

## Weekly One Liners 26<sup>th</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2025

### From 7,516 km to 11,099 km: India's New Coastal Length Explained

In a landmark update to its geographical metrics, the Government of India has revised the length of its coastline from 7,516.6 km to 11,098.8 km — a nearly 50% increase — without gaining any new land. This revision, announced in the Ministry of Home Affairs' 2023–2024 annual report, stems not from any territorial expansion but from enhanced mapping technologies that now allow for far more accurate measurement of coastal features. The update marks a significant evolution in India's geospatial understanding and has major implications for coastal security, climate planning, and economic zone regulation.

#### Why in News?

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs in December 2024 announced a revision in the official length of India's coastline. No new land added — the revision is purely due to improved measurement techniques. The updated figures will now be reviewed every 10 years using advanced mapping tools. Old coastline length is about 7,516.6 km and New coastline length 11,098.8 km.

#### Key Highlights

- **Announced by:** Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), in the 2023–24 Annual Report
- **Measured by:** Survey of India and the National Hydrographic Office (NHO)

#### New methodology: Used high-resolution digital tools including,

- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Satellite altimetry
- LIDAR-GPS
- Drone-based imaging
- **Base scale used:** 1:250,000 (compared to earlier 1:4,500,000)
- **Reference line:** High Water Line (HWL) from 2011 electronic navigation charts

#### Understanding the Coastline Paradox

- Concept first identified by Lewis Fry Richardson, expanded by Benoît Mandelbrot
- A coastline's length increases with finer measurement scales
- Coastlines behave like fractals — highly detailed at every zoom level
- Example: Britain's coastline can vary from 2,400 km to over 3,400 km depending on scale

#### Why This Matters

- **Maritime security:** Longer coastline = longer area to protect
- **Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs):** Can be extended based on new boundaries

- **Disaster management:** Better planning for cyclones, floods, and sea-level rise
- **Climate modelling:** Improved input data for accurate coastal impact projections
- **Textbook changes:** School geography curricula need updates

#### Static GK Facts

- India has 11 coastal States and 2 Union Territories (Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep)
- **Last coastal state to join India:** Goa (1961)

### LIC Creates History with Guinness World Record in Insurance Sales

In a historic achievement, the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), India's largest public sector life insurer, has been awarded a Guinness World Record for selling the highest number of life insurance policies in a single day. On January 20, 2025, LIC sold a staggering 588,107 life insurance policies across the country through its massive agent network, setting a global benchmark in life insurance sales within a 24-hour period.

#### Why in News?

The LIC's record-setting sales feat was recently acknowledged by the Guinness World Records on May 25, 2025. This recognition marks a milestone moment for India's insurance sector and reaffirms LIC's dominant presence and deep penetration in the Indian financial landscape.

#### Background

- LIC is a state-owned life insurance corporation, established in 1956.
- It plays a crucial role in delivering financial protection and insurance services to millions across India.
- LIC has consistently led India's life insurance sector in terms of market share, policyholder base, and trust.



### Record-Breaking Performance on January 20, 2025

- LIC agents sold 588,107 policies in just 24 hours.
- A total of 452,839 LIC agents were involved in this national effort.
- The initiative was part of the “Mad Million Day” campaign launched by LIC.

### Leadership Initiative

- LIC’s CEO and MD Siddhartha Mohanty spearheaded the idea of “Mad Million Day”.
- He appealed to each agent to complete at least one life insurance policy issuance on the designated day.
- This mobilization resulted in a massive collective achievement.

### Significance of the Achievement

- The event showcased agent productivity, efficiency, and LIC’s organizational strength.
- It underlines the trust of the Indian public in LIC’s services.
- The record is a testament to LIC’s mission of ensuring financial security and insurance accessibility.

### Reaction from LIC

- The corporation expressed joy and gratitude for the recognition.
- LIC acknowledged the dedication of its agents, employees, and customers in making this feat possible.

### PM Modi Chairs 10th NITI Aayog Meet: Roadmap for Viksit Bharat @2047

On May 24, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the 10th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, bringing together Chief Ministers and Lt. Governors of 24 States and 7 Union Territories. With the theme “Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat @2047”, the meeting focused on aligning state-level goals with the national vision of transforming India into a developed nation by 2047, emphasizing cooperative federalism, skill development, urban planning, women empowerment, and economic growth.

### Why in News?

- The 10th Governing Council Meeting marks 10 years of NITI Aayog since its formation in 2015. Focuses on the vision of a developed India by 2047 (Viksit Bharat @2047).

### Launches new strategic frameworks like

- Rs 60,000 crore skilling scheme
- Rs 1 lakh crore Urban Challenge Fund
- Promotion of state-level investment charters, river interlinking, and global-standard tourism.

### Reflects India’s achievements like

- Among Top 5 global economies
- 25 crore people lifted out of poverty
- Success of Operation Sindoor and Aspirational District Programme

### Key Highlights

- **Theme:** Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat @2047
- **Location:** Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- **Attendees:** 24 States and 7 Union Territories
- **Observance:** Silence for victims of Pahalgam terrorist attack

### PM Modi’s Key Points

- **Viksit Bharat Goal:** Every state, district, village must aim for development by 2047.
- **Economic Growth:** India is among the Top 5 economies; must accelerate transformation.
- **Manufacturing Push:** Launch of Manufacturing Mission.
- **Investment Boost:** NITI Aayog to prepare Investment-friendly Charter; states urged to leverage trade deals with UAE, UK, Australia.

### Skilling and Youth Empowerment

- Approval of Rs 60,000 crore Skilling Scheme.
- Focus on AI, 3D Printing, Semiconductors.
- Establishment of rural training hubs.

### Urban Development

- Creation of Rs 1 lakh crore Urban Challenge Fund.
- Planned urban growth in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.
- Sustainable development as a city priority.

### Tourism

- States asked to develop 1 global-standard tourist destination each.
- Utilize G20 image boost to attract global visitors.

### Water Management

- River Grids to manage floods and droughts.
- Bihar’s Kosi-Mochi interlinking cited as a model.

### Women Empowerment (Nari Shakti)

- Legal and systemic reforms to facilitate women’s participation in the workforce.
- Private and public sector changes for ease of working for women.

### Civil Preparedness and Defence

- Operation Sindoor praised for precision anti-terror actions.
- Institutionalize Civil Defence and adopt long-term preparedness.

### Agriculture

- Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan
- 2,500 scientists to spread awareness on chemical-free farming and crop diversification.

### Health

- Focus on telemedicine via E-Sanjeevani.
- Ensure readiness of oxygen plants for Covid-like challenges.

## India Surpasses Japan to Become the World's 4th Largest Economy

India has marked a historic economic milestone by surpassing Japan to become the fourth-largest economy in the world. With a nominal Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of USD 4 trillion, India now stands just behind the United States, China, and Germany. This achievement reflects the country's sustained economic momentum and resilience amid global uncertainties, and its ambition to become a developed nation by 2047 under the "Viksit Bharat" vision.

### Why in the News?

India's rise to the fourth-largest economy was officially confirmed by NITI Aayog CEO BVR Subrahmanyam during the 10th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog, focused on the theme "Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat 2047." Subrahmanyam cited data from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), affirming that India has overtaken Japan and now holds the fourth position in global economic rankings.

### India's Economic Leap: Key Highlights

#### 1. IMF Confirmation and Economic Rankings

- According to the April 2025 edition of the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook (WEO), India's nominal GDP is projected to reach approximately USD 4,187.017 billion in fiscal year 2026.
- In contrast, Japan's GDP is expected to slightly trail at USD 4,186.431 billion.
- The shift marks India's formal transition from the fifth to the fourth-largest economy globally.

#### 2. Growth Forecasts and Economic Strength

- The IMF predicts that India will continue to be the fastest-growing major economy over the next two years.
- India's GDP is expected to grow by 6.2% in 2025 and 6.3% in 2026, far exceeding the global growth average, which stands at 2.8% in 2025 and 3.0% in 2026.
- This robust growth trajectory positions India as a key engine of global economic expansion.

#### 3. Road to Third-Largest Economy

- BVR Subrahmanyam expressed confidence that India could overtake Germany to become the third-largest economy in the world within the next 2 to 3 years, provided current development policies and reforms are sustained.
- This would place India just behind economic superpowers like the US and China.

#### 4. Vision 2047: Viksit Bharat

- This economic leap aligns with India's long-term development roadmap under "Viksit Bharat @2047", an initiative aimed at transforming India into a fully developed economy by its centenary year of independence.
- The NITI Aayog meeting emphasized state-level contributions to this national vision, stressing reforms, innovation, infrastructure, and inclusive growth.

## India's First Vistadome Jungle Safari Train Launched in Uttar Pradesh

In a pioneering move to blend wildlife tourism with eco-friendly travel, the Uttar Pradesh government has launched India's first Vistadome Jungle Safari Train, offering a unique panoramic rail journey through the heart of its rich forest landscape. Connecting the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve and Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary, this initiative marks a significant milestone in sustainable tourism and biodiversity awareness. Designed with state-of-the-art Vistadome coaches, the safari train allows passengers to witness the wild from the comfort of transparent roofs and glass windows—turning every ride into an immersive jungle experience.

### Why in News?

On May 26, 2025, the Uttar Pradesh Government, in collaboration with Indian Railways, launched India's first Vistadome jungle safari train, a unique initiative connecting the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve with Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary. This eco-tourism innovation promotes conservation awareness and sustainable tourism while offering travellers an immersive wildlife experience directly from a train.

### Overview and Objective

- Aim:** To integrate eco-tourism, wildlife conservation education, and rail-based travel through a panoramic jungle experience.
- Initiative:** Part of the "One Destination, Three Forests" scheme launched by the UP Eco-Tourism Board.
- Key Goal:** Provide eco-luxury travel while promoting biodiversity awareness and local employment.

### Train Route and Details

#### Train Numbers

- 52259: Bichia (Bahraich) → Mailani (Lakhimpur Kheri): Departs at 11:45 AM, arrives 4:10 PM
- 52260: Mailani → Bichia: Departs at 6:05 AM, reaches 10:30 AM
- Route Length:** 107 km
- Ticket Price:** ₹275 per person
- Travel Time:** Approx. 4 hrs 25 mins
- Stations Passed:** Manjhara Purab, Khairatia Bandh Road, Tikunia, Dudhwa, Palia Kalan (among 9 total stations)

### Forests Covered

- Dudhwa National Park
- Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary
- Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary

### Vistadome Coach Features

- Rotating plush seats
- Large glass windows for panoramic views
- Transparent rooftop for canopy and sky watching
- Comfortable interiors offering a luxurious wildlife viewing experience

### Conservation and Education Aspects

- **Youth Tourism Club:** Weekly student tours to promote environmental awareness
- **Familiarisation Trips (FAM):** For bloggers/influencers to amplify eco-tourism outreach
- **Employment Generation:** Promoting local homestays, resorts, and nature guides
- **Improved Accessibility:** Plans for transport links from Lucknow and travel subsidies to encourage participation

### Significance of the Initiative

- First of its kind rail-based jungle safari in India
- Supports India's biodiversity conservation goals
- Revives lesser-known sanctuaries and forest reserves
- Seasonal attraction: Monsoon greenery, winter serenity, year-round scenic charm

### India Unveils Its Most Powerful Single-Unit Electric Locomotive

In a major stride toward transforming India's freight transportation network, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Indian Railways' first 9000 horsepower (HP) electric locomotive in Dahod, Gujarat. Developed under the "Make in India" initiative in collaboration with Siemens India, the powerful single-unit locomotive is set to revolutionize freight mobility by reducing congestion, turnaround time, and operational costs.

### Why in News?

The 9000 HP electric locomotive, flagged off by PM Modi, is the most powerful single-unit electric engine ever developed for Indian Railways. It addresses pressing logistical challenges on high-density freight corridors, marking a significant leap in the modernization of railway infrastructure.

### Key Features and Highlights

- First single-unit 9000 HP electric locomotive for Indian Railways.
- Built at a new manufacturing plant in Dahod, Gujarat.
- Developed in collaboration with Siemens India through a global tender.
- Designed to haul longer and heavier freight trains efficiently.
- Factory-fitted with Kavach, India's indigenous Train Collision Avoidance System.

### Aims and Objectives

- To decongest busy freight routes and reduce turnaround time.
- Improve logistics efficiency and lower transportation costs for industries.
- Support the Make in India and Make for World visions.
- Generate local employment and boost indigenous manufacturing.

### Static and Background Facts:

- Traditional freight locomotives operate at 4500 or 6000 HP.
- 12,000 HP locomotives exist but are created by coupling two 6000 HP units.
- Dahod facility to manufacture 1,200 electric freight locomotives.
- 89% of components made in India, enabling export readiness.
- Facility powered by green energy, certified as a Green Manufacturing unit.

### Significance

- Reduces need for multiple engines, saving manpower and energy.
- Enables faster, cost-effective freight movement.
- Supports sustainable growth and strengthens India's export potential.
- Enhances railway safety and comfort with modern driver cabins and low-noise operation.
- Creates employment opportunities for local youth (85% local employment).

### President of India Confers National Florence Nightingale Awards 2025 to Exemplary Nursing Professionals

In a heartfelt ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan, the **President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu**, conferred the **National Florence Nightingale Awards 2025** on **15 outstanding nursing professionals** from across the country. These awards, which recognize the **unwavering dedication, compassion, and service** of nurses, are among the highest national honours for the **nursing and midwifery profession** in India.

### Honouring the Pillars of India's Healthcare System

Gracing the ceremony were **Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda**, along with **Union Ministers of State, Shri Prataprao Jadhav** and **Smt. Anupriya Patel**. The presence of these dignitaries underlined the government's continued commitment to recognizing and uplifting the vital contributions of healthcare workers.

### About the National Florence Nightingale Awards

Instituted by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, the **National Florence Nightingale Award** honors **Registered Nurses, Midwives, Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs), and Lady Health Visitors (LHVs)** serving in both the **public and voluntary sectors**. These awards aim to recognize professionals who demonstrate **exceptional commitment to patient care, public health delivery, and community welfare**.

### Each award includes:

- A **Certificate of Merit**
- A **cash prize of ₹1,00,000**
- A **medal**, symbolizing the nation's gratitude for the **noble and selfless service** of the nursing community

## Meet the Awardees of 2025

This year, **15 nurses** from various states and healthcare settings were felicitated. Their diverse backgrounds reflect the **pan-India nature** of the award and the **diversity in healthcare delivery** systems.

Here are the **National Florence Nightingale Award 2025 recipients**:

Category	Name	State
ANM	Smt. Reba Rani Sarkar	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
ANM	Smt. Valiveti Subhavathi	Andhra Pradesh
ANM	Smt. Saroj Fakirbhai Patel	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu
ANM	Smt. Raziya Beegum P B	Lakshadweep
ANM	Smt. Sujata Ashok Bagul	Maharashtra
LHV	Smt. Bina Pani Deka	Assam
Nurse	Smt. Kijum Sora Karga	Arunachal Pradesh
Nurse	Miss Dimple Arora	Delhi
Nurse	Maj Gen Sheena P D	Delhi
Nurse	Dr. Banu M R	Karnataka
Nurse	Smt. Leimapokpam Ranjita Devi	Manipur
Nurse	Smt. V Lalhmangaihi	Mizoram
Nurse	Smt. L S Manimozhi	Puducherry
Nurse	Smt. Alamelu Mangayarkarasi K	Tamil Nadu
Nurse	Smt. Doli Biswas	West Bengal

These honourees represent the **heart of India's public health workforce**, working tirelessly in diverse terrains—from remote islands to bustling metros—to ensure **universal access to healthcare**.

## Empowering Nurses Through Policy and Infrastructure

Under the leadership of **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi**, the **Government of India** is taking **transformative steps to strengthen the nursing and midwifery ecosystem**.

Key initiatives include:

- **The National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Act:** A landmark reform to **modernize nursing education**, improve **training standards**, and **regulate the profession** more effectively.
- **Establishment of 157 Nursing Colleges:** These institutions are being **co-located with existing medical colleges**, aimed at creating a **skilled, qualified, and future-ready nursing workforce**.

Together, these policies and institutional reforms signal a **paradigm shift** in how the nation views and supports its **nurses and midwives**, paving the way for a **robust and equitable healthcare system**.

## A Tribute to the Spirit of Florence Nightingale

The awards draw inspiration from **Florence Nightingale**, the **founder of modern nursing**, whose legacy of **compassion, precision, and resilience** continues to guide the profession today. The recipients of the **2025 National Florence Nightingale Awards** exemplify these virtues, working under challenging conditions and often with limited resources to deliver **life-saving care**.

Their recognition is not just symbolic—it is a **call to society** to acknowledge and uplift the profession that forms the **bedrock of healthcare**.

## National Affairs

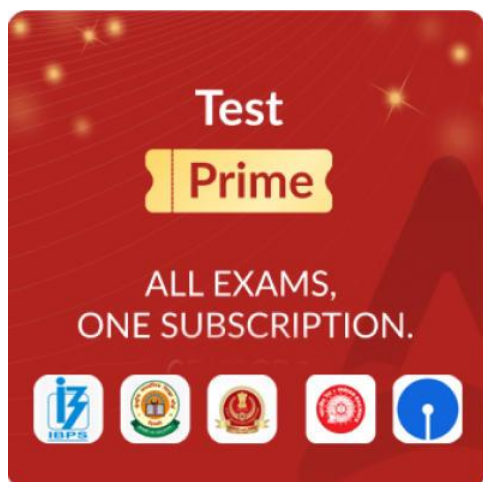
- The **Government of India** has retained the **8.25% interest rate** on **EPF deposits** for **FY2024–25**, reinforcing its commitment to **stable retirement savings**. Approved by the **Ministry of Finance** and recommended by the **Labour Ministry**, this decision affects **over 7 crore subscribers**. Compared to other **fixed-income instruments**, EPF continues to offer **higher, tax-free returns**, supporting **financial security, formal employment, and social welfare**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has launched **PAI 2.0** during a national-level **Writershop** held on **26–27 May 2025** in **New Delhi**, targeting better **data-driven governance** at the **Gram Panchayat** level. The upgraded index significantly simplifies monitoring indicators, improves portal usability, and includes features like a Decision Support System and auto-data integration. The event also provided training and shared implementation experiences, ensuring effective adoption across states. **PAI 2.0** aligns closely with the **Localized Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs)** and is expected to **bolster rural planning and transparency in governance**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India aims to expand its **pumped storage hydropower capacity** from **under 5 GW to 51.24 GW by 2032**, with **Greenko, Adani Green, and JSW Energy** leading development. Focused largely in **Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra**, these projects support **grid stability** and help manage variable **solar and wind power**. As **battery energy storage** faces global supply issues, **pumped hydro** remains a **dominant and reliable storage solution** globally. ([Click here to read article](#))
- A **week-long Kala Utsav** held at the **Rashtrapati Bhavan** from **May 20–27, 2025**, featured the works of **Madhubani and Gond artists** under the **Artists-in-Residence programme**. **President Droupadi Murmu** appreciated the participants for their dedication to preserving **India's traditional art forms**. The initiative highlights India's **cultural diversity**, promotes **folk art**, and brings national attention to the talent of **tribal and rural artisans**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- The **Vat Amavasya-Harit Yoga** event organized by **NIN Pune** on May 26, 2025, highlighted the cultural, spiritual, and **ecological relevance of the Banyan tree**. Held under the **Ministry of Ayush's Harit Yoga initiative**, this celebration formed part of the **11th International Day of Yoga (IDY 2025)** and focused on the theme **"Yoga for One Earth, One Health."** Through rituals, reflections, and community engagement, the event promoted the **integration of yoga with sustainable practices**, reinforcing India's commitment to a **harmonious coexistence with nature**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Government of India, through the Department of Posts, has launched the **'Know Your DIGIPIN' and 'Know Your PIN Code'** portals to strengthen **geospatial governance** and **address infrastructure** under the **National Geospatial Policy 2022**. While DIGIPIN offers a precise, digital, geo-coded addressing system in collaboration with IIT Hyderabad and ISRO, the upgraded PIN Code system leverages GNSS to refine postal geography. These platforms are set to enhance **last-mile delivery, emergency response, and digital service inclusion**, forming a core part of India's **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Philippines** has rolled out new **visa-free travel options** for **Indian nationals** to strengthen tourism and cultural ties. From **May 2025**, Indians can enter the Philippines for **14 days visa-free** for tourism, provided they meet certain eligibility criteria. Additionally, those holding valid visas or permanent residency from **AJACSSUK** countries — **Australia, Japan, America, Canada, Schengen, Singapore, and the UK** — can enjoy a **30-day visa-free** stay. Travellers outside these categories can still apply through the **e-visa** system. This strategic initiative is poised to **boost Indian tourist arrivals** and promote cultural exchange. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In a major policy decision aimed at empowering farmers and ensuring **remunerative returns for agricultural produce**, the **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** chaired by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has **approved an increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSP)** for **14 Kharif crops** for the **2025–26 marketing season**. The decision, announced on **May 29, 2025**, carries a **total financial outlay of ₹2.07 lakh crore**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In a move aimed at strengthening the country's rail infrastructure and bolstering **multi-modal transportation**, the **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** chaired by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** on **May 28, 2025**, approved two key **multi-tracking railway projects**. These projects are part of the **PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan**, designed to promote **integrated and seamless connectivity** across India. ([Click here to read article](#))

## States in the News

- The Ministry of Railways has approved a **new train service** between **Agartala and Guwahati**, fulfilling a crucial **infrastructure need** in **Northeast India**. Announced by **Tripura West MP Biplab Kumar Deb**, the development comes shortly after **Tripura's first electric locomotive** was introduced. The move aligns with India's **Act East Policy**, promotes **green transport**, and enhances **interstate rail connectivity**, especially in regions with limited accessibility. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Tamil Nadu government has launched a dedicated **Space Industrial Policy** to position the state as a hub for space research, manufacturing, and innovation. With targets of ₹10,000 crore in investments and 10,000 new jobs, the policy includes attractive incentives for companies in R&D, electronics, and green technology. By leveraging existing ISRO infrastructure and institutional support, Tamil Nadu aims to contribute significantly to the Indian space ecosystem. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Prime Minister's visit to **Dahod** is in the news due to the inauguration and launch of multiple high-impact development projects worth over ₹24,000 crore. Key highlights include the successful rollout of **India's first 9,000-horsepower electric locomotive from Dahod**, 100% electrification of Gujarat's railway network, and announcements related to tribal welfare, including the **'Dhartii Aaba Janjati Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan'** and the **PM Janman Yojana**. Additionally, PM Modi hailed "Operation Sindoor" as a reflection of India's strong values and military strength, following a recent terror attack in Jammu & Kashmir. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Gujarat has become the **24th State/UT** in India to achieve **100% rail electrification**, reinforcing Indian Railways' commitment to **green mobility** and **net-zero emissions by 2030**. Announced by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, this milestone aligns with the inauguration of the **Dahod Electric Locomotive Factory**, which will produce **India's first 9000 HP electric freight engines**. With an average **electrification speed of 16 km/day**, India ranks second globally, behind only **Switzerland**, and aims to electrify the entire **broad gauge network by FY 2025–26**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In a significant **boost to infrastructure development in Northeast India**, **Mizoram's capital Aizawl** has been officially connected to the **national railway network** through the **Bairabi–Sairang New Line**. This development marks a major milestone in India's efforts to **enhance regional integration and transportation connectivity** in one of the country's most geographically challenging regions. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Nagshankar Temple**, located in **Biswanath district** in **northeastern Assam**, has been named a model temple for turtle conservation. This recognition was given on **May 23, 2025**, during a special event held on **World Turtle Day**. The event celebrated the temple's important work in protecting turtles, which are deeply respected in Assam's culture. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **May 30, 2025**, the state of **Goa** will proudly celebrate its **39th Statehood Day**, marking nearly four decades since its formal inclusion as a **full-fledged state** in the **Republic of India**. Known for its **pristine beaches**, **colonial architecture**, and **vibrant culture**, Goa holds a unique place in India's historical and cultural landscape. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In a landmark step toward **urban transformation**, the **Government of Odisha** has launched a visionary initiative titled **ANKUR – Atal Network for Knowledge, Urbanisation and Reforms**. Spearheaded by the **Housing and Urban Development (H&UD) Department**, ANKUR is envisioned as a **strategic platform** to drive **urban innovation**, foster **collaborative partnerships**, and build **smart, sustainable, and citizen-centric cities**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Government of Gujarat** has launched a comprehensive healthcare scheme named **Gujarat Karmayogi Swasthya Suraksha Yojana** to provide **cashless medical treatment** to a wide range of beneficiaries, including **All India Services (AIS) officers**, **state government employees**, and **pensioners**. The initiative is designed to strengthen healthcare accessibility and reduce the financial burden of medical expenses for public service personnel and their families. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On the momentous occasion of **Goa's 39th Statehood Day**, celebrated on **May 30, 2025**, **Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant** officially declared Goa as a **fully literate state** under the **ULLAS – Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram** (New India Literacy Programme). This landmark achievement marks Goa as the **second state in India** to cross the nationally prescribed **95% literacy benchmark**, reaffirming its position as a frontrunner in India's educational progress. ([Click here to read article](#))



## International Affairs

- In **May 2025**, six **East African nations** signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** to eliminate **kala-azar**, a life-threatening **neglected tropical disease (NTD)**. The agreement, supported by the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, the **African Union**, and the **Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi)**, aims to bolster **investment**, enhance **surveillance**, and foster **cross-border cooperation**. With **over 70% of kala-azar cases** found in the region, the MoU represents a crucial step in global public health efforts. The initiative also aligns with global progress, where **56 countries** have already eliminated at least one NTD. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In a **dramatic escalation**, the **US Department of Homeland Security (DHS)** revoked **Harvard University's SEVP certification**, barring it from admitting **international students** for Fall 2025. This decision, linked to **campus protests** and non-compliance with federal demands, has created **visa uncertainty** for over **7,000 international students**, including nearly **800 Indians**. As **Harvard seeks legal remedies**, students face **legal status issues**, financial losses, and emotional stress. The move is seen as part of a broader **crackdown on universities** perceived as resisting federal oversight, triggering concern across the **global student community**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **May 26, 2025**, **Saudi Arabia and Kuwait** announced a **significant oil discovery** in the **neutral zone**, specifically in the **North Wafra Wara-Burgan field**. This is the **first such find since 2020**, with output **exceeding 500 barrels per day**. The discovery is expected to **boost global oil supply**, **strengthen bilateral cooperation**, and **enhance both countries' positions as reliable global energy suppliers**. This milestone underscores the **strategic importance** of the neutral zone and reflects the **Gulf region's commitment to energy security**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India played a leading role at the 78th **World Health Assembly (WHA)** by endorsing the **WHO Global Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025–2034**. Through the establishment of the **Global Traditional Medicine Centre in Jamnagar** and the signing of a Donor Agreement to build a TM module within **ICHI**, India has deepened its global commitment to promoting scientifically validated **AYUSH** systems. This aligns with WHO's focus on environmental sustainability, regulation, and integration of traditional healthcare for achieving **universal health coverage** and **SDGs**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Kami Rita Sherpa**, the iconic **Nepali mountaineer**, has **summited Mount Everest for the 31st time**, setting a **new world record**. The **55-year-old Sherpa**, known for his unmatched experience in high-altitude climbing, guided a **22-member Indian Army team** via the **southeast ridge** on **May 27, 2025**. This historic feat emphasizes the critical **contribution of Sherpas** in Himalayan expeditions and highlights Nepal's prominence in **global mountain tourism**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Agreements/MoUs Signed

- In a landmark development that marks a significant stride toward **global collaboration in semiconductor technology**, the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur** and Singapore's **Institute of Microelectronics (IME)**, a core research entity under the **Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR)**, have formalized their partnership through a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Banking/Economy/Business News

- India's **coal imports** declined by **7.9% in FY 2024-25**, reaching **243.62 million tonnes**, resulting in **foreign exchange savings** of nearly **\$7.93 billion**. Government schemes like **Commercial Coal Mining** and **Mission Coking Coal** supported this shift, while domestic **coal production** grew by **5%**. The sharp fall in imports, especially in the **power sector**, signifies progress toward **energy security**, **self-reliance**, and the **Viksit Bharat** vision. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India achieved a **record FDI inflow** of **USD 81.04 billion** in **FY 2024-25**, reflecting a **14% growth** from the previous year. The **services sector** led the surge with a **40.77% increase**, followed by **manufacturing** and **software & hardware**. **Maharashtra**, **Karnataka**, and **Delhi** were top FDI destinations, while **Singapore**, **Mauritius**, and the **US** were key investors. Liberal **FDI policy reforms**, rising investor confidence, and diversified sources have established India as a **global investment hotspot** aligned with its **Viksit Bharat** goals. ([Click here to read article](#))
- BSNL** has achieved a **financial turnaround** by recording back-to-back quarterly profits in **FY 2024-25**, thanks to strong revenue growth, strategic cost management, and record-breaking investments in infrastructure and spectrum. While short-term profit may fluctuate due to high depreciation, the company's fundamentals are solid, and its commitment to **4G/5G deployment** under the **Atmanirbhar Bharat** mission is paving the way for a **sustainable and inclusive telecom future**. Key metrics such as a **58% reduction in annual loss**, a **77% rise in asset monetisation**, and a **13-percentage-point rise in EBITDA margin** mark a pivotal transformation for BSNL. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's **industrial activity growth** weakened to its **lowest in eight months** in April 2025, signaling a slowdown across key economic sectors. According to data released by the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**, the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** grew by just **2.7%** in April, compared to a growth rate of **5.8% in March 2025** and a contraction of **0.1% in August 2024**, the last time growth was this sluggish. ([Click here to read article](#))

- India's aviation manufacturing capabilities are set to soar higher as **Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL)** and **European aerospace giant Airbus** join hands to establish the **country's first privately-led helicopter Final Assembly Line (FAL)**. The strategic move places India on the global aerospace map, boosting its ambition of becoming an indigenous defence and aviation manufacturing hub. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Bengaluru-based pet food company **Drools** has officially become a unicorn (a startup valued at \$1 billion or more). This happened after **Nestle**, a famous Swiss company, bought a small part of Drools. With this deal, Drools becomes the fourth Indian startup in 2025 to reach unicorn status, after **Netradyne**, **Porter** and **JSW One Platforms**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Crisil**, the global ratings and analytics agency, has projected **India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth at 6.5% in fiscal 2026 (FY26)**, supported by **improving domestic consumption**, **easing inflation**, and **favourable monetary policy**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In a notable achievement for fiscal management, the **Government of India** has successfully met its **fiscal deficit target of 4.8% of GDP** for the financial year **2024-25**, even as **total receipts** came in slightly below expectations. This update was released by the **Controller General of Accounts (CGA)** on Friday, along with the **provisional GDP estimates** for the year. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Appointments/Resignations

- Former Indian captain Anil Kumble** has been appointed **Ambassador of the Karnataka Forest Department**, a role he has accepted **without any honorarium**. He will champion **forest conservation**, **wildlife protection**, and **afforestation** efforts. The initiative is part of the state's broader strategy to combat **encroachment**, reclaim **forest lands**, and create **urban green spaces** such as a new park in **Yelahanka**. This move not only leverages Kumble's popularity for a good cause but also aligns with sustainable development goals and **community-driven conservation**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Central Government has **given a one-year extension to Dr. Samir V Kamat, the Chief of DRDO**. He will now stay in the post till May 2026. This is his second extension. The government approved it under a special rule that allows such extensions in public interest, showing the importance of his work. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Eureka Forbes Ltd**, a well-known name in India's health and hygiene sector, has chosen popular actress **Shraddha Kapoor** as the **brand ambassador for its vacuum cleaner range**. With over **40 years of experience**, Eureka Forbes continues to provide trusted hygiene solutions for Indian homes. This partnership aims to promote cleaner and healthier living across the country. ([Click here to read article](#))

- Hitachi India has announced that N Venu will become the **new Managing Director (MD) of the company starting from June 2, 2025**. This major leadership change follows the promotion of Bharat Kaushal, who will become the Executive Chairman of Hitachi India from April 1, 2025. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Vogue Eyewear has proudly chosen Bollywood star **Shahid Kapoor as its brand ambassador**. This is a special moment for the brand as Shahid joins Taapsee Pannu, who has been with Vogue Eyewear for a long time. Together, they are part of a brand-new campaign that focuses on individually, freedom and personal style. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Shubman Gill, the new Test series captain of India, has added a stylish touch to his cricket gear. He is now the brand ambassador for Oakley, a famous sunglasses company. This partnership comes with Oakley's latest campaign called **"Artifacts from the Future."** At just 25, Gill is already known for his cool and calm batting. Now, he is getting attention for his stylish eyewear too. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Defence News

- **Lt Cdr Roopa A and Lt Cdr Dilna K** of the Indian Navy have completed a **historic circumnavigation** under **Navika Sagar Parikrama II**, covering **25,400 nautical miles** aboard **INS Tarini** in **eight months**. The voyage exemplified **Nari Shakti**, endured **cyclonic seas**, and fostered **global maritime diplomacy**. Their mission culminates on **May 29, 2025**, at **Mormugao Port**, led by **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh**, marking a proud moment in India's **naval and gender-inclusive** legacy. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In a significant step towards **green aviation** and **indigenous technological innovation**, India has launched the development of the **Electric Hansa (E-HANSA)** — a next-generation, **two-seater electric trainer aircraft**. This initiative was revealed by **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, during a high-level review meeting with top science department officials. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh** has approved the **grant of "Miniratna" Category-I status** to three key **Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs)** — **Munitions India Limited (MIL)**, **Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL)**, and **India Optel Limited (IOL)**. This recognition acknowledges their rapid transformation into **profit-making corporate entities** within a short span of **three years**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian Army contingent** has officially departed to participate in the **17th edition** of the **India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise NOMADIC ELEPHANT**, set to take place from **31st May to 13th June 2025** in **Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**. This joint training event reflects the deepening **military cooperation** between the two friendly nations and aims to enhance tactical and operational synergy between their armed forces. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Awards and Recognitions

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** participated in the **Civil Investiture Ceremony-II** at **Rashtrapati Bhavan**, where the **Padma Awards 2025** were conferred to **139 individuals** for their outstanding contributions across disciplines like **social work, education, science, and public service**. The event highlighted India's commitment to honouring **unsung heroes** and reinforcing national pride through **civilian recognitions**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Indian-American rapper and singer-songwriter Raja Kumari** has made history by becoming the **first Indian-origin musician** to win an **American Music Award (AMA)**. The accolade was awarded during the **51st AMA ceremony** held in **Los Angeles** on **May 27, 2025**, recognizing her contribution to the **'Arcane League of Legends: Season 2'** soundtrack. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Sadhgaur**, a well-known spiritual leader and the founder of the **Isha Foundation**, has received the **'Global Indian of the Year'** award from the **Canada India Foundation (CIF)**. This award was given to him for his strong efforts in spreading awareness about human consciousness and environmental protection. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In a grand celebration of culture and art, **Miss Indonesia, Monica Kezia Sembiring**, won the **Talent Finale of Miss World 2025**. The event took place on Thursday evening at **Shilpakala Vedika** and featured exciting performances from contestants across the world. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Summits and Conferences News

- India's participation in the **9th BRICS Industry Ministers' Meeting** in **Brasília** reflected its leadership in promoting **inclusive industrial growth** through initiatives like the **BRICS Startup Knowledge Hub**, support for **MSMEs**, and focus on **digital transformation** under **Industry 4.0**. With over **954 million internet users** and a robust **startup and MSME ecosystem**, India advocated for **collaborative governance** guided by principles of **Sahyog, Samanjasya, Samagrata, and Sarvasammatti**. This event also marked the inclusion of six new BRICS members, expanding cooperation across the **Global South**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **International Air Transport Association (IATA)** is set to host its **Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2025** and the **World Air Transport Summit (WATS)** in **New Delhi** from **June 1 to 3**, bringing together the **global aviation industry** under one roof. This marks a **historic moment** as India hosts the prestigious event for the **first time in 42 years**, with the last meeting having taken place in the country in **1983**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Ranks and Reports

- NITI Aayog's "Designing a Policy for Medium Enterprises" report marks a critical step toward enhancing the competitiveness of a largely untapped segment of the MSME sector. Despite representing just **0.3%** of MSMEs, medium enterprises contribute significantly to exports, showcasing immense potential. The report presents a policy framework centered on **financial support, Industry 4.0, R&D, testing infrastructure, custom skilling**, and a **centralized digital portal** to strengthen their capabilities. These measures aim to position medium enterprises as the **backbone of industrial growth**, aligning with the **Viksit Bharat @2047** vision. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Sports News

- The Indian government has announced the **annual rotation of Khelo India Northeast Games** across the eight northeastern states, aiming to boost regional sports infrastructure, promote traditional games, and discover young talent. With significant **investments in grassroots development**, new **talent scouting technologies**, and dedicated programs like the **ASMITA League**, the initiative positions the Northeast as a crucial player in India's sports future. The announcement reflects India's growing ambitions on the **global sports stage**, including bids for hosting the **2030 Commonwealth Games** and **2036 Olympics**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Kush Maini** has scripted history by becoming the **first Indian** to win a **Formula 2 race**, achieving this remarkable feat at the **Monaco Grand Prix Sprint Race** on **May 24, 2025**. Driving for **Dams Lucas Oil**, Maini's composed drive from **pole to podium** was a moment of national pride, amplified by the presence of Indian motorsport patrons like **Gautam Singhania**. This win is expected to serve as a **turning point** for **Indian motorsport aspirations**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- China will host the **FIBA Women's Asia Cup 2025** in **Shenzhen** from **July 13–20**, with **Miao Lijie**, a **FIBA Hall of Famer** and national icon, serving as the **event ambassador**. Miao's remarkable career, including **multiple gold medals, Olympic appearances**, and a **WNBA title**, makes her an inspirational figure for the tournament. Her appointment underscores **China's basketball legacy** and aims to attract global attention and local enthusiasm for women's basketball. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Arsenal stunned **defending champions Barcelona** 1-0 in the **2025 UEFA Women's Champions League Final**, clinching their **second title** after 18 years. **Stina Blackstenius** scored the match-winner in Lisbon, assisted by **Beth Mead**, ending Barcelona's hopes of a **three-peat**. The victory marked a turning point for **English women's football**, highlighting the growing **strength and competitiveness** of WSL clubs in Europe. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Lando Norris** dominated the **2025 Monaco Grand Prix**, securing his **second victory** of the season and edging closer to the **championship lead**. Despite challenges from **Charles Leclerc** and **Oscar Piastri**, and a daring strategy by **Max Verstappen**, Norris maintained composure through **pit stops, race traffic, and VSC phases** to win at the **historic Monte Carlo circuit**. The outcome sets up a thrilling title fight, with **McLaren** showing strong momentum. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Cristiano Ronaldo** has once again amazed the football world. On **May 26, 2025**, he scored his 800th club goal in a Saudi Pro League match for Al-Nassr against Al-Fateh. Even though lost 3-2, Ronaldo's goal was historic. At the age of 40, he is still performing at the highest level, making fans wonder what more he can achieve. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's Mahendra Gurjar made the country proud by setting a world record in the men's javelin F42 category at the **Nottwil World Para Athletics Grand Prix in Switzerland**. The 27-year-old athlete won the gold medal with a record-breaking throw, proving his talent and determination. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Ahmedabad will host the **2026 Asian Weightlifting Championships from April 1 to 10**. This big sports event was confirmed by the Indian Weightlifting Federation. It will be the first Asian Championship to follow the new weight categories set by the international Weightlifting Federation. The event was earlier planned in Gandhinagar but later shifted to Ahmedabad. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's iconic **javelin thrower and Olympic gold medallist, Neeraj Chopra**, has officially joined hands with **Audi India** as its brand ambassador. This strategic collaboration unites two powerful names — a **world-class athlete** and a **global luxury automobile brand** — both of whom are defined by their **performance, precision**, and a **relentless drive for excellence**. ([Click here to read article](#))



- **Serena Williams**, one of the most iconic athletes in the history of modern sport, has been awarded the **Princess of Asturias Award for Sports 2025**, a prestigious Spanish honour that recognises individuals and institutions for **excellence and global contribution** in various fields, including **sports, arts, literature, and science**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Rohit Sharma**, one of the most prolific and celebrated batters in Indian Premier League (IPL) history, etched his name into the record books once again by becoming the **first Indian cricketer to hit 300 sixes in the IPL**. The historic moment came during the **IPL 2025 Eliminator match** between **Mumbai Indians (MI)** and **Gujarat Titans (GT)** at **New Chandigarh**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Schemes and Committees News

- Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the 'Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA)' on Thursday. The goal of this campaign is to transform Indian farming with the help of science and technology. It was launched in Sakshigopal, Puri (Odisha) and later at the ICAR-CIFA centre in Bhubaneswar. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Science and Technology News

- **Google Beam**, the latest evolution of **Project Starline**, is set to revolutionize **remote communication** using **AI-powered 3D video** and **light-field displays**. It offers a **realistic, dimensional video experience** that enables users to read emotions and expressions as if meeting in person. With built-in **speech translation** and partnerships with global companies like **Zoom, HP, and Deloitte**, Google Beam is expected to reshape **enterprise communication** and **cross-cultural collaboration** worldwide. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Google's **AI Matryoshka strategy**, unveiled at **I/O 2025**, is a sweeping re-architecture of its services around **Gemini 2.5 models**, powerful **TPU hardware**, and agentic functionalities across search, apps, and commerce. Tools like **SynthID**, **Deep Search**, and **Gemini Canvas** highlight both innovation and the potential for **privacy intrusions**. With a **tiered access model**, concerns arise over whether **AI safety, ethical data usage, and transparency** will be universally enforced or remain features for premium users. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Dr. **Jitendra Singh** inaugurated **Sagar Bhavan** and **Polar Bhavan** at **NCPOR, Goa** during its **Silver Jubilee** celebration, enhancing India's capabilities in **polar and ocean research**. These advanced facilities, costing **₹68 crore**, feature **state-of-the-art laboratories**, **3D climate visualization tools**, and India's first **Polar and Ocean Museum**. The initiative strengthens India's leadership in **global ocean governance**, aligns with the **Blue Economy** goals, and is backed by frameworks like the **Indian Antarctic Act (2022)** and **Arctic Policy (2022)**. India maintains robust research stations in the **Arctic, Antarctica, and the Himalayas**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- The **Bharat Forecasting System (BFS)**, launched on **May 26, 2025**, is a state-of-the-art weather prediction platform developed by **IITM Pune** and powered by the **supercomputer Arka**. Offering **6-km resolution forecasts—the highest in the world**—it enhances localised weather forecasting, especially useful for **agriculture, disaster preparedness, and public safety**. With nowcasting capabilities and expanding Doppler radar support, BFS marks a **technological milestone** in India's meteorological advancement. ([Click here to read article](#))
- China's **Tianwen-2 mission** will attempt to explore and collect samples from **469219 Kamo'oalewa**, a rare **quasi-satellite** that could hold answers to the **Moon's origin** and **orbital dynamics**. The mission employs **innovative sampling techniques** and, if successful, will solidify China's position in the global space race. The **scientific significance** and **technical challenges** of this mission mark it as a major step forward in **planetary exploration** and **asteroid science**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India has been recognized on the global scientific stage as part of the **2025 Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics**, awarded for groundbreaking research at the **Large Hadron Collider (LHC)**. Indian scientists, particularly in the **ALICE** and **CMS** experiments at **CERN**, contributed to discoveries related to **Higgs boson, quark-gluon plasma, and physics beyond the Standard Model**. The recognition highlights India's historic and ongoing leadership in **detector development, computing infrastructure, data analysis, and student training**, making it a **key partner** in international scientific collaboration. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **DRDO** inaugurated the **Quantum Technology Research Centre (QTRC)** at **Metcalfe House, Delhi**, on **May 27, 2025**, to accelerate **indigenous quantum innovation** in areas like **quantum communication, atomic timekeeping, and quantum sensing**. The centre includes **state-of-the-art setups** for testing lasers, **Quantum Key Distribution (QKD)** systems, **atomic clocks**, and **magnetometers**, playing a critical role in **post-quantum cryptography** and **national defence**. The initiative supports the **National Quantum Mission** and aligns with India's vision of **strategic self-reliance**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India has launched the **Electric Hansa (E-Hansa)** project, an **indigenous two-seater electric trainer aircraft** being developed by **CSIR-NAL**. It aligns with India's **green aviation goals** and is priced at half the cost of imported versions. Announced by **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, the initiative is part of a broader thrust on **technology commercialization, public-private partnerships, and scientific reforms**. The meeting also praised **ISRO** for the **SPADEX mission** and its role in **Operation Sindoor**, while proposing a **Whole-of-Government** approach to strengthen India's science ecosystem through **region-wise Chintan Shivirs, global science collaboration**, and student engagement in CSIR labs. ([Click here to read article](#))

- In a significant boost to India's artificial intelligence ecosystem, **Microsoft** and **Yotta Data Services** have announced a strategic **partnership to support AI adoption** across the country. This collaboration will **integrate Microsoft Azure's AI services** with **Yotta's Shakti Cloud platform**, aiming to strengthen **domestic AI capabilities** and digital infrastructure. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Important Days News

- Memorial Day**, observed on the **last Monday of May** (May 26 in 2025), is a **federal holiday in the United States** dedicated to **honouring U.S. military personnel who died in service**. Originating after the **Civil War** as **Decoration Day**, it became a national holiday in **1971**. While it also marks the **unofficial start of summer**, the day is mainly about **remembering fallen heroes** through traditions like **visiting graves, laying flags and flowers, attending parades**, and observing the **National Moment of Remembrance** at **3:00 PM**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In May 2024, the **United Nations General Assembly** passed a resolution to mark **25 May** as **World Football Day**. The resolution, led by **Libya** and supported by over **160 nations**, commemorates the **100-year anniversary** of football's representation at the **1924 Paris Olympics**. Football, governed globally by **FIFA**, has evolved from **medieval England** to become the **most popular sport in the world**. The move celebrates the sport's role in **promoting peace, education, development, and health**, especially with **2024 Paris Olympics** coinciding with this historic centenary. ([Click here to read article](#))
- World Thyroid Day 2025**, celebrated on **25 May**, aims to raise global awareness about **thyroid disorders**—the **second most common endocrine disease** after diabetes. With India facing a significant **thyroid burden** affecting over **4.2 crore** people, the day highlights the need for **early diagnosis, adequate iodine intake, and public health interventions** like salt iodisation. Conditions like **hypothyroidism, goitre, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, and thyroid cancer** demand attention through **education, screening, and lifestyle management**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories**, observed from **May 25 to 31**, reinforces the **United Nations' commitment to decolonization** and the **right to self-determination**. Established in **1999**, the week focuses on the **17 remaining territories** worldwide that have not yet attained full self-governance. Through this observance, the UN urges global solidarity, promotes dialogue, and mobilizes support to help these communities secure their political, social, and economic futures. **Key themes** include awareness, self-rule, human rights, support, and sustainable development. ([Click here to read article](#))

- World Hunger Day 2025**, held on **May 28**, draws global attention to the persistent issue of hunger affecting millions. Founded by The Hunger Project, the day emphasizes **sustainable, locally led solutions** such as **education, climate-resilient farming, and gender empowerment**. It is a reminder that lasting food security requires systemic change, not just food aid. Individuals can contribute through **advocacy, supporting local agriculture, and community education**, aligning with global efforts toward achieving **Zero Hunger**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers** is commemorated each year on **May 29** to pay tribute to the brave men and women who serve in **UN peacekeeping missions** across the globe. This year's theme, **"The Future of Peacekeeping"**, reflects the global community's commitment to adapt peacekeeping operations in response to the world's evolving security challenges, as emphasized in the **Pact for the Future** adopted by world leaders in **September 2023**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **30 May 2025**, the world will mark the **second observance** of the **International Day of Potato**, an initiative designed to spotlight the global importance of one of the world's most versatile and widely consumed crops: the **potato (Solanum tuberosum L.)**. With this year's theme, **"Shaping history, feeding the future,"** the day celebrates the potato's **historic legacy, its nutritional value, and its pivotal role in sustainable agrifood systems**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **May 30, 2025**, India will observe **Hindi Journalism Day**, an annual event that commemorates the birth of **Hindi-language journalism** in the country. This year marks a celebration of **nearly two centuries** of vernacular media's contribution to **democracy, awareness, and cultural expression**. As the **fourth pillar of democracy**, the media plays a crucial role in shaping public opinion and ensuring transparency. **Hindi journalism**, in particular, has empowered millions by providing news and information in a language understood by a vast majority of the Indian population. ([Click here to read article](#))
- International Everest Day** is celebrated every year on **29th May**. This day remembers the first successful climb of Mount Everest by Sir Edmund Hillary from **New Zealand** and **Tenzing Norgay Sherpa from Nepal in 1953**. It honors their bravery, strength and spirit of adventure. People all over the world, especially climbers and trekkers, celebrate this special day. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Every year on **31st May**, the world comes together to observe **World No Tobacco Day**, a global campaign spearheaded by the **World Health Organization (WHO)** to raise awareness about the **harmful effects of tobacco use** and to promote efforts to **protect current and future generations** from its devastating health consequences. In 2025, the theme for World No Tobacco Day is: **"Bright products. Dark intentions. Unmasking the Appeal."** ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Ahilyabai Holkar Jayanti** is celebrated **every year on 31st May** to honour the birth of one of India's greatest women rulers. In 2025, this day is very special as it marks her 300th birth anniversary. This day will be observed with pride and respect, especially in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, where she is deeply admired for her kind rule and public welfare work. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Obituaries News

- **Senior Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader and former Member of Parliament (MP) from Sangrur, Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa**, passed away on **Wednesday evening**, bringing to a close a significant chapter in **Punjab's political history**. He died at the age of **89** at **Fortis Hospital in Mohali** after a **prolonged illness**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Veteran Tamil film actor **Rajesh** passed away on **Thursday, May 29, 2025**, in **Chennai**, following a **sudden heart attack**. He was **75**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Miscellaneous News

- A **Joint Indian Mountaineering Team** comprising elite instructors from **JIM&WS, NIM, and HMI** scaled **Mount Everest (8,848.86 m)** on **May 23, 2025**, under the leadership of **Col Anshuman Bhadauria** and **Col Hem Chandra Singh**. The expedition, flagged off by **Raksha Rajya Mantri Sanjay Seth**, included a successful acclimatisation climb to **Mt. Lobuche** and marked a historic collaboration among India's premier institutes. The achievement underscores **India's prowess in high-altitude mountaineering** and promotes a national spirit of resilience, unity, and adventure. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Maharana Pratap Jayanti 2025** marks the **485th birth anniversary** of one of India's most iconic warrior kings — **Maharana Pratap Singh** of Mewar. Known for his **unyielding**

**spirit**, fierce patriotism, and legendary resistance against **Mughal emperor Akbar**, this day holds immense historical and cultural importance across **Rajasthan** and various parts of **India**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Vishwanath Karthikey Padakanti, a 16-year-old boy from Hyderabad**, has made history. He is now the youngest India and the second youngest person in the world to finish the famous 7 Summits challenge. This means he climbed the highest mountain on each of the seven continents – a big dream for mountaineers around the world. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has raised a serious warning about climate change. According to a recent report, there is a 70% chance that global temperatures will cross the 1.5°C limit above pre-industrial levels between the years 2025 and 2029. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Kashmir has taken a big step in fruit transport. For the first time, fresh cherries from the valley will be **sent by train from Katra (Jammu) to Mumbai**. This new service will help small farmers who could not afford to send their fruits by air earlier. ([Click here to read article](#))

