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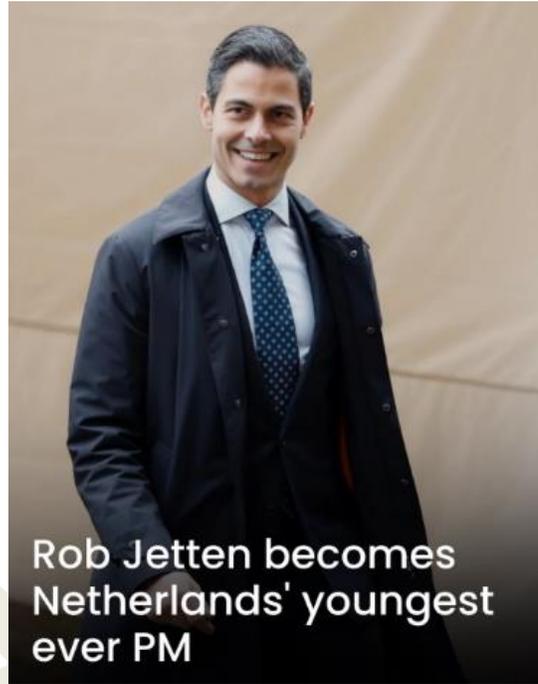
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Rob Jetten becomes Netherlands' youngest ever PM



- Rob Jetten has become the first openly gay prime minister of the Netherlands after his minority government was sworn in.
- At 38, Jetten is also the youngest prime minister in modern Dutch history.
- Jetten was formally sworn in by King Willem-Alexander at the Huis ten Bosch Palace in The Hague.
- The leader of the centrist, socially liberal Democrats 66 party, commonly known as D66, took the oath of office in The Hague.
- Jetten succeeds Dick Schoof as prime minister who oversaw one of the shortest-lived governments in Dutch history.
- A trained public administrator, he entered parliament in 2017 and quickly rose through the ranks of D66.
- He became party leader in 2018 and later served as minister for climate and energy.
- Where he oversaw key elements of the Netherlands' transition toward renewable energy and emissions reduction.

- Jetten's rise follows a closely fought snap election in October, where his centrist party overturned the far-right Freedom Party (PVV) led by Geert Wilders.
- He formed a centre-right minority government with the People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD) and the Christian Democratic Alliance (CDA).

About Netherlands:

- The Netherlands was the first country in the world to legalize same-sex marriage in 2001, cementing its reputation as a global pioneer in LGBTQ equality.
- Yet until now, no openly gay politician had led the Dutch government.
- Capital: Amsterdam
- Currency: Euro (€)

India Unveils First Counter-terrorism Policy PRAHAAR



- The Centre unveiled the country's first national counter-terrorism policy, titled 'PRAHAAR', outlining a framework to address evolving terror threats through prevention, coordinated response, capacity building and adherence to the rule of law.
- Rolled out by the Union home ministry, the strategy is structured around seven pillars, including prevention of terror attacks to protect citizens and national interests, swift response, and integration of internal capacities through a whole-of-government approach.
- The policy emphasises intelligence-led prevention and a “zero tolerance” approach.
- Aimed at denying terrorists, financiers and supporters access to funds, weapons and safe havens.
- It also underscores adherence to human rights and rule-of-law-based processes, mitigation of conditions enabling radicalisation, international cooperation, and recovery and resilience through a whole-of-society framework.
- The policy lists out technological evolution, which offers terrorists a cloak of invisibility, making it difficult to track their funds.

- “Technological advancements like encryption, dark web, crypto wallets, etc. have allowed these groups to operate anonymously.
- Disrupting/intercepting terrorist efforts to access and use CBRNED (chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, explosive, digital) material remains a challenge for counter terrorism (CT) agencies.
- The threat of state and non-state actors misusing drones and robotics for lethal purposes remains another area of concern, even as criminal hackers and nation states continue to target India through cyberattacks.”
- Prahaar lays out a multi-layered strategy structured on seven key pillars:

PRAHAAR:

- P – Prevention of terror attacks
- R – Responses that are swift and proportionate
- A – Aggregating internal capacities for achieving synergy in a whole-of-government approach
- H – Human rights and ‘Rule of Law’ based processes
- A – Attenuating conditions enabling terrorism
- A – Aligning and shaping international efforts
- R – Recovery and resilience through a whole-of-society approach

West Bengal Government Launches 'Banglar Yuva Sathi' Scheme for Unemployed Youth

- Yuva Sathi Yojna, also known as Banglar Yuva Sathi, is a welfare initiative of the Government of West Bengal.
- Banglar Yuva Sathi provides economic relief to unemployed youth, supports job preparation and skill development, and forms part of the state's broader social welfare and employment strategy aimed at reducing unemployment challenges.
- The scheme provides a monthly stipend of Rs 1,500 through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to bank accounts for up to five years, subject to the beneficiary remaining unemployed.
- Applicants must have passed the Madhyamik examination, be aged 21 to 40 years and not be beneficiaries of any other West Bengal welfare scheme.
- Youth enrolled in scholarships such as Aikyashree, Medhashree, Shikhyashree, and Student Smart Card will also be eligible under this scheme.
- The registration will be held from February 15 to 26, 2026 with applications accepted through special camps organized across all Assembly constituencies.
- **About West Bengal:**
- Capital: Kolkata
- Chief Minister: Mamata Banerjee
- Governor: Dr. C.V. Ananda Bose



Manipuri Film Boong Wins BAFTA Award For Best Children's & Family Film In London



- Manipuri-language film 'Boong' won the award for Best Children's & Family Film the directed by Lakshmipriya Devi and backed by producers Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani's Excel Entertainment.
- Boong has become the first-ever Indian production to win the BAFTA for Best Children's & Family Film, "small film with a big soul" beating high-profile nominees including Zootopia 2 and Lilo & Stitch.
- While Boong stole the spotlight for India, the night belonged to 'One Battle After Another'.
- The film secured six trophies: Best Film, Best Director (Paul Thomas Anderson), Best Supporting Actor (Sean Penn) and Best Adapted Screenplay, Cinematography, and Editing.
- Ryan Coogler's 'Sinners' and Guillermo del Toro's 'Frankenstein' were also big winners, with Sinners taking home Best Original Screenplay and Frankenstein sweeping the technical categories including Production Design and Costume Design.
- The award was handed out by Paddington Bear.

About the British Academy Film Awards (BAFTA Awards):

- The BAFTA Awards are one of the most prestigious film awards in the world, presented annually by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA).
- They are often considered the British equivalent of the Oscars.
- Established: 1947
- Founded: to support, develop, and promote the art forms of the moving image.
- Location: Held annually in London, United Kingdom.
- Trophy: Winners receive a Golden BAFTA mask, inspired by classical theatre masks.

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Punjab government announces 'Meri Rasoi' scheme

- Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann announced the launch of the 'Meri Rasoi Yojna'.
- "Under this scheme, the state government will provide food kits to 40 lakh families.
- Each kit will contain two kilograms of lentils, two kilograms of sugar, one kilogram of salt, 200 grams of turmeric powder and one litre of mustard oil for monthly consumption.
- These food kits will be provided in addition to the wheat already being distributed to eligible beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act."
- "Markfed will be the nodal agency for providing these kits and they will be supplied free of cost by the Food and Civil Supplies department."

About Punjab:

- **Capital: Chandigarh**
- **Chief Minister: Bhagwant Mann**
- **Governor: Gulab Chand Kataria**



South African Cheetah Gamini Gives Birth To 3 Cubs At Kuno National Park

- Female cheetah Gamini, translocated from South Africa, gave birth to three cubs at Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh, marking the 9th successful cheetah litter at the park.
- With the new births, India's cheetah population increased to 38, including 27 India-born cubs and 11 translocated adult cheetahs from Namibia and South Africa.
- Earlier, Namibian cheetah Aasha gave birth to five cubs, showing increasing reproductive success under Project Cheetah.
- Three adult cheetahs were also relocated to Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh, expanding cheetah habitat beyond Kuno National Park.
- Project Cheetah was launched on 17 September 2022 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the release of eight Namibian cheetahs to reintroduce the species that became extinct in India in 1952.
- Since the programme began, 21 cheetahs (adults and cubs) have died, highlighting the challenges of wildlife reintroduction despite recent conservation successes.
- The project supports biodiversity restoration, wildlife conservation, and ecosystem balance in India's protected reserves.
- **About South Africa:**
 - South Africa has three capitals:
 - Administrative (Executive) Capital: Pretoria
 - Legislative Capital: Cape Town
 - Judicial Capital: Bloemfontein
 - Currency: South African rand
 - President: Cyril Ramaphosa



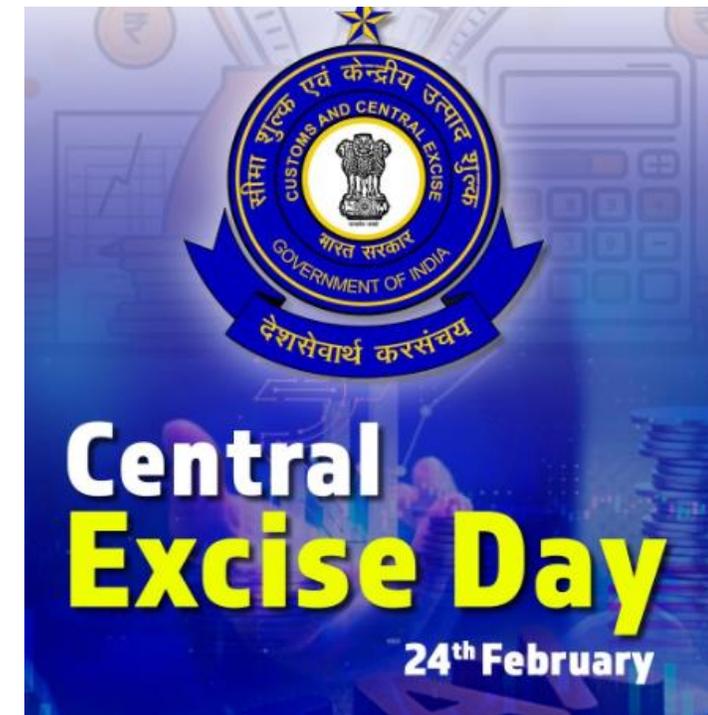
Vice-President Launches Tamil & Gujarati Versions of Constitution

- Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan released the updated Tamil and Gujarati editions of the Constitution of India along with the 8th Edition of the Legal Glossary (English–Hindi) at Uprashtrapati Bhavan.
- The initiative aims to make constitutional knowledge more accessible in regional languages and strengthen democratic participation. The move highlights India's commitment to linguistic diversity and multilingual governance.
- Release made on the occasion of International Mother Language Day 21 February.
- The Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution recognizes 22 languages, aiming to promote and protect India's linguistic diversity.
- Official translated versions have been released in, Bodo, Dogri, Santhali, Nepali (released for the first time last year).
- This continuous expansion strengthens access to constitutional rights and responsibilities across regions.
- Initiative strengthens democratic participation and inclusive governance.
- 8th Edition of Legal Glossary (English–Hindi) aims to simplify legal terminology.
- The updated Legal Glossary aims to, Simplify complex legal terminology, Assist lawmakers and judicial officers, Support students and researchers, Promote clarity in policymaking.
- Transition reflects India's commitment to multilingual governance and cultural preservation.
- Tamil is regarded as one of the world's oldest classical languages. Gujarati has a rich literary and cultural tradition.



Central Excise Day 2026

- Central Excise Day 2026 is observed on February 24, 2026, across India.
- To mark the enactment of the Central Excise and Salt Act on February 24, 1944, and honor the contributions of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) officers.
- The day focuses on promoting tax compliance and recognizing the role of excise duty in national development.
- The Central Excise Department was one of the oldest departments in India which was established in the year 1855, under the British Raj.
- The Central Excise Act, 1944, earlier known as the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944, was enacted in 1944.
- Central Excise Day was celebrated for the first time to commemorate the enactment of this law. Later, significant amendments were made to the Act in 1996.
- The power to arrest was granted to Central Excise Officers under the Union Government in 1973.
- In 2013, this power was also extended to matters relating to Service Tax.
- Initially, the Act covered 67 items under excise duties; over time, this number increased to approximately 1,000 items.
- After the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in July 2017, the Central Excise Department primarily focused on levying excise duty on petroleum products and alcoholic liquor for human consumption.



Greece's Stefanos Sakellaridis Lifts Delhi Open 2026 Singles Title

- Greece's Stefanos Sakellaridis lifted the Delhi Open 2026 men's singles title after defeating Great Britain's Oliver Crawford in the final.
- The 21-year-old clinched his maiden ATP Challenger Tour singles crown with a 7-5, 5-6, 7-6 victory.
- In doubles, India's Siddhant Bhanthia and Bulgaria's Alexander Donski secured the title.
- They defeated India's Niki Kaliyanda Poonacha and Thailand's Pruchya Isaro in the final.
- This victory marks the third time an Indian player has been part of a doubles title-winning team at the tournament.
- Saketh Myneni and Sanam Singh first won the doubles title in 2015.
- Yuki Bhambri and Mahesh Bhupathi lifted the trophy in 2016.
- Somdev Devvarman remains the only Indian to win the singles title.
- He claimed back-to-back titles in 2014 and 2015.

About Greece:

- Capital: Athens
- Currency: Euro
- Prime Minister: Kyriakos Mitsotakis
- President: Katerina Sakellaropoulou



Zimbabwe Rolls Out Long-Acting Injectable HIV Prevention Medicine 'Lenacapavir'

- Zimbabwe has begun rolling out lenacapavir, a long-acting injectable HIV prevention medicine.
- HIV has led to tens of thousands of deaths over the past two decades in the country.
- It is one of the first countries to offer a twice-yearly shot providing six months' protection.
- The first phase of the rollout targets around 46,500 people at high risk of infection.
- A second dose will be given to beneficiaries after six months.
- The injection is being offered free of cost to vulnerable groups.
- These include young women as well as pregnant and breastfeeding mothers.
- Officials expect the drug to help reduce the number of new HIV infections.
- Lenacapavir was developed by the California-based biopharmaceutical company Gilead Sciences.
- It is supported through the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief in partnership with The Global Fund.

About Zimbabwe:

- **Capital:** Harare
- **Currency:** Zimbabwean dollar
- **President:** Emmerson Mnangagwa

