

# IACE

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# NHAI-Reliance Jio MoU to Launch Telecom-Based Safety Alert System on National Highways



- An MoU signed between NHAI and Reliance Jio to deploy telecom-based safety alert system on national highways.
- A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between NHAI and Reliance Jio to introduce a telecom-based safety alert system across the National Highway network.
- Safety alerts will be delivered using Jio's 4G and 5G networks to warn commuters in advance about accident-prone areas, stray-cattle zones, fog-affected stretches, and emergency diversions.
- The initiative has been aimed at enhancing road safety by ensuring timely information to highway users so they can adjust speed and driving behaviour early.
- Alerts will be shared via SMS, WhatsApp, and high-priority calls and gradually integrated with NHAI's digital platforms such as the Rajmargyatra app and helpline 1033.
- The system will function automatically for all Jio users travelling on or near National Highways and will give early warnings before entering hazardous zones.

- Existing telecom towers will be used for the deployment, eliminating the need for new roadside hardware and enabling faster implementation.
- The partnership will utilise Jio's digital infrastructure, which currently serves over 500 million subscribers in India.
- The pilot phase will support identification of risk zones and alert thresholds within selected NHAI regional offices, adhering to regulatory and data-protection norms.
- NHAI will implement similar collaborations with other telecom service providers, aiming to improve commuter awareness, reduce preventable incidents, and strengthen technology-enabled road safety nationwide.

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## India finished runner-up in the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup in Malaysia

- The Indian men's hockey team was declared runner-up at the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup after a 0–1 loss to Belgium in the final in Ipoh, Malaysia.
- Belgium secured their maiden Sultan Azlan Shah Cup title, with Thibaut Stockbroekx scoring the only goal of the match.
- A second-string Indian team was fielded, as skipper Harmanpreet Singh and several senior players were not part of the squad.
- This performance was recorded as India's second consecutive runners-up finish, with their last appearance in 2019 also ending in a final defeat.
- As five-time champions, India remain the second-most successful team in the tournament, behind Australia, who have won ten titles.
- India's wait for a title at this tournament continues, with their last championship win dating back to the 2010 edition.
- The team participated in the competition after a six-year gap, returning to the event ranked world No. 7.
- New Zealand finished third after defeating Malaysia 6–1 in the bronze-medal match.



## **Kochi to Host the 7th India International Seaweed Expo & Summit 2026**

- Kochi selected to host the 7th India International Seaweed Expo and Summit 2026.
- The 7th India International Seaweed Expo and Summit 2026 (IISE&S 2026) will be hosted by the ICAR–Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute in Kochi on January 29–30, 2026.
- The major seaweed industry event will be organised jointly by the Indian Chamber of Commerce, CMFRI, and CSIR–Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute.
- The expo is expected to attract participants from Brazil, Sri Lanka, the Netherlands, Sweden, and several other countries.
- Delegates from Latin America, South Asia, and Europe have shown interest, creating opportunities for partnerships, technology exchange, and global market access.
- A key attraction will be the ‘Seaweed 2030’ panel, which aims to present a national roadmap for positioning India as a global leader in sustainable seaweed production.
- Policymakers, industry leaders, scientists, international investors, start-ups, and innovators will gather to discuss industry growth.
- Technical sessions will cover topics such as seaweed potential, policy and regulatory issues, financing, supply chain improvements, bio-prospecting, biotechnology, and product development.



## **World Athletics 2025: Armand Duplantis and Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone Named Athletes of the Year**

- **Armand Duplantis (Sweden)** and **Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone (USA)** were honoured as the **World Athletes of the Year** at the 2025 World Athletics Awards.
- Duplantis broke the **men's pole vault world record four times in 2025** and remained **undefeated in 16 competitions**, becoming the first male pole vaulter to stay unbeaten for **two consecutive years**.
- McLaughlin-Levrone won the **women's 400m world title in Tokyo**, setting a record time of **47.78 seconds**, and became the **first athlete ever** to win world titles in both **400m flat and 400m hurdles**.
- Duplantis also won the **Men's Field Athlete of the Year**, while McLaughlin-Levrone received the **Women's Track Athlete of the Year** award.
- Spain's **Maria Perez** and Kenya's **Sebastian Sawe** were chosen as the **Out-of-Stadium Athletes of the Year**.
- Kenya's **Emmanuel Wanyonyi** received the **Men's Track Athlete of the Year** title for his excellent performance in the 800m.
- Australia's **Nicola Olyslagers** was awarded **Women's Field Athlete of the Year** for her high jump achievements.
- Rising Star awards were given to **Edmund Serem (Kenya)** and **Zhang Jiale (China)** for their exceptional early-career performances.



## **PM Modi has given the Prime Minister's Office a new name, "Seva Tirth"**

- "Raj Bhavan" and "Raj Niwas" has been renamed "Lok Bhavan" and "Lok Niwas".
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah called these changes steps toward a developed and service-oriented India.
- He said the government's focused is on service rather than power for past 11 years.
- Prime Minister's Office is set to move from South Block to a state-of-the-art complex named 'Sewa Teerth'.
- Prime Minister's Office will function from Sewa Teerth-1.
- It is the first of three newly built structures in Executive Enclave-I.
- Executive Enclave-I is located adjacent to Vayu Bhawan.
- The remaining buildings are Sewa Teerth-2 and Sewa Teerth-3.
- Sewa Teerth-2 and Sewa Teerth-3 will have the Cabinet Secretariat and Office of the National Security Advisor.
- Earlier, government has renamed Rajpath as Kartavya Path. The Central Secretariat was renamed Kartavya Bhavan.
- The road to the Prime Minister's official residence is situated was renamed Lok Kalyan Marg in 2016.

### ➤ **Prime Minister's Office:**

- Prime Minister's Office was initially called the Prime Minister's Secretariat until 1977.
- It is headed by the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of India (currently Pramod Kumar Mishra).
- It provides secretarial assistance to the Prime Minister.

**PM Narendra Modi  
renames Prime Minister's  
Office as 'Seva Tirth'**

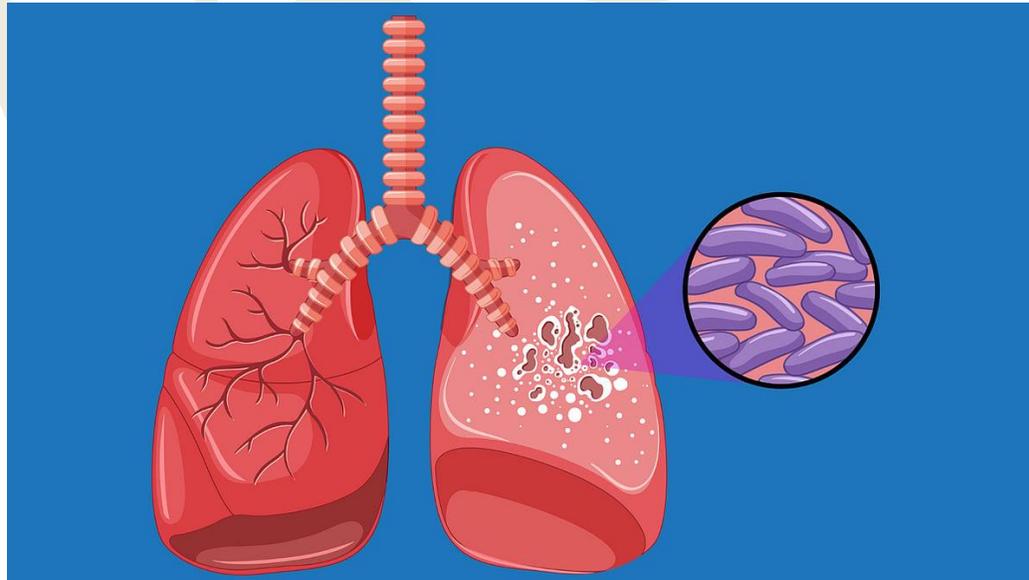


## India's TB Death Rate Drops: J.P. Nadda Highlights Progress Under TB-Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan

- Union Minister J.P Nadda said that India's TB death rate has declined from 28 per lakh in 2015 to 21 per lakh in 2024.
- He addressed the Members of Parliament on the TB-Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan in New Delhi.
- He requested them to spread information about TB and help reduce stigma around the disease.
- He also requested them to involve local communities in TB efforts.
- These MPs pledged to support TB campaign in their constituencies.

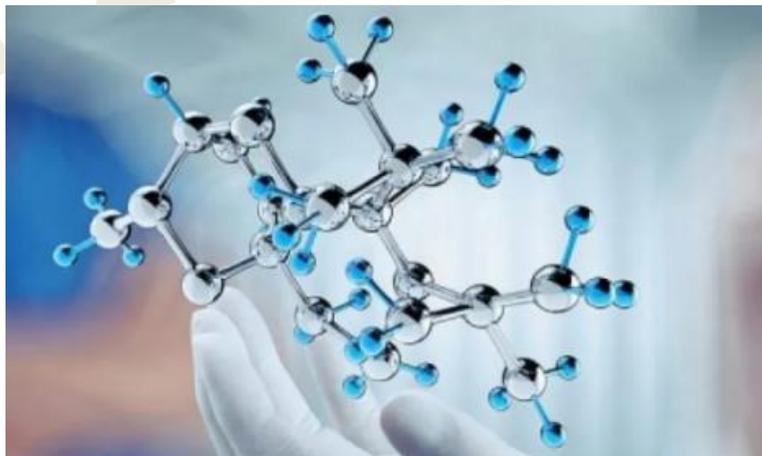
### Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan:

- It was virtually launched by President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu on September 9, 2022. Its objectives are as follows.
- Provide additional patient support to improve treatment outcomes of TB patients
- Augment community involvement in meeting India's commitment to end TB by 2025
- Leverage Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities



## **CeNS Scientists Develop New Method to Enhance Catalysts for Efficient Water Splitting**

- An innovative method to improve catalysts used for water splitting has been developed by Scientists at the Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS) in Bengaluru.
- Water splitting is a key process in generating clean hydrogen.
- This development deals with challenge in the oxygen evolution reaction (OER).
- Oxygen evolution reaction (OER) is slower and more energy-intensive than the hydrogen evolution reaction (HER).
- The focus of scientists was on improving coordination polymers.
- Coordination polymers are a class of materials formed by metal ions and organic molecules that are used in electrolysis.
- They often show limited activity because solvent molecules block many of their active sites available for reactions.
- Scientists at CeNS used argon plasma to activate the COPs by producing coordinatively unsaturated metal sites.
- Analyses confirmed that Ni- and Co-based polymers were more active without altering their bulk framework.
- The study was published in "ACS Applied Nano Materials".
- This method has the potential to speed up the development of affordable hydrogen energy solutions.



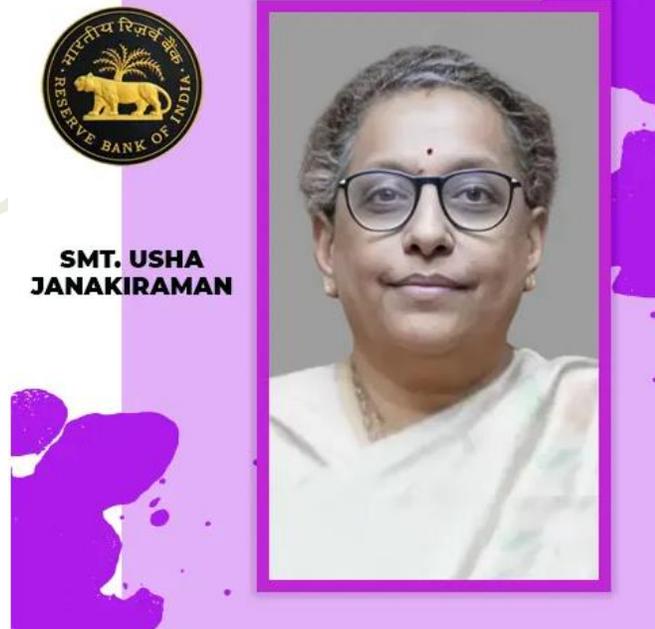
## International Day of Persons with Disabilities: 03 December

- International Day of Persons with Disabilities is observed annually on 03 December.
- This day celebrates the resilience, contributions and leadership of persons with disabilities (PwDs) worldwide.
- The theme for this year is “Fostering disability inclusive societies for advancing social progress”.
- United Nations General Assembly had proclaimed 03 December as International Day of Persons with Disabilities in 1992.
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) was adopted in 2006.
- It is estimated that 1.3 billion people experience significant disability and represent 16% of the world's population.



## **Usha Janakiraman has been appointed as Executive Director at the RBI**

- Janakiraman's appointment has become effective from 01 December.
- Janakiraman was serving as Chief General Manager-in-Charge, Department of Regulation.
- Janakiraman has over 30 years of experience in RBI. Her experience spans across regulation, external investments, supervision, public debt, currency management, and other areas.
- Janakiraman was a part of the core team that contributed to consolidation of over 9,000 RBI circulars into a streamlined set of 244.
- As Executive Director, Janakiraman will oversee the Department of Supervision (Risk, Analytics and Vulnerability Assessment).
- Janakiraman is a Chartered Accountant by qualification.



## **Madhav Khurana has been appointed by Union Home Ministry as special public prosecutor in Red Fort blast case**

- Madhav Khurana is a senior advocate. He has been appointed as the special public prosecutor for conducting the trial and other matters in Red Fort blast case.
- The case is about the November 10 car blast near the Red Fort that claimed 15 lives.
- As per government order, Khurana has been appointed special public prosecutor for a period of 3 years on behalf of the National Investigation Agency (NIA).
- He will carry out trial and other legal matters before the NIA special court and the Delhi High Court.
- NIA has arrested 7 key accused in the Red Fort blast case.
- Alleged suicide bomber Umar Un Nabi blew himself in Hyundai i20 car with the use of improvised explosive device.



## **DP World Signs Abhishek Sharma as Brand Ambassador**

- **United Arab Emirates (NewsVoir) DP World**, a leading provider of global smart logistics solutions, signs **Indian cricket star Abhishek Sharma** as its new brand ambassador, joining **Sachin Tendulkar** and **Tommy Fleetwood** in the company's growing sports portfolio.
- Sharma had a record-breaking 2025 DP World Asia Cup, scoring 314 runs in seven innings, earning Player of the Tournament, and reaching No.1 in the ICC Men's T20I Batter Rankings with the highest rating ever.
- Under this long-term partnership, Sharma will represent DP World in brand initiatives, media appearances, and digital storytelling, showcasing the company's values of performance and innovation.

### **Recent Brand Ambassador**

- Rohit Sharma -ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026
- Shafali Verma – Haryana Women's Commission
- Rahul Dravid – Paradeep Phosphates Limited (PPL)
- Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma – Fintech firm Pay10
- Sanju Samson – English Premier League (EPL) in India
- Shubhanshu Shukla – Viksit Bharat Buildathon 2025



## **Riyadh Metro Becomes World's Longest Driverless Network**

- **Riyadh Metro** has been officially recognized by Guinness World Records as the world's longest fully driverless metro network, covering 176 km, operating across 6 lines and 85 stations, showcasing Saudi Arabia's growing leadership in advanced urban mobility.
- The metro forms a key part of the King Abdulaziz Project for Riyadh Public Transport, a major initiative of the Royal Commission for Riyadh City (RCRC), aimed at transforming urban transportation with cutting-edge automation and centralized real-time control (GoA4 driverless model).
- Riyadh Metro's fleet includes 190 fully automated trains from world-renowned manufacturers like Siemens, Bombardier (Innovia Series), and Alstom (Metropolis Series), offering high comfort, energy efficiency, and advanced safety features.
- Construction of the metro began after contracts were awarded in 2013, with inauguration completed in November 2024; the project, costing \$22.5–25 billion, has become the backbone of Riyadh's transport network and the largest driverless metro system globally.

