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# “Four Nagaland University Professors Ranked Among World’s Top 2% Scientists by Stanford University”



- Four professors from **Nagaland University** have been included in the list of the world’s top 2% scientists compiled by **Stanford University, USA**.
- The rankings were determined using a **composite citation index (c-score)**.
- The c-score is based on **six bibliometric indicators** such as total citations, h-index, and citations to first, last, or single-author papers.
- The professors featured are:
  - Prof. Amrish Singh (Chemistry)
  - Prof. Joginder Singh (Botany)

- Prof. Prabhakar Sharma (Agricultural Engineering & Technology)
- Prof. Pranav Kumar Prabhakar (Biotechnology)
- **Prof. Ambrish Singh** and **Prof. Pranav Kumar Prabhakar** were also included in the **Career-Long Top 2% Scientists** category.
- The Career-Long category recognizes researchers whose **lifetime work has consistently impacted global scientific knowledge**.
- This achievement is expected to **motivate students and researchers** to pursue higher academic and scientific standards.
- The list was compiled jointly by **Stanford University and Elsevier**.
- Apart from Nagaland University, **five faculty members from IIM Lucknow** were also included in this prestigious list.

# “Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Inaugurates Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) in New Delhi”



- The **Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT)** was officially inaugurated in New Delhi on **24 September 2025** by Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman**.
- The establishment of GSTAT marks an important milestone in India’s GST system. It provides a strong platform for resolving indirect tax disputes.
- The event was attended by **Union Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary** and **GSTAT President Justice Sanjaya Kumar Mishra**.
- In her address, the Finance Minister described GSTAT as a **major institutional development**, highlighting the progress made under GST in the past eight years.
- The **Revenue Secretary** stated that GSTAT would ensure **fairness, uniformity, and predictability** in the appeals process.

- GSTAT is a **statutory appellate body**, offering an independent platform for hearing appeals against the decisions made by GST Appellate Authorities.
- The Tribunal will have a **Principal Bench in New Delhi** and **31 State Benches across 45 cities in India**.
- Each bench will consist of **two Judicial Members**, along with **one Technical Member from the Centre** and **one Technical Member from the State**.
- This structure brings together the **legal and technical expertise** of both Central and State governments.
- It reflects the spirit of **cooperative federalism** and aims to deliver **balanced and impartial decisions**.

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## India and Australia signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for organic products on 24th September 2025



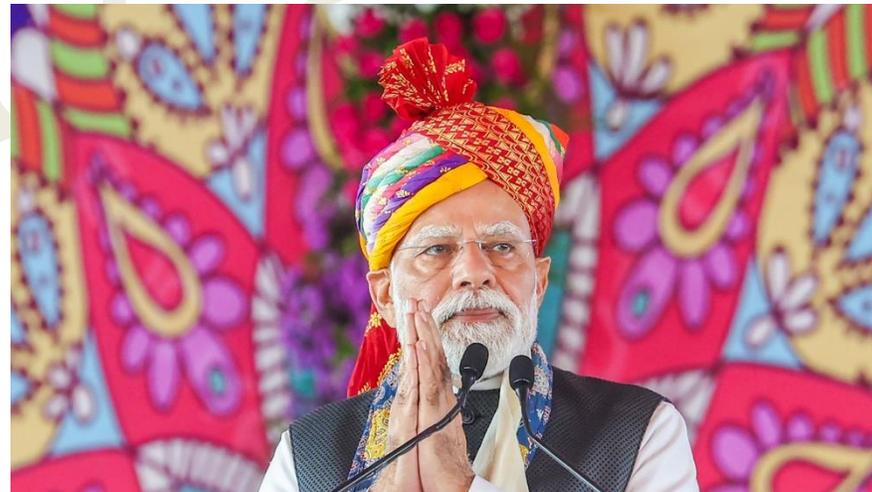
- The signing took place at Vanijya Bhavan in New Delhi.
- This agreement is part of the broader India–Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA).
- It aims to deepen economic collaboration and strengthen trade relations between the two countries.
- The MRA is expected to boost organic trade and create new growth opportunities for producers and exporters.
- It will also benefit other stakeholders in the organic supply chain.
- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) will be the implementing agency on India’s side.
- The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) will be implementing agency for Australia.
- The MRA covers a specific list of organic products. These include unprocessed plant products, excluding greenhouse crops, aquatic plants, and seaweed.

- It also includes processed foods made from plant-based ingredients.
- Certified organic ingredients from third countries can be included if processed in India or Australia. Wine is also covered under the agreement.
- The arrangement will benefit organic farmers and exporters in both nations.
- India's organic exports to Australia in FY 2024–25 reached USD 8.96 million.
- Total export volume was 2,781.58 metric tonnes. Top exports included psyllium husk, coconut milk, and rice.
- India aims to become the “Organic Food Basket of the World. The MRA is a key step toward that goal.

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## **PM Narendra Modi Launches ₹1.22 Lakh Crore Development Projects in Banswara, Rajasthan**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched and inaugurated development projects worth over ₹1.22 lakh crore in Banswara, Rajasthan.
- He laid the foundation stone for the Mahi Banswara Rajasthan Atomic Power Project.
- The project is located at Napla, near the Mahi Dam.
- It involves an investment of approximately ₹42,000 crore.
- The project will include four nuclear power units, each with a capacity of 700 MW.
- The Prime Minister also launched multiple initiatives in various sectors.
- These included solar energy, drinking water, healthcare, infrastructure, and national highways.
- He flagged off three new railway services in Rajasthan.
- He announced power projects worth more than ₹90,000 crore.
- These projects will be developed across Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Maharashtra.



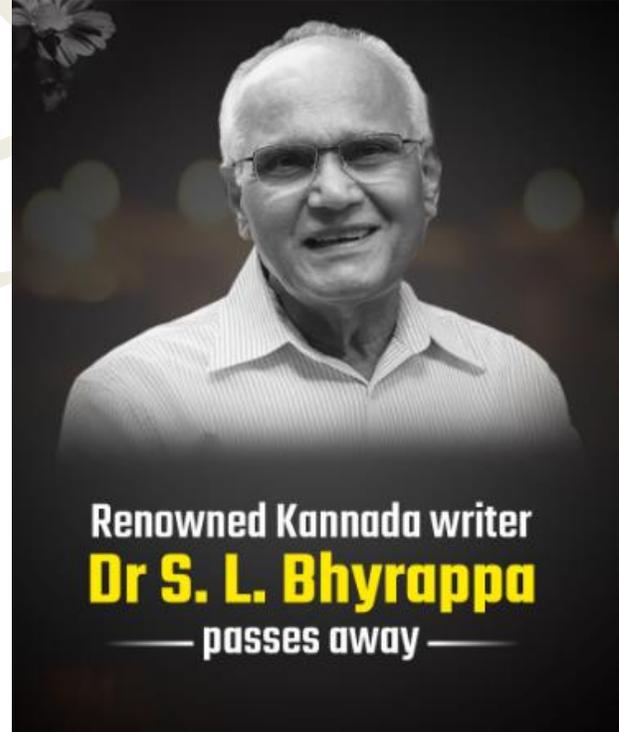
## **An MoU for indigenous technology development has been signed between Indian Air Force and IIT Ropar**

- The goal is to improve the maintenance and operational efficiency of India's air force.
- This partnership supports the Atmanirbhar Bharat mission.
- It aims to boost self-reliance in defence technology.
- The IAF has identified important areas that need homegrown technological solutions.
- IIT Ropar will provide expert consultancy to the IAF.
- The institute will conduct detailed research and feasibility studies.
- IIT Ropar will also create prototype technologies.
- These prototypes will help the IAF sustain its weapon systems.



## **On 24 September, renowned Kannada writer Dr. S. L. Bhyrappa passed away in Bengaluru at the age of 94**

- He suffered a heart attack when he was admitted to a private hospital due to age-related health problems.
- Over 25 novels were written by Bhyrappa, which stimulated public debate and intellectual discourse.
- His celebrated works include Vamshavruksha, Daatu, Parva, Grihabhanga, Aavarana, Nayi Neralu, and Sartha.
- Several movies based on his novels have been critically acclaimed.
- His novels have been translated into multiple Indian and foreign languages.
- The highest civilian recognition, Padma Bhushan, was awarded to him in 2023.
- The Saraswati Samman was conferred upon him in 2010, and the Sahitya Akademi Fellowship was granted in 2015.



## **The government partnered with Zepto to increase youth employment on the NCS portal**

- The quick commerce platform Zepto has been partnered with by the Government to enhance employment opportunities and youth employability through the National Career Service (NCS) Portal.
- On 24 September, an MoU was signed in the presence of Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya.
- The NCS platform has been recognized as a unique bridge connecting employers and job-seekers.
- Since its inception, over 52 lakh employers have been registered and nearly 7.5 crore vacancies have been mobilized on NCS.
- The collaboration between the Ministry and Zepto has been welcomed as a new opportunity for young people while providing Zepto access to a talent pool.
- Under this partnership, Zepto will provide 10,000 job postings during the MoU period.
- Urban employment opportunities for youth, women, and first-time job seekers are expected to be structured and predictable through this initiative.
- Gig workers will be linked with e-Shram registration, social security schemes, and upskilling opportunities under the partnership.
- The initiative is designed to create a bridge to formal employment and enhance future employability.
- The MoU has been positioned as a significant step in strengthening the NCS platform's role as a comprehensive employment solution.



## **The extension of General Anil Chauhan's tenure as CDS approved by ACC till May 2026**

- The extension of General Anil Chauhan's tenure as Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) has been approved by The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
- He shall also serve as Secretary, Department of Military Affairs, Government of India, until May 30, 2026, or until further orders.
- On 28th September 2022, General Chauhan was appointed as the CDS. He is the second CDS of India.
- General Chauhan was commissioned into the Indian Army in 1981 and has had a distinguished and illustrious career holding key command and staff appointments.
- For his exemplary services in the Indian Army, he has been awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal, Uttam Yudh Seva Medal, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Sena Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal.
- General Bipin Rawat was first Chief of Defence Staff.



## **Virat Kohli Tops Kroll 2024 List as Most Valued Indian Celebrity with \$231.1 Million Brand Worth**

- **Virat Kohli** retained his position as the **most valued Indian celebrity with a brand value of \$231.1 million**, driven by his mass influence and strong social media engagement.
- **Ranveer Singh ranked second** (\$170.7 million), **Shah Rukh Khan third** (\$145.7 million, 21% surge), and Alia Bhatt emerged as the most valued female celebrity (\$116.4 million, fourth position). Sachin Tendulkar rose to fifth (\$112.2 million).
- The combined brand value of the top 25 Indian celebrities reached \$2 billion in 2024, an increase of 8.6%, with stronger social media presence boosting individual valuations.
- Bollywood stars contributed 65%, sports stars 28.4%, and Tollywood stars 6.6% of the overall brand value, reflecting the dominance of film and sports personalities in India's celebrity endorsement market.



## China to Launch K-Visa for Global Young STEM Professionals from October 2025

- **China** to launch the K-Visa from **October 1, 2025**, targeting global young **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) professionals**, providing flexible work rights without local sponsorship.
- The K-Visa aims to attract talent amid tightening U.S. H-1B visa restrictions, including the \$100,000 application fee announced by former President Donald Trump.
- This visa category promotes academic, cultural, entrepreneurial, and research exchanges, allowing independent applications without employer sponsorship.
- K-Visa holders can engage in research, entrepreneurship, academic programs, cultural activities, and business ventures, distinguishing it from traditional work visas.



## **Jerome Boateng Announces Retirement from Professional Football**

- **Jerome Boateng**, 2014 World Cup winner with Germany, **announces retirement from professional football** at age 37, ending a career spanning top clubs and international appearances.
- Club career highlights include 10 years at Bayern Munich with nine Bundesliga titles, two Champions League trophies, and stints at Manchester City, Olympique Lyonnais, Salernitana, Hamburg SV, and most recently LASK Linz.

### **Recently Retired Players**

- Samuel Umtiti (France) – Professional Scoorer
- Amit Mishra (India)- Professional Cricket
- Asif Ali (Pakistan) – International cricket
- Mitchell Starc (Australia) – T20Is cricket
- Ravichandran Ashwin (India) – Indian Premier League
- Cheteshwar Pujara (India) – All forms of cricket



## 26 September – European Day of Languages

- **The European Day of Languages** is celebrated every year on **26 September**, initiated by the Council of Europe in 2001 in collaboration with the European Union.
- It aims to promote language learning across all ages, encourage multilingualism, and highlight the cultural and linguistic diversity of Europe.
- Theme 2025 – **Languages: your bridge to the future**
- The day emphasises the importance of intercultural understanding, lifelong learning of languages, and strengthening cooperation among European nations.
- With over 200 languages spoken in Europe, the observance also raises awareness about preserving linguistic heritage while supporting mobility, employment, and global competitiveness.

