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Vande Mataram – 150 Years of National Celebrations

- Celebrations will be held across India to mark the completion of 150 years of the national song 'Vande Mataram'.
- The Union Cabinet has approved celebrations across India to mark 150 years of the national song 'Vande Mataram'.
- Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that, keeping in mind the role of this song during the freedom struggle, it was decided to organise nationwide celebrations to commemorate its 150th year.
- The song 'Vande Mataram' was composed in Sanskrit by Bankimchandra Chatterji in the 1870s.
- It was accorded the status of the national song by the Constituent Assembly after Independence.
- On January 24, 1950, President Dr. Rajendra Prasad made a statement in the Constituent Assembly, "The song Vande Mataram, which has played a historic role in the Indian freedom struggle, will be given the same respect and status as Jana Gana Mana."
- It was first sung at the Indian National Congress session in 1896.
- The song was an excerpt from Bankimchandra's most famous novel, "Anand Math", published in 1882.



10th NATPOLREX & 27th NOSDCP – Indian Coast Guard Exercise off Chennai Coast



- The **Indian Coast Guard** conducted the **10th National Pollution Response Exercise (NATPOLREX)** and the **27th NOSDCP & Preparedness Meeting** off the Chennai coast on **October 5–6, 2025**.
- It was a **large-scale biennial exercise** focused on **marine pollution preparedness**.
- The exercise reaffirmed **India's commitment to marine environmental protection** and aimed to **strengthen inter-agency coordination**.
- The event saw participation from **40 international observers (32 countries)** and **105+ national delegates** from ministries, coastal states, ports, and maritime organizations.
- **Director General Paramesh Sivamani**, ICG & NOSDCP, supervised the entire operation.
- A highlight was the **first shoreline clean-up drill at Marina Beach**, simulating a **major oil spill near the shoreline**.

- ICG deployed **Pollution Control Vessels, Offshore Patrol Vessels, Fast Patrol Vessels**, and also used **Chetak & Dornier aircraft** for surveillance and containment.
- Alongside practical drills, **technical sessions** were held, including discussions on **real-life case studies** such as the **MV MSC ELSA 3 incident**.
- The **NOSDCP**, drafted by ICG and approved in **1993**, serves as India's **national oil spill response framework**; ICG has been the lead agency since **1986**.
- India operates **four Pollution Response Centres** (Mumbai, Chennai, Port Blair, Vadinar), critical as **75%+ of energy imports come by sea**, making oil spill response a **strategic priority**.

Political Turmoil in France and Madagascar

- French Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu stepped down just 26 days after assuming office.
- His newly formed cabinet faced strong backlash from various political parties in the National Assembly.
- The government faced the threat of being overthrown through a no-confidence vote.
- There is growing pressure on President Emmanuel Macron to call early elections and resign before his term ends in 2027.
- In Madagascar, President Andry Rajoelina appointed army general Ruphin Fortunat Zafisambo as prime minister to address rising unrest.
- The decision comes amid widespread protests led by young people demanding government accountability.
- The Gen Z Mada protest movement rejected the general's appointment and issued a 48-hour ultimatum for Rajoelina to resign.
- The protests began in September over issues such as water shortages and power outages.
- Public anger has grown due to persistent corruption and high unemployment.
- Rajoelina previously dismissed civilian Prime Minister Christian Ntsay and his entire cabinet in an attempt to calm tensions.



Linthoi Chanambam made history by earning India's first-ever medal at the Judo Junior World Championships

- She claimed the bronze in the women's 63 kg category at the event held in Lima, Peru.
- The 19-year-old judoka secured victory over the Netherlands' Joni Geilen in the bronze medal bout.
- Earlier in the tournament, she was defeated by Japan's So Morichika in her final Group D match.
- Despite the loss, she entered the repechage bracket after Morichika advanced to the final.
- Through the repechage route, Chanambam fought her way back to win the bronze.
- A repechage bracket gives athletes who lose a match another chance to compete for a medal.



India's growth forecast for FY26 has been raised by World Bank to 6.5%

- This is an increase from the earlier estimate of 6.3 percent made in June.
- The increase is due to strong domestic consumption and a recovery in rural areas.
- It is also supported by the positive effects of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) reforms.
- India is expected to remain the fastest-growing major economy in the world.
- This growth will be driven largely by resilient consumer spending.
- However, the World Bank has lowered its forecast for India's growth in FY27 to 6.3 percent.
- This is linked to the negative impact of a 50 percent tariff imposed by the United States.
- South Asia as a whole is projected to grow by 6.6 percent in 2025.
- Growth in the region is expected to slow to 5.8 percent in 2026.
- This marks a 0.6 percentage point drop from the forecast made in April.
- The region faces several risks that could hurt economic performance.
- These include global economic uncertainty and political instability.
- Disruptions in the labor market from emerging technologies like artificial intelligence also pose a threat.



Four major railway projects have been approved by the Union Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs

- These multitracking projects are worth ₹24,634 crore.
- These multitracking projects will expand the Indian Railways network by nearly 894 kilometres.
- The projects span across Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Chhattisgarh.
- The Bhusaval–Wardha route will get a 3rd and 4th line. This section will cover 314 kilometres.
- The estimated cost for this is ₹9,197 crore. It is expected to be completed in five years.
- The Gondia–Dongargarh section will get a 4th line. It will be 84 kilometres long.
- This project will cost ₹2,223 crore. It is also planned for completion within five years.
- It will pass through Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.
- The Itarsi–Bhopal–Bina corridor will get a 4th line. It will be 237 kilometres long. This project will cost ₹4,329 crore.
- In total, the projects will impact 18 districts and improve connectivity for about 3,633 villages.
- These villages have a combined population of over 85 lakh.
- The Itarsi–Bhopal–Bina route is important for freight transport.



G20 Energy Transitions Ministerial Meeting in South Africa



- The G20 Energy Transitions Ministerial Meeting in South Africa attended by Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal.
- The G20 Energy Transitions Ministerial Meeting (ETMM), being held in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa, from 7th to 10th October 2025, is being participated in by Union Minister of Power Shri Manohar Lal.
- The meeting, hosted under South Africa's G20 Presidency, will discuss global energy security and sustainability issues.
- Sessions on “Energy Security, Clean Cooking, Affordable and Reliable Access” and “Sustainable Industrial Development” will be attended by the Minister.
- India's achievements in renewable energy, particularly generating 50% of total capacity from clean sources, will be showcased during the event.
- The milestone has positioned India ahead of global expectations in its renewable energy transition journey.
- India's approach to ensuring energy access, affordability, and security for all citizens will be shared with global leaders.

- The discussions are expected to strengthen international cooperation for affordable and sustainable energy access.
- The Minister will highlight the challenges faced by developing nations in balancing growth with climate goals.
- India's vision of "One Earth, One Family, One Future" will be reiterated as the guiding principle of its energy transition strategy.
- The Energy Transition Working Group (ETWG) and the Energy Transition Ministerial Meeting (ETMM) will be held in-person at The Capital Hotel, Zimbali, Durban.
- This will serve as an important platform to advance the G20 agenda on clean, secure and equitable energy systems.

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₹10,907 Crore Loans Sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Free Electricity Scheme



- More than 5 lakh loan applications approved under the Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Free Electricity Scheme.
- Over 5.79 lakh loan applications amounting to ₹10,907 crore have been sanctioned by Public Sector Banks under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGMBY).
- The scheme aims to promote clean and affordable solar energy by supporting households in installing rooftop solar systems.
- Loans are being processed through the JanSamarth Portal integrated with the National Portal for PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, ensuring a seamless digital process.
- Beneficiaries are being provided collateral-free loans of up to ₹2 lakh at competitive interest rates with simplified documentation.
- A 6-month moratorium period and flexible repayment options aligned with electricity cost savings have been included for user convenience.

- The inclusion of co-applicants and removal of capacity-based caps have been introduced to widen the eligibility scope.
- The financing mechanism has been made easier through lower margin contributions and self-declaration-based digital sanctions.
- The Department of Financial Services and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy jointly monitor the scheme's progress.
- Coordination with State Level Bankers Committees and Lead District Managers has been strengthened to improve outreach and adoption.
- The scheme is regarded as a major step toward achieving energy self-sufficiency and expanding rooftop solar adoption in India.

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India Mobile Congress 2025 – 9th Edition Inaugurated in New Delhi



- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **9th India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2025** on **8 October** at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi.
- The event is jointly organised by the **Department of Telecommunications** and **Cellular Operators Association of India** under the theme “Innovate to Transform.”
- IMC 2025 is described as **Asia’s largest telecom, media, and technology event**, focusing on **innovation and digital transformation**.
- The **four-day event** highlights key themes like **Optical Communications, Quantum Communications, Semiconductors in Telecom, 6G, and Fraud Risk Indicators**.
- Over **1.5 lakh visitors, 150+ countries, and 400 companies** are expected to participate.

- More than **1,600 new use-cases** in **5G, 6G, AI, smart mobility, cybersecurity, and green technology** are being showcased in **100+ sessions** with **800+ speakers**.
- International delegations from **Japan, Canada, UK, Russia, Ireland, and Austria** are participating to foster global telecom collaboration.
- PM Modi inaugurated **Phase 1 of Navi Mumbai International Airport** (₹19,650 crore), designed as **India's largest Greenfield airport**, with a capacity of **90 million passengers annually**.
- He also inaugurated **Phase 2 of Mumbai Metro Line-3** (₹12,200 crore) and dedicated the **entire Line-3** (₹37,270 crore) to the nation, marking a major **urban transport milestone**.
- Additionally, PM launched '**Mumbai One**', India's **first integrated public transport app**, connecting **11 transport operators** with **digital ticketing & real-time travel updates**.

Indian Air Force Day – October 8

- The Indian Air Force was established on October 8, 1932. Since then, this day is celebrated every year as Air Force Day.
- The main objective is to safeguard the sovereignty and security of India through air power.
- The first squadron of IAF (No. 1 Squadron) was formed in 1933.
- After World War II, in 1945, it was renamed Royal Indian Air Force (RIAF). After India became a Republic in 1950, it was renamed Indian Air Force (IAF).
- The motto of IAF is Nabhaḥ Spr̥ṣam Dīptam which means Touch the Sky with Glory.
- The IAF operates with 5 operational commands and 2 functional commands. For example, Western Command in New Delhi and Eastern Command in Shillong.
- Major operations include Operation Vijay (1961 – Liberation of Goa), Indo-Pak Wars (1965, 1971), Operation Meghdoot (1984 – Siachen), Operation Safed Sagar (1999 – Kargil War), and Balakot Air Strikes (2019).
- The highest IAF rank is Marshal of the Indian Air Force. It has been awarded only once, to Arjan Singh.
- The current fleet includes MiG-29, Sukhoi-30MKI, Rafale, Tejas, and C-295 aircrafts, along with advanced helicopters.

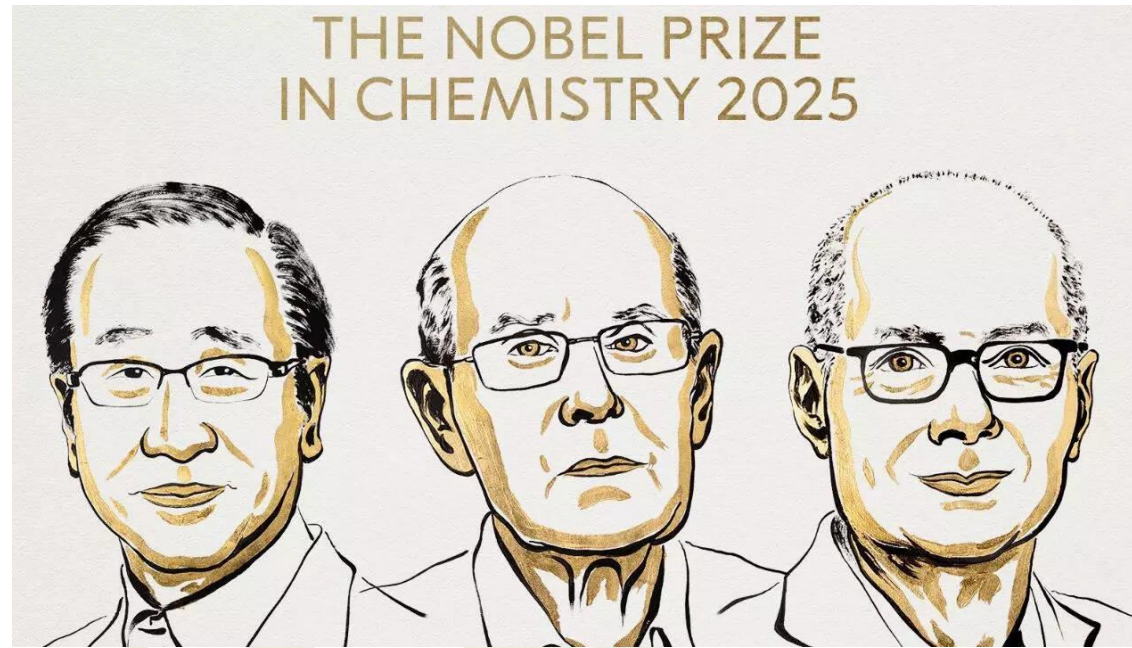


Andhra Pradesh Speaker Participates in 68th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference

- The **68th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPA)** was held in London, where Andhra Pradesh Speaker **Chintakayala Ayyannapatru** participated.
- The event was hosted by the **Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA)**.
- The conference took place from **October 5 to 12, 2025**, with more than 180 Speakers and Legislatures from 54 countries participating.
- **Theme of the Conference:** *Democracy, Diversity, Development*.
- The **CPA was established in 1911** in the British Parliament. Its main aim is to strengthen democracy and enhance the capacity of legislatures.
- Ayyannapatru is currently the **Speaker of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly** and also the **CPA India Regional Chairman**.
- The CPA has membership from **215 parliaments** across **54 Commonwealth nations**, with India being a key member.
- The **Commonwealth of Nations** consists of 54 countries that uphold values such as **democracy, justice, human rights, and good governance**.



2025 Nobel Prize in Chemistry – Winners



- Winners: Susumu Kitagawa (Japan), Richard Robson (Australia), Omar M. Yaghi (USA / Jordan)
- Awarded for the discovery and development of Metal–Organic Frameworks (MOFs) — crystalline porous materials with extraordinary tunability and wide applications.
- Institutional Affiliations: Kitagawa – Kyoto University, Japan; Robson – University of Melbourne, Australia; Yaghi – University of California, Berkeley, USA
- MOFs (Metal–Organic Frameworks) are highly porous crystalline materials formed by linking metal ions (nodes) with organic molecules (linkers). They are sometimes called molecular sponges due to their extremely high surface areas.
- Properties of MOFs: tunable pore size and chemistry, high surface area (1000–10,000 m² per gram), gas/liquid adsorption and separation, stability and modular design for targeted applications.

- Major Contributions: Kitagawa introduced porous coordination polymers in the 1990s, showed permanent porosity, and developed frameworks for gas separation and storage. Robson pioneered early metal–ligand frameworks and established rational MOF design principles. Yaghi coined the term MOF, pioneered Reticular Chemistry, created landmark MOFs like MOF-5 and ZIF-8, extended the field to COFs and HOFs, and enabled water harvesting from desert air.
- Applications of MOFs: energy (hydrogen and methane storage), environment (CO₂ capture and purification), water (atmospheric water harvesting), industry (catalysis and gas separation), healthcare (drug delivery and biosensing), construction (MOF-based membranes and reusable materials).
- Why Nobel-Worthy: paradigm shift in material chemistry, interdisciplinary reach, sustainability potential in clean energy and climate resilience, commercialization in filters, dehumidifiers, and industrial gas storage.
- Nobel Committee’s Citation: “For building materials that are both light as air and strong as steel capable of capturing, storing, and transforming the molecules that define our future.”

Singapore Renames Site of Zubeen Garg's Passing as Zubeen Garg Island

- **Singapore's St. John's Island** has been renamed **"Zubeen Garg Island"** on Google Maps as a symbolic tribute to the late singer.
- The renaming was initiated by enthusiastic fans who added the new label using Google Maps' **"Add a missing place"** feature, rather than through any formal government order.
- The gesture reflects the deep emotional resonance of Zubeen Garg's legacy, making his memory a permanent part of geographic maps beyond Assam



Zomato and HDFC Pension Launch NPS Model to Secure Retirement Benefits for Delivery Partners

- **Zomato and HDFC Pension launched the ‘NPS Platform Workers Model’** to provide delivery partners access to formal retirement benefits, formally inaugurated by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on October 1.
- Over 30,000 Zomato delivery partners have already generated their PRANs within 72 hours, with the platform aiming to cover more than 1 lakh delivery partners under NPS by 2025.
- The model offers long-term financial security, including lump sum payments and monthly pensions at retirement, along with flexibility for small, regular contributions, addressing the current gap in retirement awareness and savings among platform workers.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector

- Bank of Baroda Gets IFSCA Approval to **Operate as Trading-Cum-Clearing Member** on India International Bullion Exchange at GIFT City
- Jio Payments Bank Launches ‘**Savings Pro**’ to Auto-Invest Surplus Funds with Up to 6.5% Returns
- DBS Bank India becomes the **first wholly-owned subsidiary authorised** by RBI to collect GST payments
- South Indian Bank Launches **UPI-Based GST Payment Facility** for Seamless Tax Transactions

