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HEADLINES

- ❖ Air Marshal Sanjiv Ghurtia took over as Air Officer-in-Charge Maintenance
- ❖ The most important day of Onam, known as Thiruvonam, is on September 5th
- ❖ Oscar Piastrri won the 2025 Dutch Grand Prix
- ❖ Rajit Punhani took charge as CEO of FSSAI
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended a high-level CEOs' roundtable during the Semicon India 2025 event
- ❖ Government issued guidelines to link Anganwadi centres with schools
- ❖ Cabinet approves Rs 1,500 crore Critical Minerals Recycling Scheme
- ❖ Major Highlights of China's PLA Military Parade – Display of Nuclear, Laser, Hypersonic and Cyber Capabilities
- ❖ MHA Extended CAA Registration Cut-Off Date Till December 31, 2024
- ❖ AQLI 2025 Report
- ❖ Pakistan's Asif Ali announces retirement from international cricket

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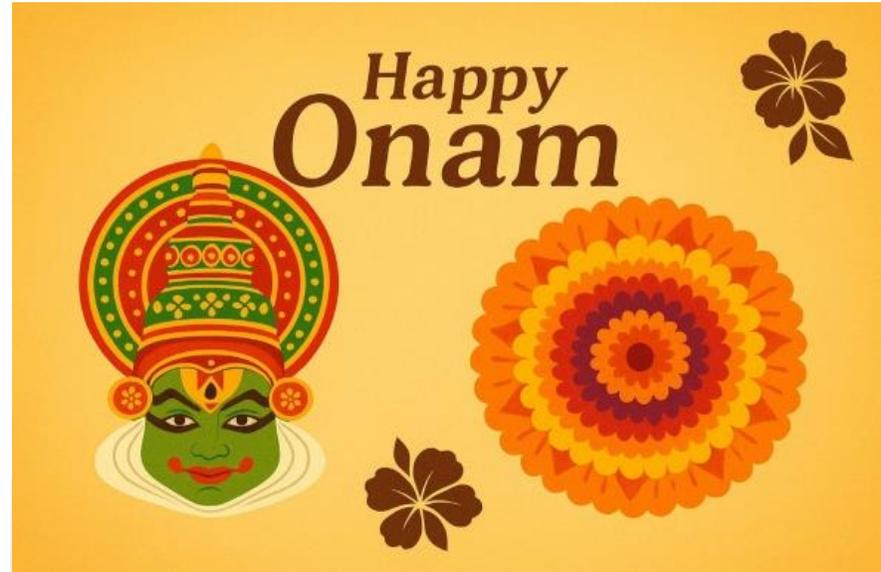
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Air Marshal Sanjiv Ghurtia took over as Air Officer-in-Charge Maintenance

- Air Marshal Sanjiv Ghurtia AVSM VSM assumed the appointment of Air Officer-in-Charge Maintenance at the Indian Air Force Headquarters.
- After assuming charge, the Air Marshal paid floral tribute at the National War Memorial in honour of the Armed Forces personnel who made the supreme sacrifice for the nation.
- He was commissioned into the Aeronautical Engineering stream of the Indian Air Force in September 1988.
- The Air Marshal is an alumnus of the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, the Air Force Test Pilot School, Bengaluru, and the Air Force Technical College, Bengaluru.
- He is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society, London, the Aeronautical Society of India, and the Institute of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering.
- He is a Lead Auditor for ISO 45,000 (OH & SMS) and Associate Member of Society of Flight Test Engineers, USA.
- During his 37-year career, he has held several important command and staff appointments in the Indian Air Force and in a United Nations Mission abroad.
- He was serving as the Senior Maintenance Staff Officer at HQ MC before assuming his present appointment.
- For his distinguished service, he was awarded the 'Vishisht Seva Medal' in the year 2016 and 'Ati Vishisht Seva Medal' in the year 2025 by the President.
- He was also commended by the UN Force Commander while serving in the UN Mission Congo.



The most important day of Onam, known as Thiruvonam, is on September 5th



- Onam is a Hindu festival that originates from Kerala, India.
- It is celebrated every year by Malayalis both in Kerala and around the world.
- The festival marks the New Year for Malayali Hindus.
- Onam falls in the Malayalam month of Chingam, which usually corresponds to August and September in the Gregorian calendar.
- The festival honors the Vamana avatar of Lord Vishnu.
- It also commemorates the legendary return of Emperor Mahabali.
- Onam draws from mythological stories involving sages like Kashyapa and Parashurama.
- It is primarily a harvest festival.
- Onam is one of the three major Hindu celebrations in Kerala, alongside Vishu and Thiruvathira.

- The celebrations are rich in cultural traditions.
- They include Vallam Kali (snake boat races), Pulikali (tiger dances), and Pookkalam (floral decorations).
- Other activities include Onam Kali, Thumbi Thullal (a women's folk dance), and Kummattikali (masked dances).
- People also take part in Onathallu (a form of martial arts) and enjoy Onavillu (musical bows).
- Offerings like Kazhchakkula (plantain stalks) are made.
- Costumed figures called Onapottan appear during the festival.
- The Atthachamayam procession features folk songs and dances.

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Oscar Piastri won the 2025 Dutch Grand Prix

- Oscar Piastri won the Dutch Grand Prix 2025 held at Circuit Zandvoort in the Netherlands.
- Piastri's McLaren teammate Lando Norris was forced to retire from the race with mechanical difficulties with seven laps remaining.
- With the win, Piastri earned 25 points, while Norris earned zero points, as he could not finish the race.
- Piastri now leads Norris by 34 points in the Drivers' Championship with nine races left in the season.
- Rookie driver Isack Hadjar of Racing Bulls secured his first-ever F1 podium with a third-place finish.
- Red Bull's Max Verstappen finished second, while Mercedes' George Russell secured the fourth position.
- The Formula 1 Heineken Dutch Grand Prix 2025, popularly called the 2025 Dutch Grand Prix, took place on 31 August 2025 at Circuit Zandvoort in Zandvoort, Netherlands.



Rajit Punhani took charge as CEO of FSSAI

- Rajit Punhani assumed charge as the Chief Executive Officer of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
- He is a 1991-batch IAS officer belonging to the Bihar cadre.
- Punhani brings with him over three decades of administrative experience across various levels.
- He earlier served as Secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- He has also worked as Secretary of the Rajya Sabha and Chief Executive Officer of Sansad TV.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI):
 - The FSSAI is a statutory body under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
 - Its headquarters is in New Delhi.
 - It was constituted on September 5, 2008, under the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.
 - This authority regulates the manufacture, storage, distribution, sale, and import of food items while setting standards to ensure food safety.



Rajit Punhani, a 1991-batch IAS officer of the Bihar cadre, has taken charge as the new CEO of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended a high-level CEOs' roundtable during the Semicon India 2025 event

- The event was held on September 3 at Yashobhoomi in New Delhi.
- The roundtable brought together top executives from leading global semiconductor companies.
- They explored opportunities for industry collaboration and innovation.
- On the second day of Semicon India 2025, PM Modi held discussions with semiconductor experts.
- He also visited an exhibition showcasing the latest technologies and projects in the semiconductor field.
- Union Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw was also present at the event.
- PM Modi inaugurated the three-day Semicon India 2025 conference on September 2.
- The conference aims to strengthen India's position as a trusted player in the global semiconductor supply chain.
- It represents a major step toward making India a hub for semiconductor design, manufacturing, and innovation.



Government issued guidelines to link Anganwadi centres with schools

- Union Ministers Dharmendra Pradhan and Annapurna Devi released the Guidelines for Co-location of Anganwadi Centres with Schools at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The initiative aims to strengthen the foundation of education and ensure complete care of mothers and children in line with the National Education Policy 2020.
- The government announced that about 2 lakh schools will be connected with broadband within three years, boosting digital education.
- The guidelines seek to ensure smooth transition of children from Anganwadi Centres to Class 1 in primary schools.
- The policy promotes better linkages and convergence between Anganwadi Centres and Primary Schools for holistic child development.
- Children will experience a stimulating environment that provides joyful learning opportunities and fosters overall growth.
- The move aims to increase retention of children at the primary level to help achieve higher learning outcomes.
- The initiative highlights community involvement and integration with programmes like Nipun Bharat and Poshan Bhi Padhayi Bhi.



Cabinet approves Rs 1,500 crore Critical Minerals Recycling Scheme

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved a ₹1,500 crore Critical Minerals Recycling Scheme.
- The scheme is designed to increase recycling capacity of critical minerals and strengthen the national supply chain.
- It will be implemented under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) for a period of six years from 2025–26 to 2030–31.
- The scheme covers recycling of e-waste, lithium-ion battery scrap, and catalytic converters.
- Beneficiaries include large industries, small businesses, and start-ups, with one-third of the budget reserved for small players.
- Units that start production within the stipulated time will receive a 20% capital subsidy on plant and machinery.
- An operating subsidy will be given on sales above the base year 2025–26, set at 40% in the second year and 60% in the fifth year.
- The maximum incentive limit is ₹50 crore for large industries and ₹25 crore for small industries, while the operating subsidy cap is ₹10 crore and ₹5 crore respectively.

Government approves Rs 1,500 crore recycling scheme for critical minerals, aims to generate 70,000 jobs



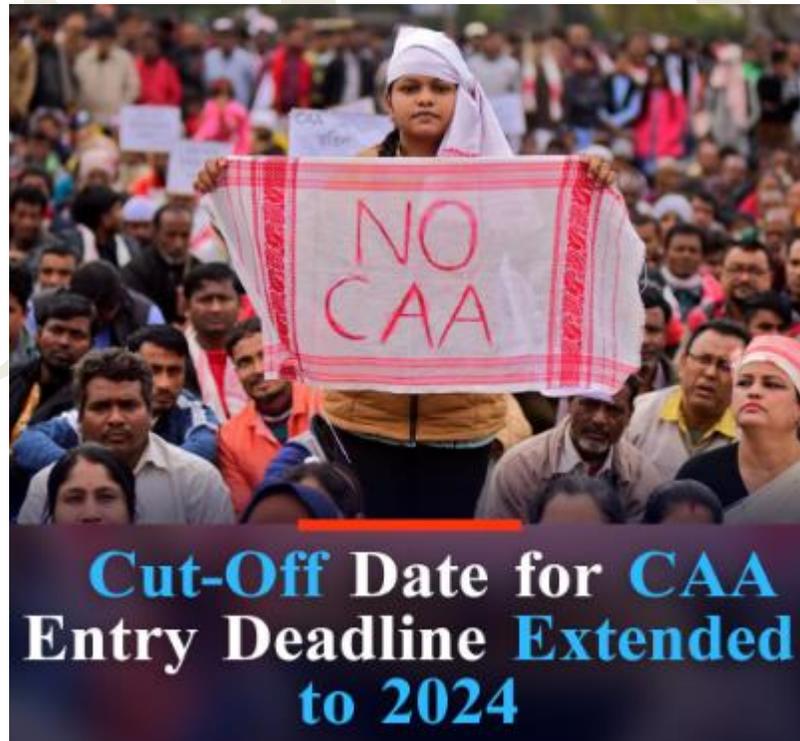
Major Highlights of China's PLA Military Parade – Display of Nuclear, Laser, Hypersonic and Cyber Capabilities

- DF-5C Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) can travel up to 20,000 km and carry multiple nuclear warheads at the same time.
- Nuclear-capable missiles DF-31, JL-1, JL-2 submarine-launched ballistic missiles capable of nuclear strikes.
- LY-60 Laser Weapon used for enemy target tracking and missile defense.
- Integration of Army, Navy, and Air Force – tanks, missiles, drones, and fighter jets were showcased together.
- Hypersonic weapons capable of traveling more than five times the speed of sound and penetrating enemy defense systems.
- Bombers and Naval Power – submarine-launched ballistic missiles, naval bombers, and fighter jets were displayed.
- Drones, Cyber and Electronic Warfare advanced drones, unmanned air systems, cyber-attack and electronic jamming technologies were shown.
- People's War 2.0 modern war strategies and reorganization of PLA forces based on new technologies.



MHA Extended CAA Registration Cut-Off Date Till December 31, 2024

- Ministry of Home Affairs has extended the cut-off date for entry into India for applying under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 (CAA), till December 31, 2024, from its previous cut-off date of December 31, 2014.
- This extension enables persecuted minorities, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians, from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan who entered India on or before December 31, 2024, to apply for Indian citizenship.
- Individuals from these communities who entered India without valid documents, or whose documents have expired, are exempted from the requirement of possessing a valid passport or visa.
- This move aims to facilitate the legal settlement and integration of these individuals who fled religious persecution.



AQLI 2025 Report

- Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIC) has released the 'Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) 2025 Report'.
- As per the report, Air Pollution has emerged as the most severe health threat in India, reducing the country's average life expectancy by 3.5 years .
- This projection is based on the finding that all regions of India are exposed to annual average Particulate Matter (PM 2.5) levels which stood at 41 micrograms per cubic metre ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) in 2023, exceeding the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommended limit of 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.
- The report highlighted that nearly 46% of India's population lives in areas where the national annual average PM 2.5 levels have been breached.
- The data of the report revealed that The Northern Plains are India's most polluted region and also continue to be the world's most polluted zone, with 544.4 million people (representing 38.9% of India's total population) living under the severe region.
- Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) emerged as the worst hit Indian state by air pollution, with residents facing a loss of 8.2 years in life expectancy followed by Bihar (5.6 years lost), Haryana (5.3 years lost) and Uttar Pradesh (5 years lost).
- As per the report, South Asia is the world's most polluted region as particulate pollution in this region has increased by 2.8% (in 2023)



Pakistan's Asif Ali announces retirement from international cricket

- **Pakistan** middle-order batter **Asif Ali** announced his retirement from international cricket.
- Since his debut in 2018, he played 21 ODIs and 58 T20Is, scoring a total of 959 runs in white-ball formats.
- Asif Ali called wearing the Pakistan jersey the greatest honour of his life and said serving his country on the cricket field was his proudest chapter.

Recently Retired Players

- Mitchell Starc (Australia) – T20Is cricket
- Ravichandran Ashwin (India) – Indian Premier League
- Cheteshwar Pujara (India) – All forms of cricket
- Veda Krishnamurthy (India) – International Cricket
- Andre Russell (West Indies) – International Cricket
- B Sumeeth Reddy (India) – Badminton

