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SIIMA 2025 honored South Indian cinema: Allu Arjun, Amitabh Bachchan, and Kamal Haasan were among the winners



- The South Indian International Movie Awards 2025 (SIIMA) took place in Dubai, celebrating excellence in Telugu, Kannada, Tamil, and Malayalam cinema.
- Allu Arjun won the Best Actor award for *Pushpa 2: The Rule*, while Rashmika Mandanna bagged Best Actress.
- Telugu blockbuster *Kalki 2898 AD* also won multiple awards, with Amitabh Bachchan and Kamal Haasan being recognized for their roles.
- Senior actor Sivakumar was honored with a special award—the Exemplary Achievement Award—"for his unparalleled contribution to cinema."
- Actress Trisha was also honored for her "incredible work of 25 years in South Indian cinema."
- **Telugu Cinema** – *Pushpa 2: The Rule* dominated with Allu Arjun (Best Actor), Rashmika Mandanna (Best Actress), and Sukumar (Best Director), while *Kalki 2898 AD* won Best Film and acting awards for Kamal Haasan (Villain) & Amitabh Bachchan (Supporting Actor). cinema.

- **Kannada Cinema** – Key winners include B. Ajaneesh Loknath (Best Music Director – *MAX*), Jack Singham (Comedy – *Bheema*), Sandeep Sunkad (Debut Director – *Shakhakaari*), and Samarjit Lankesh (Debut Actor – *Gowri*).
- **Tamil Cinema** – *Amaran* swept major honors with Best Film, Rajkumar Periasamy (Director), and Sai Pallavi (Best Actress). Anurag Kashyap (*Maharaja*) won Best Villain, and Bala Saravanan (*Lubber Pandhu*) Best Comedy Actor.
- **Malayalam Cinema** – *Manjummel Boys* won Best Film, while *Aadujeevitham* brought Blessy (Best Director) and Prithviraj Sukumaran (Best Actor). Urvashi (*Ullozhukku*) won Best Actress, with Shyam Mohan (*Premalu*) in comedy and Jagadeesh (*Marco*) in a negative role.
- **Overall** – SIIMA 2025 highlighted both blockbusters (*Pushpa 2*, *Kalki 2898 AD*, *Amaran*, *Manjummel Boys*) and critically acclaimed films (*Aadujeevitham*, *Ullozhukku*), celebrating a balance of mainstream and performance-driven

India won Asia Cup Hockey title, qualified for 2026 World Cup

- On 7 September, India defeated South Korea 4-1 in the final to win the Asia Cup Hockey title in Bihar.
- The victory ended India's eight-year wait for the continental crown.
- With this win, India also secured direct qualification for the 2026 Hockey World Cup.
- Sukhjeet Singh scored India's fastest goal of the tournament within 31 seconds of the match.
- Dilpreet Singh netted twice, while Amit Rohidas added the fourth goal for India.
- Meanwhile, Hockey India has announced a reward of Rs 3 lakh to each player.
- Korea managed a consolation goal through Dain Son in the 51st minute.
- In the third-place playoff, Malaysia beat China 4-1 to secure the bronze medal.



UPI Limit Increased to ₹10 Lakh for Select Transactions

- NPCI has increased UPI transaction limits effective September 15, 2025, for specific categories like capital markets, insurance, government e-Market Place, credit card payments, and collections.
- The per-transaction limit has been increased to ₹5 lakh, and the 24-hour aggregate limit raised to ₹10 lakh for several services, including insurance, capital markets, government tax payments, and credit card payments
- P2P transaction limits remain unchanged at Rs 1 lakh per day.

Unified Payments Interface (UPI).

- **Developed by:** National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- **Launched:** 2016.
- **Purpose:** Enables instant money transfers between two bank accounts via mobile.



Skechers Signs Indian Cricketer Mohammad Siraj as its Brand Ambassador

- Skechers USA Inc signed Mohammad Siraj, an Indian cricketer, as its brand ambassador
- Skyscanner, a leading global travel search engine, has appointed Indian cricketer Suryakumar ‘SKY’ Yadav as its first-ever brand ambassador in India

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Abhinav Bindra – International Olympic Committee (IOC) Mental Health Ambassadors
- Madhuri Dixit – Odisha state’s handloom industry.
- Shah Rukh Khan – Zomato (for Fuel Your Hustle Campaign)
- MS Dhoni – ACKO
- MS Dhoni – Dettol’s ‘Icy Cool’ Range
- Shubman Gill – Oakley



2025 US Open Men's Singles – Carlos Alcaraz Victory

- Carlos Alcaraz won the men's singles at the **2025 US Open** on **7 September 2025**.
- Defeated **Jannik Sinner** 6-2, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4.
- This was Alcaraz's **6th career Grand Slam title** and **2nd US Open crown**.
- Returned to **World No. 1**, ending Sinner's **65-week reign**.
- This was the **15th meeting** with Sinner and their **3rd consecutive Grand Slam final**, winning **7 of their last 8 encounters**.
- Became the **second youngest male** to win 6 Grand Slams and joined **Djokovic, Nadal, and Wilander** in winning multiple majors on **hard, clay, and grass** .
- Alcaraz's triumph cements his place among **modern tennis elites** and highlights one of the sport's most exciting contemporary rivalries.



Aryna Sabalenka 2025 US Open

- Aryna Sabalenka defended her US Open title in 2025, becoming the first woman since Serena Williams (2014) to win back-to-back US Opens.
- Defeated Amanda Anisimova in the women's singles final with a score of 6–3, 7–6 (7–3).
- This was Sabalenka's fourth career Grand Slam title (Australian Open 2023 & 2024; US Open 2024 & 2025).
- Achieved her 100th Grand Slam main-draw match win at this tournament.
- Amanda Anisimova had a 6–3 head-to-head lead over Sabalenka before the final, including a Wimbledon semifinal win.
- Sabalenka's victory demonstrates mental strength, perseverance, and consistency under pressure.



Israel Launches Advanced Spy Satellite "Ofek-19" to Boost Surveillance Capabilities

- Israel Successfully Launched Spy Satellite "Ofek-19" into Orbit.
- Israel launched its advanced spy satellite "Ofek-19" into orbit using a Shavit rocket from Palmachim Airbase, south of Tel Aviv.
- The launch marks a significant step in strengthening Israel's surveillance and intelligence capabilities across the Middle East.
- Ofek-19 was developed under Israel's defense space program and led by Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) through its Systems, Missiles, and Space (SMS) Group, specifically the SPACE Division.



Royal Bhutan Buddhist Temple Inaugurated in Rajgir, Bihar

- The Royal Bhutan Buddhist Temple in Rajgir, Bihar, was formally consecrated on 4–5 September 2025
- The consecration was led by Bhutan's Chief Abbot, Je Khenpo (Trulku Jigme Choedra), during a ceremony attended by senior dignitaries from India and Bhutan
- Bhutan's Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay emphasized that the temple symbolizes deep-rooted spiritual ties and trust between India and Bhutan.
- Union Minister Kiren Rijiju expressed gratitude to both Prime Ministers for strengthening bilateral friendship through this temple project.
- Built on land granted by the Bihar government, the temple is seen as a lasting symbol of cultural diplomacy and Buddhist heritage shared between the two nations.



Indian filmmaker Anuparna Roy won the Best Director award in the Orizzonti section at the 82nd Venice Film Festival

- Her film “Songs of Forgotten Trees,” the only Indian entry in this category, narrates the story of two migrant women in Mumbai.
- Julia Ducournau, president of the Orizzonti jury, announced the award.
- The Orizzonti section is known for showcasing new and independent films from across the globe.
- Veteran U.S. filmmaker Jim Jarmusch received the festival’s top honor, the Golden Lion for Best Film, for “Father Mother Sister Brother.”
- The Silver Lion runner-up award was given to “The Voice of Hind Rajab,” directed by Tunisia’s Kaouther Ben Hania.
- Toni Servillo was named Best Actor for portraying a weary president in Paolo Sorrentino’s Italian Film “La Grazia.”
- Chinese actress Xin Zhilei won the Best Actress award for her role in “The Sun Rises On Us All.”
- Benny Safdie bagged Best Director in the main competition for “The Smashing Machine”.
- A special jury prize was presented to Italian filmmaker Gianfranco Rosi for his black-and-white documentary “Below the Clouds”.



Anutin Charnvirakul elected as new Prime Minister of Thailand amid political crisis

- On September 5, 2025, Anutin Charnvirakul was elected as Thailand's new Prime Minister by the country's parliament.
- He becomes Thailand's third prime minister since 2023, amid ongoing political instability.
- The 58-year-old leader secured 273 votes in the lower house, surpassing the 247 votes required to win.
- His main rival, Chaikasem Nitisiri of the Shinawatra family-led bloc, received 132 votes.
- Anutin was able to clinch the prime ministerial post after gaining support from the pro-democracy People's Party.
- The backing from the People's Party came with the condition that fresh elections be held within the coming months.
- Anutin Charnvirakul succeeds Paetongtarn Shinawatra, the youngest daughter of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.
- Paetongtarn Shinawatra was removed from office after the Constitutional Court found her guilty of ethical violations.



Bhupender Gupta Takes Charge as New CMD of NHPC

- **Bhupender Gupta** has taken charge as **Chairman and Managing Director of NHPC** while also holding additional charge as CMD of SJVN.
- With over 34 years of experience, including 31 years in Power CPSUs, he has contributed to hydro, thermal, renewable, transmission, and distribution projects, including key roles in Nathpa Jhakri and Tala hydro projects.
- His vision focuses on making India energy self-reliant through non-fossil fuel resources, AI integration, EV grid integration, green hydrogen, bioenergy, cybersecurity, and advanced energy storage.

Recent Appointments

- **Secretary of Ministry of Mines** – Piyush Goyal
- **CEO of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** – Rajit Punhani (replace GKV Rao)
- **Chairman of the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) for 2025-26** – Karunesh Bajaj
- **Controller General of Accounts (CGA)** – C. A. Kalyani (29th officer)
- **Chairman of Press Trust of India's (PTI) Board** – Mahendra Mohan Gupta (replace K.N. Shanth Kumar)



Niti Aayog Strategy to Double Pulses Production by 2047

- NITI Aayog aims to make India self-sufficient in pulses by 2030, increasing production from 26.06 MT in 2022 to 34.45 MT by 2030
- Target by 2047 is 51.57 MT to double production.
- Cluster-based cultivation through “One Block, One Seed Village” in 111 districts with seed banks and localized practices.
- Technology adoption with region-specific high-yielding varieties, precision farming tools, irrigation and soil health practices.
- Climate-smart agriculture with drought-resistant varieties, integrated pest management and contingency cropping.
- Data-led decision making using AI, satellite imagery and real-time data for productivity tracking and policy.
- Demand-supply analysis shows a surplus of 3.79 MT by 2030 and 16.48 MT by 2047, enabling export potential.
- Nutritional promotion of pulses through awareness campaigns, ICMR guidelines, school meals and public distribution system.

Niti Aayog’s vision is anchored around two major targets

- Achieve self-sufficiency in pulses by 2030
- Double national pulses production by 2047



Axis Bank Launches 3rd Edition of Sparsh Week 2025 with Focus on Customer Experience & Insurance Reach

Axis Bank Launches Sparsh Week 2025: 'Raising the Bar' Nationwide

- Axis Bank Launches 3rd Edition of Sparsh Week 2025 with Axis Max Life–IPPB Partnership to Boost Customer Experience and Insurance Reach.
- Axis Bank Limited launched the 3rd edition of its flagship initiative Sparsh Week, held from 1 to 5 September 2025, across 5,868 branches in 40 cities under the theme “Raise the Bar.”
- The programme aims to enhance customer experience, strengthen employee engagement, and expand leadership visibility while introducing new customer-centric offerings .

AXIS BANK IN NEWS 2025

- Axis Bank and super.money Launch Co-Branded RuPay Credit Card for Seamless UPI Payments. ➤ Axis Bank has introduced the ‘Lock FD’ feature as a proactive measure to safeguard customers from digital banking fraud.
- Axis Bank has become the first Indian bank to launch 24/7 near-real-time programmable USD clearing capabilities using J.P. Morgan’s Kinexys Digital Payments platform.

- Axis Bank launched the 9th edition of its Evolve seminar, which focuses on helping Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) adapt to digital transformation, innovation, and operational resilience.
- Axis Bank has pledged ₹104 crore to Ashoka University over the next four years to strengthen its PhD and Post-Doctoral research programs.
- Reserve Bank of India has approved the re-appointment of Amitabh Chaudhry as the Managing Director & CEO of the Axis Bank, for a period of three years w.e.f.(**With Effect From**) January 1, 2025 till December 31, 2027 .
- Axis Bank has unveiled its Corporate Credit Card Suite designed specifically for start-ups within the New Economy Group (NEG).

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Telangana Language Day & Kaloji Narayana Rao

- **Telangana Language Day** is celebrated every year on **9 September** in Telangana, India.
- The date was chosen to mark the **100th birth anniversary** of poet and writer **Kaloji Narayana Rao**.
- The **Government of Telangana** provides funds and awards for the promotion of the Telangana dialect of Telugu.
- The event is organised annually by the **Department of Culture, Telangana**.
- **Kaloji Narayana Rao** (1914–2000), born in **Madikonda, Warangal**, was a noted poet, freedom fighter, and activist.
- He wrote in **Telugu, Urdu, Hindi, and Marathi**; his famous work is “**Naa Godava**”.
- He strongly opposed the **feudal rule of the Nizams** and was active in social and political movements.
- Kaloji was honoured with the **Padma Vibhushan in 1992** for his literary and social contributions

