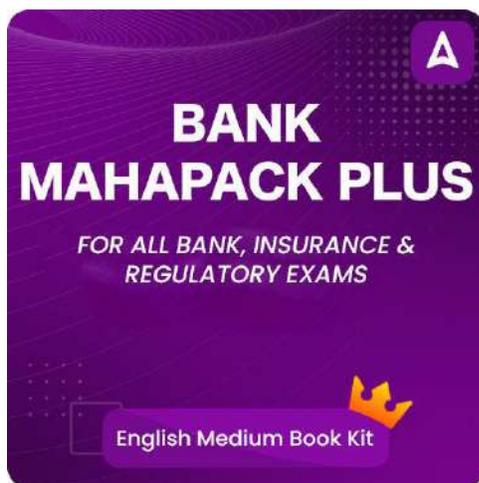
The Decisive Tiebreaks

In the first rapid game, Divya held Humpy to a solid draw. The second game proved decisive,

- Playing with black pieces, Divya capitalised on a critical endgame mistake by Humpy.
- She converted the advantage with precision to claim victory.
- This win not only gave her the World Cup title but also fulfilled her dream of becoming a Grandmaster, a feat she described as "fate."

Divya's Journey to the Top Early Achievements

- Divya was crowned World Junior Champion in the girls' section in 2024.
- She was instrumental in India's gold medal win at the Chess Olympiad in Budapest, where she also bagged an individual gold.

**Grandmaster Title**

With this win, Divya joins an elite list of Indian women who hold the Grandmaster title,

- Koneru Humpy
- R. Vaishali
- Harika Dronavalli
- Divya Deshmukh (the youngest among them at present).

Overcoming Odds

Despite her lower FIDE ranking and Humpy's status as the World Rapid Champion, Divya remained fearless. She admitted that her draw in the first classical game "felt like a loss" as she missed winning chances, but she kept her composure to seize the opportunity in the rapid format.

Koneru Humpy: The Veteran Opponent

At 37 years old, Koneru Humpy remains one of the greatest ambassadors of Indian chess. She was once the youngest woman to become a GM, breaking Judit Polgar's record at the age of 15 years and 27 days.

Even though she lost the final, Humpy praised Divya's preparation and acknowledged that the youngster was "clearly better" during stretches of the match.

The Significance of the Win

Divya's victory is a landmark for Indian chess,

- It underscores India's growing dominance in the global chess arena.
- The win adds another Grandmaster to India's roster.
- For women's chess in India, it is a generational milestone, inspiring young players to dream bigger.
- Her triumph also adds momentum to India's recent surge in the chess world, where young talents are increasingly making their mark in prestigious international tournaments.

71st National Film Awards 2023: Full Winners List You Can't Miss!

The 71st National Film Awards for the year 2023 were officially announced on August 1, 2025, celebrating outstanding achievements in Indian cinema. The prestigious awards recognized exceptional contributions by actors, filmmakers, and technicians across the country. This year was particularly historic as Shah Rukh Khan won his first-ever National Award for Best Actor, while Rani Mukerji clinched the Best Actress award for her powerful performance. Alongside mainstream stars, several regional films like HanuMan, Parking, and 12th Fail also made a remarkable impact.

A Historic Win for Shah Rukh Khan and Rani Mukerji

In a landmark moment for Indian cinema, Shah Rukh Khan received his first National Award for Best Actor for his blockbuster film Jawan. Known as the “King of Bollywood,” this award marks a major milestone in his illustrious career. Alongside him, Rani Mukerji was honored with the Best Actress award for her gripping role in Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway, a film that highlighted the struggles of a mother fighting against a foreign legal system for her child’s custody.

Actor Vikrant Massey also bagged the Best Actor award for his inspirational role in 12th Fail, a film based on the real-life story of Manoj Kumar Sharma, who overcame poverty to become an IPS officer.

Regional Cinema Shines Bright

The 71st edition of the awards not only celebrated Bollywood but also gave a strong platform to regional films.

- The Best Telugu Film award went to Bhagavanth Kesari,
- Best Tamil Film was won by Parking,
- Best Malayalam Film was Ullozhukku,
- and Shyamchi Aai took the Best Marathi Film title.
- The Telugu superhero film HanuMan also received widespread recognition, winning the award for Best Action Direction and Best Film in AVGC (Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, and Comics).

Major Highlights of the Awards

- Sam Bahadur, a film based on Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, was recognized as the Best Film Promoting National and Social Values.
- Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani, directed by Karan Johar, won the award for Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment, with Vaibhavi Merchant also taking home Best Choreography for its hit song Dindhora Baje Re.
- The Best Film award went to 12th Fail, which moved audiences nationwide with its inspiring storyline.
- The Kerala Story bagged multiple awards, including Best Direction for Sudipto Sen and Best Cinematography by Prasanthanu Mohapatra.

Complete Winners List of the 71st National Film Awards (2023) (Best Actor/Actress) Category Winner List

Category	Winner	Film
Best Actor (Leading Role)	Shah Rukh Khan	Jawan
	Rani Mukerji	Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway
	Vikrant Massey	12th Fail
Best Actress (Supporting Role)	Urvashi	Ullozhukku
	Janki Bodiwala	Vash
	Vijayaraghavan	Pookalam
	Muthupettai Somu Bhaskar	Parking

Regional Film Winner List

Category	Winner
Best Hindi Film	Kathal
Best Telugu Film	Bhagavanth Kesari
Best Tamil Film	Parking
Best Malayalam Film	Ullozhukku
Best Marathi Film	Shyamchi Aai
Best Kannada Film	Kandeelu
Best Punjabi Film	Godday Godday Chaa
Best Assamese Film	Rongatapu 1982
Best Bengali Film	Deep Fridge
Best Gujarati Film	Vash
Best Odia Film	Pushkara

Technical Awards Category Winners List

Category	Winner	Film
Best Action Direction	Nandu-Prudhvi	HanuMan
Best Choreography	Vaibhavi Merchant	Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani
Best Lyrics	Kasarla Shyam	Ooru Palleturu – Balagam
Best Music Direction	GV Prakash Kumar	Vaathi
	Harshavardhan Rameshwar	Animal
Best Makeup	Shrikanth Desai	Sam Bahadur
Best Costume Design	Sachin, Divya, Nidhhi	Sam Bahadur
Best Production Design	Mohandas	2018
Best Editing	Midhun Murali	Pookkaalam
Best Sound Design	Sachin Sudhakaran, Hariharan	Animal
	Sai Rajesh	Baby
Best Dialogue	Ramkumar Balakrishnan	Parking
	Deepak Kingrani Sirf	Ek Bandha Kaafi Hai
Best Cinematography	Prasanthanu Mohapatra	The Kerala Story
Best Playback Singer (Female)	Shilpa Rao	Chaliya – Jawan
Best Playback Singer (Male)	Rohit	Premisthunna – Baby
Best Child Artist	Sukriti Bandireddi Gandhi	Thatha Chettu
	Kabir Khandare	Gypsy
Best Direction	Treesha Toshar, Shrinivas Pokale, Bhargav	Naal 2
	Sudipto Sen	The Kerala Story

Best Film Category Winners List

Category	Winner
Best Film in AVGC	HanuMan
Best Children's Film	Naal 2
Best Film Promoting National, Social Values	Sam Bahadur
Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment	Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani
Best Debut Film	Aatmapamphlet
Best Film	12th Fail
Best Documentary Film	God Vulture and Human
Best Short Film	Giddh The Scavenger
Best Non-Fiction Film	Flowering Man

Non-Feature Film Awards

- The non-feature film category highlighted social, cultural, and environmental storytelling.
- **Best Documentary Film** went to God Vulture and Human.
- The Silent Epidemic was honored for Best Non-Feature Film Promoting Social and Environmental Values.
- Best Short Film went to Giddh The Scavenger.
- The Spirit Dreams of Cheraw was recognized as Best Debut Film in the non-feature section.

National Affairs

- India is finalising a **Green Steel Procurement Policy** to mandate **25% public steel purchases** from **low-emission sources**. Green steel, produced using **hydrogen-based DRI, electric arc furnaces, and renewable energy**, is crucial since the steel industry contributes **10–12% of India's emissions**. Key initiatives include the **Steel Scrap Recycling Policy, PAT Scheme, and National Solar Mission**. Challenges include high costs, evolving technologies, and limited demand-side incentives. The policy aims to make India a **global leader in sustainable steel production**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **NCERT** is introducing new curriculum modules for **Classes 3 to 12** featuring **Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla's space mission** aboard the **ISS** and India's **Operation Sindoor**, highlighting the nation's strength in **defence and space exploration**. Along with these, the modules will include **Mission LIFE** to promote **sustainable living** and lessons on the **Partition** to provide historical context. This initiative, guided by the **Ministry of Education**, aims to make learning more **contextual, contemporary, and rooted in national identity**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In a major success, Indian security forces launched **Operation Mahadev** in **Jammu and Kashmir's Dara region**, neutralising **three Pakistani Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists** after a fierce encounter. Conducted jointly by the **Indian**

Army, CRPF, and J&K Police, the operation began after intelligence inputs of militant movement near **Dachigam National Park**, with reinforcements and **drone surveillance** deployed. Authorities are investigating whether the slain militants were linked to the **April 22 Pahalgam attack** that killed 26 people. ([Click here to read article](#))

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** launched the '**Gyan Bharatam Mission**' on **July 27, 2025**, to **digitise and preserve over one crore ancient manuscripts** through a **National Digital Repository**. With enhanced funding of **₹60 crore**, the mission aims to make India's **civilisational knowledge** accessible to students and researchers globally. PM Modi called the manuscripts "**Chapters of India's soul**", aligning the initiative with the '**Viksit Bharat**' vision. He also hailed **UNESCO's recognition of 12 Maratha forts as World Heritage Sites**, further highlighting India's cultural richness. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Remona Evette Pereira**, a **20-year-old Catholic student from Mangalore**, created history by performing **Bharatanatyam for 170 hours**, entering the **Golden Book of World Records**. Her seven-day marathon, completed on **July 28, 2025**, broke the previous record of 127 hours. Trained under **Guru Sri Vidya** for 13 years, she combined **spiritual devotion** with cultural artistry, wearing a **rosary throughout the performance**. Supported by St. Aloysius University and blessed by church leaders, her feat was hailed as a **tribute to India's classical dance heritage and a symbol of cultural unity**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** celebrated the **Aadi Thiruvathirai festival** at **Gangaikonda Cholapuram, Tamil Nadu**, marking the **birth anniversary of Emperor Rajendra Chola I**. He released a **commemorative coin** in the king's honour, performed **rituals at the Cholisvaram temple**, and admired its **Chola-era architecture**. The event also celebrated the **millennial anniversary of Rajendra Chola's naval expedition to Southeast Asia**, with cultural highlights including hymns by **odhuvars** and a performance by **Ilayyaraaja**. The Prime Minister lauded Rajendra Chola I's **maritime legacy, architectural brilliance, and cultural contributions**, calling the Chola dynasty a **golden chapter in Indian history**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia** launched the **Sanchar Saathi mobile app** in **Hindi and 21 regional languages** to extend its reach across India. With over **46 lakh downloads**, the app allows users to **report suspicious communications, block or trace lost/stolen phones, and check unauthorized mobile connections**. The launch, held during a stakeholders' meeting in **New Delhi**, involved representatives from **law enforcement, telecom providers, financial institutions, C-DOT, RPF, and DoT**, marking a major step in combating **telecom-related cyber frauds** and ensuring **inclusive digital safety**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- According to **Crisil Ratings**, India's **private sector will invest ₹77,000 crore in thermal power projects between FY26 and FY28**, boosting its share to nearly one-third of total investments. Overall, **thermal power investments will double to ₹2.3 lakh crore** in the next three years. With **Adani, Tata, JSW, and Vedanta** leading mostly **brownfield expansions**, and long-term **25-year PPAs** signed by state discoms, projects are expected to be financially viable. **Vedanta Power**, post-demerger, plans a **15 GW expansion**, including revival of a 2,200 MW portfolio, backed by a tariff ensuring **15% IRR**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Lok Sabha on July 30, 2025**, approved the **extension of President's Rule in Manipur** for another six months beyond **August 13**. Minister of State **Nityanand Rai** stated that **peace is prevailing**, with only **one fatality and no casualties in the last four months**. Assured that the **law and order situation is under control**, and the government is working through **dialogue** to end ethnic tensions and establish **permanent peace** in the state. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India has achieved a **Gini Index of 25.5**, ranking as the **4th most equal country in the world**. This progress, supported by welfare schemes like **Jan Dhan Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, PMGKAY, and DBT**, has lifted **171 million people out of poverty** since 2011. However, challenges such as **wealth disparity, outdated poverty lines, and unequal access to opportunities** remain. India's achievement showcases a major step toward **inclusive growth**, but sustaining and deepening this equity will require **continued reforms**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Kaziranga National Park in Assam** has conducted India's **first-ever Grassland Bird Census (March–May 2025)**, using **acoustic technology** to identify and monitor bird species. Conducted by **forest officials, researchers, and conservationists**, the survey recorded **43 species**, including **critically endangered and endemic birds** like **Finn's Weaver**. The census marks a **breakthrough in biodiversity monitoring**, highlighting both **conservation successes** and ongoing **threats like habitat loss and climate change**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **sacred Piprahwa relics of Lord Buddha**, discovered in **1898 in Uttar Pradesh**, have been **repatriated to India** after nearly being auctioned in Hong Kong in May 2025. This was made possible through a **public-private partnership** between the **Government of India** and the **Godrej Industries Group**. Union Culture Minister **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** credited the success to the **vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, while **Pirojsha Godrej** highlighted the company's commitment to cultural preservation. The relics will soon be on **public display**, symbolizing India's role as a **global guardian of heritage and peace**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Government of India has finalized **seven PM MITRA Parks** across Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra, with an outlay of **₹4,445 crore till 2027-28**. Aimed at attracting **₹70,000 crore investments** and creating **20 lakh jobs**, the scheme is complemented by the **Samarth skill development programme** and the **National Technical Textiles Mission**. Together, these initiatives will boost India's **textile exports**, strengthen domestic manufacturing, and position India as a **global textile hub**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Indian Railways has launched Kavach 4.0** on the **Mathura-Kota section of the Delhi-Mumbai corridor**. Designed at the **highest safety level (SIL 4)**, it monitors train speeds, applies brakes automatically, and provides cabin-based signal information, especially useful in **low visibility conditions**. With **₹1 lakh crore annual safety investment**, training of **30,000 personnel**, and integration into **engineering curricula**, Kavach 4.0 is set to revolutionise railway safety in India within the next **six years**. ([Click here to read article](#))

States in the News

- PM Modi inaugurated the **new terminal of Tuticorin Airport** (capacity: **20 lakh passengers annually**) and launched projects worth **₹4,800 crore** in Tamil Nadu. Key works include **highway upgradation (NH-36 and NH-138)**, **Kollidam bridge**, **North Cargo Berth-III at V.O. Chidambaranar Port**, and **railway electrification and doubling projects**. These initiatives aim to boost **multi-modal connectivity**, **reduce logistics costs**, **enhance tourism**, and **promote port-led industrial growth**, positioning Tamil Nadu as a **key driver of Viksit Bharat**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Bihar CM Nitish Kumar** has announced the formation of the **Bihar Rajya Safai Karmachari Ayog** to protect the **rights, welfare, and social upliftment** of sanitation workers. The commission, consisting of a **Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, five members, and a woman or transgender representative**, will focus on **rehabilitation, grievance redressal, and welfare scheme monitoring**. The move aims to bring sanitation workers into the **social and economic mainstream** and improve their living conditions. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Odisha** signed 33 MoUs worth **\$902 million** under its **Apparel & Technical Textile Policy 2022** during **Odisha-TEX 2025**, aiming to create over 1 lakh jobs by 2030 and establish textile clusters in six districts. The state enhanced employment subsidies, with **₹6,000 for men and ₹7,000 for women**, to attract investors and strengthen workforce participation, positioning Odisha as the **textile hub of eastern India**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- The **Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (APTDC)** has partnered with **Mastercard** to enhance the state's global tourism profile. Following a commitment made at **Davos**, the partnership aims to attract **international tourists** by integrating **Mastercard's global user base** into Andhra Pradesh's tourism circuit. Plans include **targeted promotions, digital payment support, and increased visibility for hotels and resorts**, with a focus on both **coastal destinations and cultural heritage sites**. This collaboration is expected to position Andhra Pradesh as a **premium global travel destination**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Madhya Pradesh's **Jabalpur** will host **India's first Hindi-medium MBBS college** from the **2027–28 academic session**, offering **50 MBBS seats** initially. Approved by the **Madhya Pradesh Medical University's executive council**, the college will use **already translated Hindi textbooks** and provide **clinical training** at the existing government hospital. With plans to expand to **MD and MS courses in Hindi**, this pioneering step aims to break **language barriers in medical education**, making healthcare studies more **inclusive and accessible**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Maharashtra government** will observe **August 7**, the birth anniversary of **Bharat Ratna Dr. M.S. Swaminathan**, as **Sustainable Agriculture Day**. A **Government Resolution** directs agricultural universities to set up **Dr. MS Swaminathan Bio-Happiness Research Centres** focusing on **sustainable agriculture, climate adaptation, and food security**. The day will also feature **statewide events and awards** in his honor, recognizing the **Father of India's Green Revolution**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL)**, India's first **PPP-model airport**, is embarking on a major **green and digital expansion plan**. It includes setting up the world's **first airport-based green hydrogen plant**, scaling up solar power to **50 MWp**, expanding **MRO services**, and creating an **aerotropolis model** with IT parks and lifestyle zones. The initiatives not only align with **carbon neutrality goals** but also strengthen India's aviation and trade ecosystem under the vision of **Make in India** and **Atmanirbhar Bharat**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- In a significant move to strengthen **rural healthcare services**, **Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar** has announced a **substantial increase in incentives** for **ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activists)** and **Mamta workers**. ASHA workers will now receive **₹3,000 per month** (up from ₹1,000), while Mamta workers will earn **₹600 per safe delivery** (up from ₹300). The decision, announced via social media, aims to **boost morale** and **enhance healthcare access** for mothers and newborns across Bihar's villages. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Punjab government**, under CM **Bhagwant Mann**, has lifted the 28-year-old ban on **heritage sports** like **bullock cart races, dog races, horse races, and pigeon racing**. The move aims to revive Punjab's cultural heritage while ensuring **animal welfare through strict monitoring**. With this decision, traditional games once banned in 1997 are set to return, giving the **youth a cultural connection** and celebrating the **true spirit of Punjab's traditions**. ([Click here to read article](#))

International Affairs

- **Syria** will hold its **first parliamentary elections** since the fall of **Bashar al-Assad** from **15–20 September 2025** under interim President **Ahmad al-Sharaa**. The **temporary constitution (March 2025)** created a **People's Assembly of 210 seats**, with one-third appointed and two-thirds elected via provincial electoral colleges. The polls face hurdles due to **sectarian violence in Sweida**, reports of **atrocities by government forces**, and **Israeli intervention**. Success could pave the way for a **permanent constitution** and long-term stability. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **US and EU** have reached a historic **trade deal**, setting a **15% tariff on EU exports to America**, down from the threatened 30%. The deal includes **\$600 billion EU investment in the US** and **\$750 billion in American energy imports**, aiming to cut reliance on **Russian power sources**. While hailed as a major win for the US, the EU views it as a stabilizing yet **unbalanced agreement**. The move averts a damaging trade war and reshapes global trade dynamics. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Turkey** has unveiled its most powerful **non-nuclear bomb, Gazap**, at the **IDEF 2025 defence fair in Istanbul**. Weighing **970 kg**, it disperses over **10.16 fragments per metre**, three times more than standard bombs, creating a massive **kill radius**. With **thermobaric properties reaching 3,000°C**, it is compatible with **F-16s and F-4s** and could soon be drone-deployable. Alongside Gazap, Turkey also revealed the **NEB-2 Ghost**, a deep-penetration bunker-buster capable of piercing **7 metres of reinforced concrete**. Both weapons showcase Turkey's **growing defence ambitions** and near-nuclear conventional capability. ([Click here to read article](#))



- At the **World Artificial Intelligence Conference 2025** in Shanghai, Chinese Premier **Li Qiang** urged the world to build a **global consensus** on balancing **AI development and security risks**. He stressed the importance of **open-source AI**, warning against **technological monopolies**. This comes as the **US, under President Trump, pursues a low-regulation strategy** to cement its AI dominance, while continuing to restrict chip exports to China. The conference also heard warnings from experts like **Geoffrey Hinton** and calls from **UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres** for stronger international cooperation, underscoring the growing urgency of ethical and safe AI governance. ([Click here to read article](#))
- A massive **8.7-magnitude earthquake** struck off **Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula**, triggering widespread **tsunami warnings** across the **Pacific**, including **Japan, Alaska, Hawaii, and the US West Coast**. Waves of up to **4 metres** were recorded in Kamchatka, with **Japan issuing a tsunami advisory** and several Pacific nations bracing for unusual currents. While **minor injuries and property damage** were reported, no major casualties have occurred so far. Experts warn of ongoing aftershocks and stress that the **Pacific Ring of Fire** remains a highly volatile seismic zone. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer** has declared that the UK will **recognise a Palestinian state** unless **Israel halts its military operations in Gaza**, ends **West Bank annexation plans**, and commits to a **peace process** toward a **two-state solution**. With **140 countries already recognising Palestine** and **France pledging support**, the move highlights growing international momentum for Palestinian statehood amid a worsening **humanitarian crisis in Gaza**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **US President Donald Trump** has announced a **25% tariff on India**, effective **August 1, 2025**, along with an **additional penalty** for India's continued **oil and defense purchases from Russia** amid the **Ukraine war**. Trump criticized India for imposing some of the **highest tariffs and non-monetary trade barriers in the world** and for maintaining **close ties with Moscow**. The move follows months of speculation and comes after India declined to finalize a trade deal within Trump's 90-day suspension period. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India has sent **5 Metric Tonnes of humanitarian assistance to Syria**, including **anti-cancer medicines, antibiotics, and anti-hypertensives**, according to **MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal**. This consignment is part of India's **continued humanitarian assistance**, reflecting its commitment to supporting the **Syrian people** during their ongoing health crisis. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Australia has decided to **include YouTube in its under-16 social media ban**, reversing an earlier promise to treat the platform as an educational tool. Backed by alarming findings from the **eSafety Commission**, the move aims to reduce children's exposure to **harmful content**. While the law will enforce **age verification** and impose **massive fines** for non-compliance, critics warn of **privacy risks** and unintended consequences for young users. **YouTube Kids** remains unaffected. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The US has announced a **25% tariff on Indian imports** while signing a deal with **Pakistan to develop its oil reserves**. The move, linked to India's **BRICS membership** and **oil purchases from Russia**, highlights Washington's aim to **counter China, strengthen Pakistan ties, and reduce its trade deficit**. It has major implications for **India-US trade relations, Pakistan's energy sector, and the geopolitical balance in South Asia**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **July 30, 2025**, Russia's remote **Kamchatka Peninsula** experienced a massive **8.8 magnitude earthquake**, followed just hours later by the fiery **eruption of the Klyuchevskoy volcano**, the tallest active volcano in **Europe and Asia**. The volcano, standing **4,700 metres high**, spewed **lava, ash, and explosions**, creating a brilliant night spectacle. While the **lava flow** was dramatic, the impact was limited as the region is **sparsely populated**. The earthquake triggered a **tsunami warning** across Kamchatka and as far as **Japan**, but it was lifted 11 hours later when no destructive waves reached **populated areas**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- The **India-Maldives MoU on Fisheries and Aquaculture (2025)**, signed during **PM Narendra Modi's State visit**, focuses on **sustainable tuna and deep-sea fisheries, aquaculture advancement, value chain development, eco-tourism, trade facilitation, and skill development**. It emphasizes **cold storage infrastructure, hatchery development, research, and training in aquatic animal health, biosecurity, and marine engineering**, strengthening **bilateral ties, economic growth, and regional food security**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** has signed an MoU with **Ather Energy** under the **Startup Policy Forum's Build in Bharat** initiative to strengthen **EV manufacturing** and the **clean mobility ecosystem** in India. The partnership will provide **mentorship, infrastructure support, innovation programs, and skill development** opportunities for startups, aiming to accelerate **sustainable transport solutions** and make India a leader in **electric vehicle innovation**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- India and the **UAE** signed an agreement on **Maritime Security and Safety Cooperation** in New Delhi during the **13th Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting**. Signed by **ICG Director General Paramesh Sivamani** and **UAE Coast Guard Commander Brigadier Staff Khalid Obaid Shamsi**, the pact aims to strengthen cooperation in **Maritime Search and Rescue, law enforcement, combating maritime crimes, pollution response, and capacity building**. This marks the **10th such agreement** with Friendly Foreign Countries, reflecting a strong **commitment to regional peace and maritime safety**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Books and Authors

- Uttarakhand CM **Pushkar Singh Dhami** launched the book *"Sustainable Wellness of Students: A Collective Responsibility in Higher Education"* on **July 26, 2025**, stressing the need for **mental health support and welfare initiatives** in universities. Edited by **Prof. Lata Pandey** and **Dr. Ramanand**, the book outlines strategies to tackle **student life challenges** and highlights the role of stakeholders in ensuring student wellness. The CM linked the effort to the **New National Education Policy**, making Uttarakhand a pioneer in holistic higher education. ([Click here to read article](#))

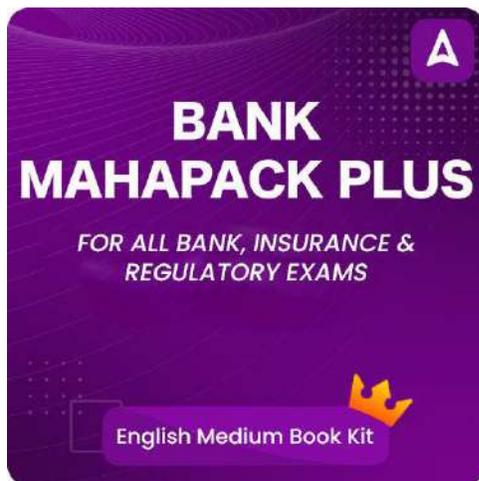
Banking/Economy/Business News

- India's **workforce expanded by 17 crore jobs** between **2017-18 and 2023-24**, taking total employment to **64.33 crore**, as per **RBI's KLEMS database**. The **Labour Force Participation Rate** rose to **60.1%**, the **unemployment rate** fell to **3.2%**, and **youth unemployment** dropped to **10.2%**, below the global average. Notably, **female participation** surged to **40.3%**, highlighting a significant shift towards **inclusive employment growth**, according to the **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- As of **June 2025**, **unclaimed deposits** in Indian banks stood at **₹67,003 crore**, with **SBI (₹19,329.92 crore)** and **ICICI Bank (₹2,063.45 crore)** topping the list. To tackle this, the **RBI launched the UDGAM portal** for tracing deposits. The government ruled out **ETFs for Virtual Digital Assets**, citing RBI warnings about crypto risks. Meanwhile, the **Bima Sakhi Yojana** has enrolled **1.48 lakh women**, with **60% of premiums** from rural areas, boosting **financial inclusion** across India. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **SEBI and stock exchanges** have revised the **Enhanced Surveillance Mechanism (ESM)** for firms with a **market cap below ₹1,000 crore**, effective **July 28, 2025**. The changes include monitoring based on a **three-month positive price**

trend and a **PE ratio limit** of twice the **Nifty 500 index**. Companies under Stage 1 face **100% margin requirements**, a **trade-for-trade system**, and **tight price bands**. Covering **28 firms**, the move aims to reduce **speculative trading**, enhance **market integrity**, and safeguard **retail investors**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- India's **concert economy** is set to create **12 million jobs by 2030-2032**, transforming the live events sector into a **major employment and economic engine**, particularly in **Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities**. Large-scale concerts, festivals, and live events are fueling growth in **hospitality, logistics, tourism, and digital media**, while boosting local economies with revenues like **₹641 crore from Coldplay's Ahmedabad concert alone**. With an estimated **₹15,000 crore industry value**, the sector holds massive potential but requires urgent **skilling initiatives** to address the shortage of trained professionals in production, lighting, and event technology. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Reliance Jio has launched **JioPC**, a **cloud-based virtual desktop service** that converts any television into a personal computer using the **Jio Set-Top Box**. With **Ubuntu OS, LibreOffice, browser-based Microsoft Office, Adobe Express, and AI tools**, JioPC enables web browsing, programming, learning, and document editing. Available through affordable plans starting at **₹599 per month**, JioPC features **4 CPUs, 8GB RAM, and 100GB cloud storage**. It offers a cost-effective, contract-free alternative to traditional computers, though it currently lacks support for webcams and printers and requires a stable internet connection. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has raised India's growth forecast to **6.4% for both 2025 and 2026**, up from earlier estimates of 6.2% and 6.3%. This revision reaffirms India as the **fastest-growing major economy**, far outpacing **China (4.8% in 2025)** and the **US (1.9% in 2025)**. The improved outlook is attributed to a **benign external environment, weaker US dollar, and improved global financial conditions**. Based on financial year data, India's growth is projected at **6.7% in FY2025** and **6.4% in FY2026**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Between **FY19 and FY25**, India recorded **65,000 crore digital payments worth ₹12,000 trillion**, driven by **UPI adoption** and government-backed initiatives. With over **4.77 crore digital touch-points deployed under the RBI's PIDF**, and a **Digital Payments Index of 465.33 (Sept 2024)**, India has expanded digital inclusion to rural and remote areas. Government schemes for **MSMEs and small merchants** have further accelerated this growth, reducing cash dependency and increasing access to **formal credit channels**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- Between FY21 and FY25, 11 public sector banks collected around ₹9,000 crore in penalties for failure to maintain minimum balance in savings accounts, according to Finance Ministry data presented in the Rajya Sabha. While SBI discontinued such charges in March 2020, and seven PSBs followed suit from FY26, private sector banks continue to levy them. The DFS has advised rationalisation, particularly to support semi-urban and rural customers, with RBI guidelines ensuring fairness and transparency in imposing such charges. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's bank credit growth slowed to 10.2% in June 2025, falling from 13.8% in June 2024, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The decline was seen across all major sectors — agriculture, industry, services, and personal loans. Agriculture credit fell sharply to 6.8%, industry slowed to 5.5%, services dropped to 9.6%, and personal loan growth moderated to 14.7%. The slowdown reflects weaker credit demand amid cautious borrowing and sectoral challenges. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025, effective from August 1, 2025, brings sweeping reforms to India's banking sector. Key changes include raising the "substantial interest" threshold to ₹2 crore, extending cooperative bank directors' tenure to 10 years, allowing PSBs to transfer unclaimed amounts to IEPF, and empowering them to engage top-quality auditors. These amendments aim to enhance governance, safeguard depositors, and align cooperative banks with constitutional norms, marking a major step in banking sector reforms. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's GST collections rose to ₹1.96 lakh crore in July 2025, up 7.5% year-on-year, but net growth slowed to 1.7% due to a 117% surge in refunds, largely linked to inverted duty structures. While experts note stable consumption trends and regional growth in states like Sikkim and Tripura, concerns remain over weak domestic demand and automobile sales slowdown, making GST rate rationalisation a priority for the government. ([Click here to read article](#))



Appointments/Resignations

- Anuradha Thakur, Secretary of the Department of Economic Affairs, was nominated as a Director on the RBI Central Board, replacing Ajay Seth. Her appointment comes ahead of the MPC meeting (Aug 4–6, 2025) and aligns with the RBI's priorities of price stability, monetary policy flexibility, banking regulation, and managing conflicts of interest. RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra highlighted inflation control and regulatory oversight as key challenges. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Utpal Kumar Singh, the Lok Sabha Secretary-General and former IAS officer of the 1986 Uttarakhand cadre, has been appointed as the new CEO of Sansad TV. Known for his role in the Kedarnath redevelopment project after the 2013 floods, Singh has earlier served as Chief Secretary of Uttarakhand, Additional Secretary in the Union Ministry of Agriculture, and as Principal Secretary to former CM B.C. Khanduri. With vast experience in both state and central administration, his leadership is expected to strengthen Sansad TV's role in parliamentary outreach and transparency. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Procter & Gamble (P&G) has appointed Shailesh Jejurikar as its Global CEO effective January 1, 2026, making him the first Indian to lead the consumer goods giant. Currently serving as COO, Jejurikar will succeed Jon Moeller, who will become Executive Chairman. Having joined P&G in 1989, Jejurikar has led key businesses including Fabric & Home Care, driving innovation, supply chain efficiency, and global expansion. His appointment reflects P&G's commitment to innovation, operational excellence, and sustained growth. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Nikhil Ravishankar, an Indian-origin tech executive and current Chief Digital Officer of Air New Zealand, has been appointed as the airline's next CEO, effective October 20, 2025. The University of Auckland graduate replaces Greg Foran amid growing industry challenges, including climate change, cost pressures, and customer expectations. Air New Zealand's board praised his global outlook, leadership skills, and digital expertise, while Ravishankar said he was thrilled and humbled to lead the airline into its next chapter. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Anant Ambani, a Brown University graduate and son of Mukesh Ambani, has been appointed as Executive Director of Reliance Industries for a five-year term from May 1, 2025, after shareholder approval. He already serves on boards of Jio Platforms, Reliance Foundation, Reliance New Energy, and Reliance New Solar Energy. The move reflects RIL's succession planning, ensuring leadership continuity as the company focuses on digital services, renewable energy, and global expansion. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Lt Gen Pushendra Singh**, a decorated officer with more than **35 years of service**, will assume the post of **Vice Chief of the Army Staff (VCOAS)** on **August 1, 2025**, succeeding **Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani**. An alumnus of the **Indian Military Academy**, he was commissioned into the **4 Para (Special Forces)** in **1987** and has participated in key operations such as **Operation Pawan, Operation Meghdoot, Operation Rakshak, and Operation Orchid**. He also has rich international combat experience, having served in **United Nations Peacekeeping Missions** in **Lebanon** and **Sri Lanka**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In a **ceremonial handover** at **Kochi**, **Commodore Varghese Mathew** assumed charge as the new **Naval Officer-in-Charge (Kerala)**, succeeding **Commodore Jose Vikas**. With nearly **30 years of naval service** and expertise in **Gunnery and Missile Warfare**, Commodore Mathew brings rich experience and strategic vision. His appointment is expected to **strengthen the Southern Naval Command**, headquartered at **INS Venduruthy**, enhancing **training, operational readiness, and maritime security** in the strategically vital coastal state of **Kerala**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Telangana High Court**, on **July 31, 2025**, welcomed **four new Additional Judges** — **Gouse Meera Mohiuddin, Chalapathi Rao Suddala, Gadi Praveen Kumar, and Vakiti Ramakrishna Reddy** — sworn in by **Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh**, raising the working strength to **30 judges**. The appointments, recommended by the **Supreme Court Collegium** and approved by the **Centre**, aim to address the issue of **judicial vacancies** and improve the pace of justice in the state. However, with **12 vacancies still unfilled**, experts call for more appointments to ease the growing case burden. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Dr. A Rajarajan**, a veteran scientist and composites expert, has been appointed as the new **Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)**, Thiruvananthapuram, starting **August 1, 2025**. He succeeds **Dr. S Unnikrishnan Nair** and brings with him nearly **40 years of experience**, having earlier led the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR**. Known as a key force behind **Vikram-S**, India's first private rocket, Dr. Rajarajan has played a **pivotal role in Chandrayaan-3, Aditya-L1, and Gaganyaan missions** while also promoting **private participation in India's space sector**. His leadership at VSSC is expected to **strengthen ISRO's future missions and India's space ambitions**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **SBK Singh**, a **1988-batch IPS officer** from the **AGMUT cadre**, has taken charge as the **new Commissioner of Delhi Police**. An alumnus of **St Stephen's College** with over **36 years of service**, Singh has handled several **high-profile cases** including the **Uphaar fire tragedy** and the **Hansie Cronje match-fixing scandal**, and spearheaded projects like the **Safe City initiative** and **'Lost Report' app**. His appointment marks a **return to cadre-based leadership**, ending the trend of outsiders heading Delhi Police since 2022. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Dr. Mayank Sharma**, a veteran **IDAS officer of the 1989 batch**, assumed the charge of **Financial Advisor (Defence Services)** on **August 1, 2025**. With over **30 years of service** in defence accounts, the Cabinet Secretariat, AIIMS Delhi, and international organizations like the **UN and IACA**, he brings unmatched expertise in financial and administrative governance. His appointment is expected to further strengthen India's defence financial framework and international representation. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan, AVSM, NM**, has taken charge as the **47th Vice Chief of the Naval Staff** on **August 1, 2025**. A naval officer with over **three decades of service**, he is a **specialist in Gunnery and Missile Systems** and a graduate of India's top defence institutions. Known for his leadership during critical maritime deployments post-Galwan and his strategic roles in HQ IDS, he brings immense experience in **operations, policy, and indigenisation**. His assumption of the VCNS role marks a significant step in strengthening India's naval command structure. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Vice Admiral Manish Chadha, AVSM, VSM**, assumed command of the **Indian Naval Academy, Ezhimala**, on **August 1, 2025**, succeeding Vice Admiral CR Praveen Nair. With **34 years of service**, expertise in **Communication and Electronic Warfare**, and prior leadership of frontline warships, he brings deep operational and strategic insight. As a seasoned leader trained in India and abroad, he is set to elevate INA's role in shaping India's **future naval leadership** and strengthening the nation's maritime capabilities under the **AatmaNirbhar Bharat initiative**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Shashi Prakash Goyal**, a **1989-batch IAS officer**, took over as the **Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh** on **July 31, 2025**, succeeding **Manoj Kumar Singh**. Goyal, who earlier served as Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister, pledged to prioritize **zero tolerance for corruption, industrial development, and economic growth**, aiming to help Uttar Pradesh achieve its ambitious target of becoming a **\$1 trillion economy**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Defence News

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has successfully conducted **two consecutive flight tests of the Pralay missile** on July 28 and 29, 2025, from **Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha**. These **user evaluation trials** validated the missile's **maximum and minimum range capabilities**, confirming its high accuracy and reliability. The **indigenously developed Pralay missile**, equipped with **state-of-the-art guidance and navigation systems**, can carry **multiple types of warheads**, significantly strengthening the **Indian Armed Forces' operational readiness**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- India launched the **Fast Patrol Vessel 'Atal'**, the sixth in a series of eight state-of-the-art indigenously designed vessels by **Goa Shipyard Limited**, at Vasco da Gama in Goa on July 29, 2025. Measuring **52 metres in length** and weighing **320 tonnes**, the vessel is equipped for **coastal patrols, anti-smuggling, anti-piracy, search and rescue, and offshore asset protection**. The launch strengthens **India's maritime security** and marks a significant stride in achieving **'Atmanirbharta'** in defense shipbuilding. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian Army's Madras Regiment** commemorated the **284th anniversary of the 1741 Battle of Colachel**, where **King Marthanda Varma of Travancore** achieved a landmark victory against the **Dutch East India Company**. The ceremony, held at the **Colachel War Memorial in Kanyakumari**, paid homage to one of the earliest **Indian victories over European colonial forces**. The event highlighted the battle's unique blend of **land and naval warfare**, making Travancore the only Asian power to defeat a major **European sea power** in both domains. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **July 31, 2025**, the **Indian Navy** received **INS Himgiri**, a state-of-the-art **Nilgiri-class stealth frigate** built under **Project 17A** by **GRSE Kolkata**. Armed with **BrahMos missiles, anti-submarine torpedoes, LR SAM systems, and advanced sensors**, Himgiri is a powerhouse of maritime warfare. Reviving the legacy of its predecessor **INS Himgiri**, the warship strengthens India's vision to become a **170–175 warship-strong Navy by 2035**, underscoring the success of the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative** in defence manufacturing. ([Click here to read article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- The **Sansad Ratna Awards 2025**, held on **26th July 2025**, honoured **17 MPs** for outstanding parliamentary performance, including **Supriya Sule, Ravi Kishan, Nishikant Dubey, and Arvind Sawant**. **Special Jury Awards** went to **Bhartruhari Mahtab, N.K. Premachandran, Supriya Sule, and Shrirang Appa Barne** for consistent excellence since the **16th Lok Sabha**. The **Standing Committees on Finance and Agriculture** were also recognised, highlighting the awards' role in **strengthening democracy, ensuring accountability, and motivating quality parliamentary work**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Summits and Conferences News

- India has set up a **COP33 Cell** under the **MoEFCC** to prepare for hosting the **United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP33) in 2028**. With **BRICS support**, India aims to showcase its climate initiatives, strengthen global cooperation, and advance the **Paris Agreement** goals. Hosting COP33 would enhance India's **international climate leadership**, promote **sustainable development**, and foster **multilateral climate action**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- The **AHRR-hosted SHAPE 2025 conference** in New Delhi emphasized **sustainable hospital architecture, green technologies, and disaster-resilient design** as key elements for future-ready healthcare infrastructure. The event, aligned with **Viksit Bharat@2047**, aims to create **eco-friendly, patient-centric hospitals** with certifications like **GRIHA and CFEES**, marking a turning point in India's healthcare planning. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)** will host a **two-day National Symposium on July 30–31, 2025**, in New Delhi to celebrate the inclusion of the **Bhagavad Gita** and the **Natyashastra** in the **UNESCO Memory of the World International Register**. The event, inaugurated by **Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**, will feature renowned scholars, cultural leaders, and heritage experts. The symposium aims to highlight the **timeless wisdom, universal relevance, and cultural richness** of these texts, reaffirming India's contribution to the **global intellectual and artistic heritage**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Ranks and Reports

- The **2025 Prix Versailles** named **Yantai Penglai International Airport's Terminal 2 (China)** as the **world's most beautiful airport**, with its **coastal-inspired design, E-shaped layout, and eco-friendly architecture**. Other top entries included **Marseille (France), Réunion Island, Kansai (Japan), Portland (USA), and San Francisco (USA)**. This recognition emphasizes **sustainability, culture, and innovation** in global airport design. ([Click here to read article](#))

Sports News

- The **England Women's Football Team** won the **UEFA Euro 2025**, defeating **Spain** in a penalty shoot-out to become the **first senior English side to win a major title abroad**. Despite losing the opener, the **Lionesses**, guided by **Sarina Wiegman**, showcased a **never-say-die attitude**, with **Chloe Kelly, Alessia Russo, Lucy Bronze, and Hannah Hampton** playing key roles. The victory highlights **resilience, tactical brilliance, and the rising stature of women's football**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **2025 Belgian Grand Prix** saw **Oscar Piastri** secure a vital win over teammate **Lando Norris**, extending his **Drivers' Championship lead** to 16 points. The **wet-dry race at Spa** tested tyre strategies, with **Leclerc finishing third** and **Hamilton climbing 11 spots** to P7. The victory underscored **McLaren's dominance** and **Piastri's growing title credentials** in this season. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Divyanshi Bhowmick**, a 14-year-old Indian paddler, created history by winning the **U-15 Girls' Singles gold** at the **Asian Youth Table Tennis Championships in Tashkent**, becoming the **first Indian in 36 years** to do so. Defeating **three Chinese players**, including **Zhu Qihi in the final**, she also secured a berth at the **World Youth Championships**. Trained under the **Dani Sports Foundation and Ultimate Table Tennis programs**, Divyanshi's triumph marked a **historic resurgence for India in youth table tennis**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On its **100th anniversary**, **Hockey India** announced a **significant hike in financial grants** — ₹70 lakh each for senior nationals, ₹30 lakh each for junior and sub-junior nationals, and ₹25 lakh per state for local competitions. To celebrate the milestone, a **nationwide festival on November 7, 2025** will feature **1,000 matches across districts**, involving over **36,000 players**. HI President **Dilip Tirkey** called this initiative a tribute to hockey's golden legacy and an investment in India's future champions. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India finished **20th at the FISU World University Games 2025 in Germany**, winning **12 medals** — **2 gold, 5 silver, and 5 bronze**. Key highlights included victories in **compound archery** (with **Sahil Rajesh Jadhav** and **Parneet Kaur** leading the charge), strong showings in **athletics**, a **historic bronze in badminton**, and a **tennis bronze by Vaishnavi Adkar**, India's first since 1979. While the tally was lower than the 2023 record in Chengdu, the 2025 performance reinforced India's growing strength in global university sports. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Starting **1 September 2025**, the **World Athletics Council** will enforce new regulations requiring all female category athletes to undergo a **once-in-a-lifetime SRY gene test** to confirm biological sex. The policy, first applied at the **World Athletics Championships Tokyo 25**, aims to preserve the **integrity and fairness of women's sport**. The regulations, shaped by the **Gender Diverse Athlete Working Group**, set clear eligibility rules while ensuring **privacy, dignity, and confidentiality** of athletes. ([Click here to read article](#))

- On **August 1, 2025**, the **AIFF appointed Khalid Jamil** as the new **head coach of the Indian Senior Men's Football Team**. Backed strongly by **IM Vijayan** and other Indian football stalwarts, Jamil was chosen over **Stephen Constantine** and **Štefan Tarkovič** after a detailed **SWOT analysis**. With India set to play in the **CAFA Nations Cup** and the **AFC Asian Cup qualifiers**, his appointment is seen as a bold move to **empower Indian coaches** and boost national football. ([Click here to read article](#))

Schemes and Committees News

- The **National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)** has launched the '**Veer Parivar Sahayata Yojana**' in Srinagar to strengthen **legal aid for defence personnel and their families**, coinciding with NALSA's **30 years of service**. Announced by **Justice Surya Kant**, the scheme will use **Sainik Boards** at Zilla, Rajya, and Kendra levels as legal aid centres, involve **defence families as paralegal volunteers**, and address routine challenges like **land disputes, matrimonial issues, and service entitlements**, ensuring that soldiers remain focused on their duty while their **legal rights are protected**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Five years after its launch, the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** has introduced major reforms in India's education system, including a **new school structure, integrated curriculum, NIPUN Bharat mission, CUET, and credit-based flexible learning**. Initiatives like **Jaadui Pitara kits** and **international campuses of Indian institutes** have shown progress. However, critical reforms like the **three-language formula, teacher education overhaul, HECI, and breakfast in schools** remain stalled. **Centre-state disputes and infrastructure challenges** continue to slow down its full implementation. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Setubandha Scholar Scheme**, launched by the **Ministry of Education** through the **IKS division of Central Sanskrit University**, integrates **traditional gurukul scholars** into IIT research without requiring conventional degrees. With **fellowships up to ₹65,000/month** and **grants up to ₹2 lakh annually**, it opens **elite research opportunities** in 18 fields. Eligible candidates must have at least **five years of gurukul study**, proven excellence in **Shastras**, and be under **32 years of age**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Union Cabinet** has enhanced the budget for the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)** to **₹6,520 crore**, up by **₹1,920 crore**, to strengthen India's **food processing sector**. The funds will be used to set up **50 multi-product food irradiation units** and **100 NABL-accredited food testing labs**, aiming to reduce post-harvest losses, ensure food safety, and boost **processed food exports**. With exports already doubling to **USD 11 billion**, the move marks a key step towards making India a **global leader in processed foods**. ([Click here to read article](#))



Science and Technology News

- ISRO will launch **NVS-03, NVS-04, and NVS-05** by **2026** to strengthen **NavIC**, India's regional navigation system. **NavIC**, with **7 satellites** (3 geostationary, 4 inclined), provides **civilian and strategic services** with high accuracy. The **NVS series** brings **indigenous atomic clocks** and **L1 band support** for better compatibility. Applications include **defense, shipping, railways, disaster alerts, and time synchronization**. This strengthens India's **strategic autonomy and technological leadership** in navigation. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Latam-GPT**, set to launch in **September 2025**, is the first **large AI language model** developed by **12 Latin American countries** under Chile's **CENIA** with support from **CAF and AWS**. Based on **Llama 3**, it focuses on **cultural diversity, Indigenous language preservation, and open-source accessibility**. With initial work on **Rapa Nui translation**, it aims to strengthen **schools, hospitals, and public services**, making AI a **democratizing element** in the region. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** will launch the **NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR)** today at **5:40 pm** from Sriharikota using the **GSLV-F16 rocket**. Designed to operate in a **Sun-synchronous orbit at 747 km**, the mission will use **dual-band radar technology** (L-band from **NASA** and S-band from **ISRO**) to capture highly detailed Earth images every **12 days for 3 years**. NISAR will play a crucial role in monitoring **ecosystems, climate change, disasters, and resource management**, with its data being **freely available worldwide**, marking a new milestone in **India-US space collaboration**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **August 1, 2025**, **SpaceX** launched **NASA's Crew-11 mission** from Florida's Kennedy Space Center, sending **two NASA astronauts, one Russian cosmonaut, and one Japanese astronaut** to the **International Space Station**. The mission, which may extend to **eight months instead of the usual six**, highlights continued **U.S.-Russia cooperation in space** despite geopolitical tensions. With **SpaceX's Dragon capsule** at the core, this mission underscores both the **advancements in private spaceflight** and the **complex politics shaping the future of space exploration**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Important Days News

- The **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)**, India's largest paramilitary force, celebrated its **87th Foundation Day on July 27, 2025**. Established in **1939** as the **Crown Representative Police** and renamed **CRPF in 1949**, the force has been vital in **internal security, counter-insurgency, riot control, and VIP security**. Known for its **women battalions, COBRA units, and RAF**, the CRPF has played key roles in the **1959 Hot Springs battle, the 1965 Sardar Post defence, the**

2001 Parliament attack, and the 2005 Ayodhya attack, earning its reputation for **Service and Loyalty**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **World Hepatitis Day 2025**, observed on **28th July**, raises awareness about the global threat of **hepatitis**, a silent liver disease that can lead to **cirrhosis, liver failure, and cancer** if undetected. With the theme "**Hepatitis: Let's Break It Down**", the campaign stresses **early screening, vaccination, safe practices, and accessible treatment**. Recognised by **WHO**, it urges global cooperation to eliminate hepatitis as a public health threat by **2030**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Global Tiger Day 2025**, observed on **July 29**, highlights the urgent need to protect the world's rapidly declining tiger population, now reduced to around **4,000 from 100,000 a century ago**. Established at the **2010 Saint Petersburg Tiger Summit**, the day promotes conservation under initiatives like the **Tx2 Program**, which aimed to double the global tiger count by 2022. While the **theme for 2025** is yet to be declared, the observance underscores threats such as **poaching, habitat loss, and human-wildlife conflict**, while urging collective action. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Hepatitis Awareness Week (July 26–August 1)** highlights the urgent need to combat **viral hepatitis**, which causes millions of infections worldwide each year and contributes to **80% of liver cancer cases**. With the discovery of five hepatitis viruses between **1963 and 1989**, the development of the **Hepatitis B vaccine in 1981**, and growing public awareness, this week emphasizes **prevention, early diagnosis, and treatment**. It also commemorates **Dr. Baruch Blumberg**, who discovered Hepatitis B, on **National Hepatitis Day (July 28)**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Friendship Day 2025** will be celebrated in **India on August 3**, while the **UN recognises July 30** as the **International Day of Friendship**. First proposed by **Joyce Hall** and officially proclaimed by the **UN in 2011**, the day highlights the role of friendship in fostering **peace, cultural understanding, and respect for diversity**. Celebrations include **exchanging friendship bands, gifts, greeting cards, and spending quality time with friends**, making it a perfect occasion to **appreciate and strengthen the bonds of friendship**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **World Day Against Trafficking in Persons 2025** is observed on **July 30**, highlighting the urgent need to end **human trafficking**, a crime that has victimized over **200,000 people globally from 2020–2023**. The UN campaign stresses the **role of law enforcement and justice systems** in dismantling organized crime while adopting a **victim-centred approach**. Represented by the **Blue Heart symbol**, the day calls for **public awareness, cross-border cooperation, stricter enforcement, and support for survivors** through initiatives like the **UN Voluntary Trust Fund**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **World Breastfeeding Week 2025**, celebrated from **August 1 to 7**, emphasizes the theme *“Prioritise Breastfeeding: Create Sustainable Support Systems.”* It highlights the need for **long-term policies, workplace support, healthcare guidance, and public acceptance** to make breastfeeding easier and more accessible. With proven benefits for both **mothers and infants**, the campaign urges governments, communities, and families to work together so that breastfeeding becomes a **normal and supported practice worldwide**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **National Mountain Climbing Day**, observed on **August 1**, celebrates the adventurous feat of **Bobby Mathews and Josh Madigan**, who conquered the **46th peak of the Adirondacks** in 2015. The day emphasizes the **physical, mental, and environmental benefits** of mountain climbing, while also recalling the inspiring journeys of Indian climbers like **Avatar Singh Cheema and Bachendri Pal**. It reminds us that mountains are not just natural wonders but vital providers of **freshwater, climate balance, and biodiversity**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **World Lung Cancer Day 2025**, observed on **August 1**, reminds the world of the urgent need for **awareness, prevention, and early detection** of one of the deadliest cancers. With causes ranging from **smoking and pollution to genetic risks and occupational hazards**, lung cancer affects both smokers and non-smokers alike. Through **advances in diagnosis, targeted treatments, and immunotherapy**, more lives can be saved—but only if awareness is spread and early action is taken. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **World Wide Web Day 2025**, observed on **August 1**, celebrates the transformative power of the **World Wide Web** while addressing challenges like the **digital divide, cyber threats, and privacy concerns**. With the theme *“Empowering the Future: Building an Inclusive, Safe, and Open Web,”* the day focuses on **digital inclusion, ethical AI use, and universal access**. Workshops, hackathons, and awareness campaigns mark the occasion, making it not just a celebration but a **call for action towards a secure and equitable digital future**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **National Doctors Day 2025**, celebrated on **July 1**, honours the dedication of doctors who tirelessly serve society. Marking the birth anniversary of **Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy**, the day highlights their roles in **treatment, prevention, education, and emotional support**, while also recognising the **challenges** they face like long hours, emotional stress, and administrative burdens. Simple gestures of **gratitude and respect** can make a lasting impact on these silent warriors of healthcare. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Cloves Syndrome Awareness Day (August 3)** highlights the importance of recognizing and supporting those with **CLOVES syndrome**, a rare congenital disorder involving **overgrowths, vascular malformations, skin abnormalities, and skeletal issues**. **Early diagnosis, advanced treatment, and community awareness** are key to improving the lives of patients worldwide. ([Click here to read article](#))

Obituaries News

- Renowned **musical satirist and mathematician Tom Lehrer** passed away at **97** in Cambridge, Massachusetts. A **Harvard prodigy** who entered college at **15**, Lehrer was known for his sharp satirical songs on **politics, racism, marriage, and the Cold War** before shifting focus to teaching mathematics at **Harvard and UC Santa Cruz**. He also contributed to **The Electric Company**, inspired the **1980 revue “Tomfoolery”**, and in **2020**, made his lyrics free for public use, cementing his legacy as both a **cultural icon and dedicated educator**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **KPAC Rajendran**, veteran theatre artist and television actor, passed away at the age of **74** in **Alappuzha** on **July 31, 2025**. Best known for his role in *“Ningalenne Communistakki”* and his portrayal of **Padavalam Kuttanpillai** in the serial **Uppum Mulakum**, he was a towering figure of **Malayalam theatre and KPAC**. Leaders and admirers, including **Binoy Viswam**, paid tribute to his **unwavering passion for art, theatre, and social commitment**, marking the end of an era in Kerala’s cultural history. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Lord Meghnad Desai (1940–2025)**, a renowned **Indian-born British economist, author, and House of Lords peer**, has passed away at **85**. A **professor emeritus at LSE**, recipient of the **Padma Bhushan (2008)**, and founder of the **Gandhi Statue Memorial Trust**, Desai made invaluable contributions to **academia, politics, and India-UK relations**. His works, including *The Poverty of Political Economy (2022)*, continue to influence global discourse. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Laura Dahlmeier**, Germany’s **two-time Olympic champion and seven-time world champion in biathlon**, died at the age of **31** in a **mountaineering accident on Laila Peak in Pakistan**. Despite an urgent rescue attempt, her life could not be saved due to the remote location. Dahlmeier, who made history at the **PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympics**, had retired from biathlon in 2019 to pursue mountaineering. Her death is a huge loss for the **Olympic movement** and the global sporting community. ([Click here to read article](#))



- **T. N. Manoharan, IDBI Chairman** and a **Padma Shri awardee**, passed away on **July 30, 2025**. Known for his leadership in **banking and corporate governance**, he played a key role in the **revival of Satyam Computers**, served as Chairman of **Canara Bank**, and guided several corporations as an independent director. His contributions earned him the **Padma Shri** and the title of **Indian of the Year 2009**, leaving behind a lasting impact on India's financial sector. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Dr. V. Vasanthi Devi (1938–2025)**, a renowned **academician, women's rights advocate, and former Vice-Chancellor of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University**, passed away in Chennai at the age of **86**. Known for her progressive stance on **education reforms, gender equality, and human rights**, she was also a strong critic of the **National Education Policy 2020**. Leaders across the political spectrum hailed her contributions, calling her demise an **irreparable loss** to Indian education and progressive movements. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Kalabhavan Navas (1974–2025)**, a celebrated **Malayalam actor and mimicry artiste**, passed away at the age of **51** in

Chottanikkara due to a suspected **cardiac arrest**. Rising to fame with the **Cochin Kalabhavan troupe**, he went on to star in films like *Junior Mandrake* and *One Man Show*, and continued to shine on **stage and television**. Tributes from across Kerala poured in, with leaders remembering him as a **progressive artist** who touched countless lives. ([Click here to read article](#))

Miscellaneous News

- The **Bhil community of Mewar, Rajasthan**, celebrates the **Gavri Festival**, a **40-day ritual** beginning after **Raksha Bandhan**, honouring **Goddess Parvati** and their deity **Gorkhiya Mata**. In 2025, the festival was showcased through a **photo exhibition at India International Centre**, highlighting its unique blend of **dance-dramas (khels), songs, and spiritual rites**. Beyond devotion, Gavri serves as a symbol of **tribal identity, community bonding, and social commentary**, where performers challenge **caste hierarchies**, explore **gender roles**, and temporarily attain an **elevated status** in contrast to their usual **marginalisation**. ([Click here to read article](#))

Static Takeaways

Sr. No	Static Name	Static Details
1	ICICI Bank	MD - Sandeep Bakhshi
2	RBI	Chairman - Challa Sreenivasalu Setty
3	SEBI	Chairman - Tuhin Kanta Pandey
4	Reliance Industries	Chairman - Mukesh Ambani
5	JIO Reliance	CEO - Hitesh Jumar Sethia
6	Syria	President - Ahmed Al-Sharaa Capital - Damascus
7	Turkey	President - Erdogan Capital - Istanbul
8	UK	PM - Keir Starmer Capital - London
9	USA	President - Donald Trump Capital - Washington D.C.
10	Russia	President - Vladimir Putin Capital - Moscow
11	China	President - Xi Jinping Capital - Beijing
12	Australia	President - Anthony Albanese Capital - Canberra
13	Maldives	President - Mohammed Muizzu Capital - Male
14	Assam	Governor - Lakshman Acharya CM - Hemanta Sarma
15	Madhya Pradesh	Governor - Mangubhai Patel CM - Mohan Yadav
16	Kerala	Governor - Arlekar CM - Pinarayi Vijayan

Sr. No	Static Name	Static Details
17	Andhra Pradesh	Governor - Abdul Nazeer CM - Chandrababu Naidu
18	Maharashtra	Governor - Radhakrishnan CM - Devendra Fadnavis
19	Odisha	Governor - Hari Babu Khambhupati CM - Mohan Majhi
20	Bihar	Governor - Arif Khan CM - Nitish kumar
21	Punjab	Governor - Gulab Chand Kataria CM - Bhagwat Mann

