

## Weekly One Liners 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2025

### PM Modi Attends 17th BRICS Summit in Brazil

Prime Minister Narendra Modi took part in the 17th BRICS Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 6–7 July 2025. Leaders from BRICS countries met to talk about global reforms, peace and security, multilateral cooperation, and the growing role of Artificial Intelligence (AI). The summit was important as it focused on giving a stronger voice to the Global South and shaping a more balanced world order.

#### Focus on Global Governance and Security

During the session on “Reform of Global Governance and Peace and Security”, PM Modi stressed the need to update global institutions like the UN Security Council, IMF, World Bank, and WTO. He said these organizations were formed in the 20th century and cannot handle today’s challenges unless they are reformed. He also thanked other leaders for including strong support for UN reforms in the Summit Declaration.

On the topic of peace and security, Modi raised concern about rising terrorism. He referred to the Pahalgam terror attack in April 2025, calling it not just an attack on India but on all humanity. He urged the world to act strongly against terrorism and punish those who support or protect terrorists. He appreciated the BRICS countries for condemning the attack and stressed that there should be zero tolerance and no double standards when it comes to terrorism.

#### Call for Dialogue Amid Global Conflicts

Modi also spoke about the ongoing conflicts in West Asia and Europe, describing them as serious matters. He said India has always believed in resolving disputes through dialogue and diplomacy and is ready to help in any peace efforts. This shows India’s consistent role as a peace supporter on the world stage.

#### Strengthening Multilateralism and Promoting AI

In the second session on “Multilateral, Economic-Financial Affairs and AI”, the Prime Minister said BRICS must remain united to deal with global changes and uncertainties. He gave four ideas to make BRICS stronger,

1. The BRICS New Development Bank should fund projects based on countries’ real needs and focus on long-term success.
2. BRICS should set up a Science and Research Repository to support Global South countries.
3. The group should secure critical mineral supply chains to reduce risks.
4. BRICS must work for Responsible AI, balancing innovation and AI governance.

#### Rio Declaration Adopted

At the end of the summit, all member countries adopted the ‘Rio de Janeiro Declaration’, which included shared goals on global reforms, peace, technology, and financial development. PM Modi also thanked Brazil’s President for the warm welcome and successful organization of the summit.

### BRICS Strongly Condemns Pahalgam Attack at Rio Summit – Rio de Janeiro Declaration

At the 17th BRICS Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on July 6–7, 2025, member countries came together to adopt the Rio Declaration. The group strongly condemned the Pahalgam terror attack, supported India’s call for zero tolerance against terrorism, and discussed urgent global reforms. This summit highlighted BRICS’ growing unity on issues of security, global fairness, and inclusivity.

#### BRICS Condemns Terror Attack in Pahalgam

In a strong message, the BRICS nations condemned the terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir’s Pahalgam on April 22, 2025, describing it as a crime against humanity. They supported India’s position on having zero tolerance towards terrorism. The Rio Declaration clearly stated that cross-border terrorism, terror financing, and safe havens for terrorists must be opposed globally and without any double standards. BRICS also stressed that each country has the main responsibility to stop terrorism within its borders, following international law.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while speaking at the summit, thanked the leaders for their strong support and called for strict global actions against terrorism. He reminded the world that the Global South, including India, has often suffered due to double standards in the fight against terrorism.

#### PM Modi Pushes for Global Reforms

During his address, PM Modi raised the issue of unfair global systems, saying that many countries, especially from the Global South, are left out of major decision-making. He said that bodies like the UN Security Council, WTO, and global financial institutions need urgent reforms to reflect today’s world. Modi compared old systems to typewriters in the age of AI, stressing that without changes in voting rights, leadership roles, and governance, these institutions will remain outdated.

Modi pointed out that two-thirds of humanity, especially in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, do not have proper representation in global institutions. He said this was not just about fairness but also about making these bodies more effective and credible.

From 6 to 7 July 2025, leaders of BRICS nations gathered in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, for the 17th BRICS Summit. They came together to discuss how to build a more fair, equal, and sustainable world. The summit was important because it showed a united stand on global reforms, welcomed new members, and launched new efforts in health, climate, and technology.

#### United for a Fairer World

At the summit, the leaders adopted the Rio de Janeiro Declaration, which calls for changes in how global organisations like the United Nations and World Trade Organization work. They said these systems should be fairer, more democratic, and reflect today’s world.

The leaders also agreed to work more closely in areas such as,

- Politics and security
- Economy and trade
- Culture and people-to-people ties

Prime Minister Narendra Modi supported these ideas and said that the Global South—countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America—must have a bigger say in world decisions. He also stressed the need to update old institutions to match modern challenges.

### New Members and Big Initiatives

This year's summit was special because Indonesia officially became a full BRICS member. Eleven other countries, including Belarus, Nigeria, Cuba, and Vietnam, joined as BRICS partners. This expansion shows BRICS' growing influence and support worldwide.

The leaders also announced three new plans,

1. BRICS Climate Finance Framework – to help countries fund eco-friendly growth.
2. Global AI Governance Statement – to guide safe and fair use of artificial intelligence.
3. Partnership to Eliminate Socially Determined Diseases – to fight health problems caused by poverty and inequality.

These steps show BRICS' goal to be more than just a political group—it's now working on real-world problems that affect people's lives.

### Stronger Global Voice for Developing Nations

The BRICS leaders spoke firmly about the need to reform global bodies like the UN Security Council, World Bank, and IMF. They said these should better reflect the needs of developing countries. They also called for,

- Fairer voting rights
- Equal leadership roles for women and different regions
- Ending unfair sanctions by powerful countries

PM Modi shared India's support for inclusive multilateralism, where every country, big or small, has a say.



### Peace, Safety, and Digital Trust

BRICS also talked about peace and security. Leaders said global conflicts must be solved through talks, not violence. They condemned terrorism, destruction of civilian infrastructure, and harmful trade actions.

In the digital world, BRICS agreed to build rules for cyber safety, prevent online crime, and keep the internet open, safe, and stable.

### India Ranked Among World's Most Equal Countries by World Bank

India has been named the fourth most equal country in the world by the World Bank, based on the Gini Index for 2025. With a score of 25.5, India has achieved a strong level of income equality, ahead of many developed nations. This is a big step for a large and diverse country, and shows how government policies and poverty reduction efforts are creating real change.

### Understanding the Gini Index and India's Rank

The Gini Index measures how fairly income is shared in a country. A score of 0 means perfect equality, while 100 means complete inequality. India's score of 25.5 makes it one of the most equal countries in the world, just behind Slovak Republic (24.1), Slovenia (24.3), and Belarus (24.4).

India's ranking is better than China (35.7), the United States (41.8), and all G7 and G20 nations. Back in 2011, India's Gini score was 28.8, so this improvement over a decade shows steady progress. The World Bank released this data in its July 2025 report, covering 167 countries.

### Big Drop in Poverty Rates

India's improved equality is closely linked to falling poverty levels. According to the World Bank's Spring 2025 Poverty and Equity Brief, the number of people in extreme poverty dropped from 16.2% in 2011–12 to just 2.3% in 2022–23. That means about 171 million Indians have come out of poverty in the last 12 years.

If we use the new global poverty line of \$3 per day, the poverty rate for 2022–23 is still low at 5.3%. These figures highlight the success of India's long-term efforts to improve lives across cities and villages.

### Key Government Schemes That Helped

Several government programmes have helped reduce poverty and increase income equality. These include,

- **PM Jan Dhan Yojana:** Over 55.69 crore people now have bank accounts, which allows direct transfer of benefits.
- **Aadhaar & DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer):** Over 142 crore Aadhaar cards issued, helping ensure benefits reach the right people. DBT has saved the government ₹3.48 lakh crore so far.
- **Ayushman Bharat:** This health scheme has issued over 41.34 crore cards, offering free treatment up to ₹5 lakh per family per year. A special scheme also supports citizens aged 70+, no matter their income.

- **Stand-Up India:** This scheme gives loans to SC/ST and women entrepreneurs, with ₹62,807 crore already funded.
- **PM Vishwakarma Yojana:** A total of 29.95 lakh artisans have registered for tools, training, and credit support.
- **PMGKAY (Free Food Grains Scheme):** Reached 80.67 crore people, ensuring food security even during tough times like COVID-19.

These programmes focus on financial inclusion, health, food security, and job creation—helping bridge gaps across society.

#### PM Modi Honored With 'Key to the City of Buenos Aires'

On July 6, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured with the 'Key to the City of Buenos Aires' during his official two-day visit to Argentina. This symbolic award was given in recognition of his efforts to strengthen the relationship between India and Argentina. The visit was historic, as it was the first by an Indian Prime Minister in 57 years.

#### Symbolic Honour for PM Modi

PM Modi was presented with the 'Key to the City' by Jorge Macri, the Chief of the City Government of Buenos Aires. This is a ceremonial gesture of trust and friendship. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the honour reflects PM Modi's role in building closer ties between India and Argentina. PM Modi expressed gratitude for the warm welcome and shared photos and messages on his official X (formerly Twitter) account.

#### Tributes to Icons and Cultural Connections

During his visit, PM Modi paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore by visiting their statues in Buenos Aires. He said Gandhi's message of peace and non-violence continues to inspire the world. Modi also honoured General Jose de San Martin, Argentina's national hero, at Plaza San Martin. He praised his leadership in the fight for freedom in South America. The visit focused on cultural respect and shared values.

#### Strengthening India-Argentina Ties

PM Modi met President Javier Milei and held high-level talks. Both leaders celebrated 75 years of diplomatic relations and agreed to expand ties in defence, energy, agriculture, mining, and trade. Argentina will supply lithium and shale gas to help India's energy needs. Modi also requested easier entry for Indian medicines into Argentina. They discussed collaboration in sports and education, and Modi invited President Milei to visit India.

#### Warm Welcome from Indian Diaspora

PM Modi received a grand welcome from the Indian community in Buenos Aires. People gathered outside his hotel, waving Indian flags, singing songs, and dancing. PM Modi interacted warmly with them and said that distance can never break cultural bonds. He appreciated their love and said their presence added special joy to the visit.

#### NITI Aayog Releases 2nd SDG Index for North East Districts

NITI Aayog, in partnership with the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MoDoNER) and UNDP, released the second edition of the North Eastern Region District SDG Index (2023-24) on July 7, 2025, in New Delhi. The index shows how 121 districts from eight North East states are performing on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This is important because it helps track progress and plan better development in these states.

#### About the SDG Index and Its Purpose

The NER District SDG Index is a tool to measure how well different districts in North East India are doing in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These goals focus on areas like health, education, clean water, hunger, jobs, and equality. The first edition of the index was launched in August 2021. The latest 2023-24 edition helps identify which districts are doing well and where improvements are needed. It supports planning, better use of resources, and targeted development.

#### Key Highlights of the 2023-24 Report

85% of districts improved their overall SDG scores compared to the last report.

All districts in Mizoram, Sikkim, and Tripura achieved Front Runner status, meaning they scored between 65 and 99 points. Hnahthial (Mizoram) is the best performing district with a score of 81.43, while Longding (Arunachal Pradesh) scored the lowest at 58.71.

Nagaland had three districts among the top 10 performers.

Sikkim showed the most consistent performance across its districts, with scores close to each other.

Districts were grouped into 4 categories

- Achiever (Score = 100)
- Front Runner (Score 65–99)
- Performer (Score 50–65)
- Aspirant (Score < 50)

No district fell into Achiever or Aspirant categories this year.

#### Statements by Key Leaders

The index was released in New Delhi by senior officials including, Shri Suman Bery, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog  
Shri B.V.R. Subrahmanyam, CEO, NITI Aayog  
Shri Chanchal Kumar, Secretary, MoDoNER  
Dr. Angela Lusigi, Resident Representative, UNDP India  
Suman Bery said achieving the SDGs by 2030 is key for building a Viksit Bharat @2047 (a developed India by 2047).

Subrahmanyam highlighted the importance of the North East, calling it the "Ashta Lakshmi" or eight jewels of India.

Chanchal Kumar stressed the index helps find gaps and improve planning.

Dr. Lusigi noted that data must lead to real change for people's lives.

### State-wise Performances and Observations

Sikkim and Tripura showed steady and high-level performances with small score differences between districts.

Mizoram and Nagaland had both very high and relatively lower scoring districts, showing more variation.

All districts in Assam improved in areas like Zero Hunger, Clean Water, Education, and Jobs.

Top and bottom performers in some states,

- **Arunachal Pradesh:** Lower Dibang Valley (73.36) and Longding (58.71)
- **Assam:** Dibrugarh (74.29) and South Salmara-Mankachar (59.71)
- **Manipur:** Imphal West (73.21) and Pherzawl (59.71)
- **Meghalaya:** East Khasi Hills (73.00) and East Jaintia Hills (63.00)

This index supports efforts like the Aspirational Districts Programme and encourages evidence-based planning to ensure no district is left behind.

### PM Modi Gets Namibia's Top Civilian Honour

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was given Namibia's highest civilian award during his one-day state visit to the African nation on Wednesday. The award, called 'The Order of the Most Ancient Welwitschia Mirabilis', was presented by Namibia's President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah. This honour shows the strong and growing relationship between India and Namibia.

### Modi Receives Top Honour in Namibia

During his visit to Namibia on Wednesday, PM Modi was honoured with the country's top civilian award – The Order of the Most Ancient Welwitschia Mirabilis. The ceremony took place in the capital and was led by Namibia's President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah. The award is named after a rare desert plant found only in Namibia, which stands for strength, long life, and resilience.

Modi is the first Indian leader to receive this special award. In his acceptance speech, he said, "I accept this honour with deep gratitude and dedicate it to the 1.4 billion people of India and the strong friendship between India and Namibia."

### Meaning and History of the Award

The Welwitschia Mirabilis Award was started in 1995. It is given to people who show great leadership and work to build strong ties between nations. The plant it is named after survives in the desert for many years, which is why it is used as a symbol of endurance and unity.

This is PM Modi's 27th international award and the fourth during his current five-nation trip. Interestingly, it is also his second award within 24 hours, showing the global appreciation he is receiving on this tour.

### A New Chapter in India-Namibia Relations

This honour marks a new milestone in the bond between India and Namibia. India and Namibia have worked together in areas like education, healthcare, defence, and technology. The award is a symbol of Namibia's respect for India's support and its interest in building even stronger ties in the future.

With this honour, both countries are expected to deepen their cooperation further in the coming months, especially in trade, green energy, and digital innovation.

### Prime Minister Narendra Modi Honoured with Brazil's Highest Civilian Award

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been honoured with Brazil's highest civilian award, the **Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross**. This recognition was presented by Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva as a mark of respect for the growing diplomatic, economic, and cultural ties between India and Brazil.

This honour represents not just an individual achievement for the Prime Minister, but also reflects the **international recognition of India's leadership** and its growing influence on the global stage.

### About the Award: Brazil's Top Civilian Honour

The **Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross** is the most prestigious civilian honour in Brazil. It is awarded to heads of state and government leaders who have made **outstanding contributions to strengthening Brazil's relations with other countries**.

By conferring this honour upon Prime Minister Modi, Brazil has acknowledged his efforts in enhancing **India-Brazil strategic partnership**, as well as his role in advancing cooperation through **international platforms** like BRICS, G20, and the United Nations.

### A Symbol of Strong India-Brazil Relations

This honour is a powerful reflection of the deepening ties between the two democracies. India and Brazil share common values, such as respect for sovereignty, sustainable development, and a multipolar world order. Over the years, the two countries have collaborated in areas such as:

- Trade and investment
- Renewable energy
- Agricultural technology
- Space research
- Global governance

Prime Minister Modi's leadership has helped in building stronger bridges between the two nations, especially through multilateral forums and regional dialogues.

### Pride for India on the International Stage

This is the **26th international award or honour** given to Prime Minister Narendra Modi by a foreign nation since he assumed office in **May 2014**. These recognitions highlight India's **diplomatic strength, growing economic power, and the global trust** in its leadership.



By honouring Prime Minister Modi, Brazil has also shown respect for **India's growing role in shaping global policies**, especially in the Global South.

Widespread Appreciation from Indian Leaders

The announcement of this award has been widely celebrated in India. Leaders from across the country have expressed their appreciation for the honour, calling it a proud moment for all Indians. Many have acknowledged that this award is not only a recognition of Modi's diplomacy but also a sign of India's **growing stature in international affairs**.

#### India's Maratha Forts Added to UNESCO World Heritage List

Maratha Military Landscapes of India were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List during the 47th session of the World Heritage Committee in Paris. This important recognition covers 12 historic forts built by the Maratha rulers between the 17th and 19th centuries. The listing highlights their unique military design and the rich history of India's fort architecture.

#### What Is the Maratha Military Landscapes?

The Maratha Military Landscapes are a group of 12 forts that show the smart planning and strength of the Maratha Empire. These forts were built across different terrains — hills, coasts, and plains — to protect the kingdom and control trade routes. They include Salher Fort, Shivneri Fort, Lohgad, Khanderi Fort, Raigad, Rajgad, Pratapgad, Suvarnadurg, Panhala Fort, Vijay Durg, Sindhudurg (all in Maharashtra) and Gingee Fort in Tamil Nadu.

These forts were known for their clever use of nature, water storage systems, and strong walls. Built mostly between the 1600s and 1800s, they show how Marathas used military skills to build powerful defense structures.

#### UNESCO's Decision and the Committee Meeting

The UNESCO World Heritage Committee took this decision during its 47th session in Paris. On X (formerly Twitter), UNESCO posted:

"New inscription on the @UNESCO #WorldHeritage List: Maratha Military Landscapes of India, #India."

This nomination was part of the 2024–25 UNESCO World Heritage cycle, and Indian officials had worked hard to present the historical and cultural importance of these forts to the world. The recognition gives international importance to India's fort heritage and adds value to future conservation efforts.

#### India's Pride and Historical Significance

The Maratha forts were not just buildings — they were symbols of resistance, planning, and unity. Leaders like Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj used them to build and protect the Maratha Empire. Some of these forts, like Raigad and Pratapgad, are especially famous in Indian history.

For example, Pratapgad Fort, located about 22 km from Mahabaleshwar, played a key role in many battles and still stands strong today.

Indian historians, heritage experts, and government officials have welcomed this decision, saying it will help promote tourism, boost local pride, and ensure better care of these monuments.

#### National Affairs

- The **Haryana government** will build **Asia's largest jungle safari** in the **Aravalli Hills**, as announced on **July 6, 2025**. The safari will be spread over **10,000 acres** and will focus on **wildlife protection, green tourism, and job creation**. **Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini** and other top leaders are working hard to make this project a success. The plan will not only bring **tourists** but also help in **saving nature**. The safari is expected to be a **model of eco-friendly tourism and conservation in India**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **July 8, 2025**, **NTPC Simhadri** celebrated its **28th Raising Day** at its **Parawada campus in Anakapalli district, Andhra Pradesh**, marking **nearly three decades** of service, innovation, and **community development**. **Executive Director Sameer Sharma** led the celebrations by hoisting the **NTPC flag** and highlighting Simhadri's journey since its **establishment in 1997 as NTPC's first coastal-based power station**. Beyond power generation, the plant has achieved **100% ash utilization**, showcasing its commitment to **sustainability, environmental conservation, and social responsibility** through **green initiatives and community outreach programs**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** and **Minister of State Jayant Chaudhary** inaugurated the **Uttar Pradesh Agritech Innovation Hub and Agritech Startup & Technology Showcase at SVPUAT, Meerut**, marking a major step in **digitally transforming agriculture**. The initiative connects **farmers, startups, technologists, and academia** to develop **sustainable, region-specific solutions**. Equipped with **IoT-enabled sensors, smart irrigation, automation tools, and real-time analytics**, the **Agritech Hub** promotes **precision farming and climate-resilient agriculture**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **PM Narendra Modi**, during his **state visit to Brazil**, set a target to raise **India–Brazil trade to \$20 billion by 2030**. He proposed expanding the **Mercosur trade agreement** and announced Brazil's adoption of **India's UPI digital payment system**. Modi received Brazil's **highest civilian honour**, the **Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross**. Key deals included cooperation in **biofuels, renewable energy, intelligence sharing, pharmaceuticals, and rare earth minerals**, marking a stronger **strategic partnership** between the two **Global South** nations. ([Click here to read article](#))

- A commemorative postage stamp was released on July 9, 2025, by the Department of Posts to mark the 125th Birth Anniversary of Syama Prasad Mookerjee. The event was held at Siri Fort Auditorium, Delhi, and featured cultural performances, an exhibition, and a short documentary. The stamp, designed by Smt. Nenu Gupta, reflects Mookerjee's work in education, national unity, and constitutional development. The launch was attended by Union Ministers and other top officials. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Union Minister Piyush Goyal announced at India Energy Storage Week (IESW) in New Delhi that India's solar capacity has grown by 4,000%, with total renewable energy capacity now at 227 GW. He spoke about major schemes like PM Surya Ghar Yojana and PM Kusum Yojana, and introduced a ₹1 lakh crore Innovation Fund to support next-generation battery technologies. The government also stressed the need for strong supply chains and energy storage systems to support India's clean energy goals ([Click here to read article](#))
- National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) and UNICEF India launched TALASH, a digital program aimed at helping tribal students in Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) across 28 states and 8 union territories. TALASH includes aptitude tests, career counselling, life skills training, and support for teachers. Over 1.38 lakh students are expected to benefit. The program supports the goals of NEP 2020 and will be fully rolled out by the end of 2025, making it a big step towards inclusive and holistic education for tribal youth. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Indian Army has launched Operation SHIVA 2025 to ensure the safe conduct of the Amarnath Yatra in Jammu and Kashmir. The operation began on July 12, 2025, and includes the deployment of 8,500+ troops, anti-drone systems, medical facilities, and engineering support. With coordination from CAPFs and civil administration, the operation addresses security threats from Pakistan-backed groups. The Army's efforts include surveillance, disaster readiness, and emergency response, reflecting its dedication to the safety of pilgrims during this sacred journey. ([Click here to read article](#))



## States in the News

- Himachal Pradesh has launched India's first Aadhaar-based Face Authentication (FaceAuth) system for ration distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS) in July 2025. The system uses a smartphone camera to verify a person's face instead of OTP or fingerprints. This new method, led by the Department of Digital Technologies and Governance (DDTG) and supported by Gokul Butail, aims to fix past issues and ensure smoother and faster service. Himachal's initiative marks a big move toward digital and inclusive governance. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Kerala's first skin bank is opening on July 15, 2025, at the Thiruvananthapuram Government Medical College Hospital. The facility, approved by K-SOTTO and costing Rs 6.75 crore, will collect donated skin to treat burn victims. Health Minister Veena George also announced future plans to open a similar bank in Kottayam. Burn centres and plastic surgery units have already been launched in Alappuzha, Kollam, and Kannur. This new step will improve burn care services and provide relief to patients across Kerala. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Sakambari festival started on July 7, 2025, at the Kanaka Durga Temple on Indrakeeladri hill in Vijayawada. The presiding deity was beautifully decorated as Sakambari Devi using vegetables, fruits, and flowers, with around 10 tonnes of fresh produce offered by devotees. The event celebrates nature, fertility, and is seen as a prayer for good rains and crops. Executive Officer V.K. Seena Naik led the ceremony with over 200 participants including Vedic scholars and volunteers. The festival will end on July 10 with final rituals, while regular darshan continues throughout. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) will soon replace its pink ticket system with a new 'Saheli Smart Card' for free bus travel. Only women and transgender persons living in Delhi will be able to get the card, using Aadhaar and address proof. The card aims to stop misuse, ensure the benefit goes to the right people, and support a modern, cashless, and connected transport system. The Saheli Card, along with Zero KYC and Full KYC Cards, is part of a larger digital plan that includes QR-based tickets, NCMC integration, and mobile apps for smoother travel across Delhi's public transport network. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On July 8, 2025, the Nitish Kumar-led Bihar government approved a significant policy shift, granting 35% reservation in government jobs exclusively for women domiciled in Bihar. Earlier available to all women, the new domicile-based policy—proposed by the General Administration Department (GAD)—restricts this horizontal reservation to native women only, across all state government cadres. Women from other states will now be considered under the general category, aiming to empower local women and boost their participation in governance and administration. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami** announced the launch of 'Operation Kalanemi', a police campaign to catch **fake saints** and **religious impersonators** in the state. The operation is named after **Kalanemi**, a demon from **Hindu mythology** who disguised himself as a saint to mislead others. **Dhami said** these individuals cheat people, especially **women**, and harm the image of **Sanatana Dharma**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Mumbai's Carnac Bridge**, originally built in **1868**, has been **rebuilt and renamed** as **Sindoor Bridge** to honour **Operation Sindoor**, a **military strike on terror camps** in **Pakistan**. The new name also reflects an effort to erase the **colonial legacy** of **Governor Carnac**, who was linked to **atrocities against Indians**. The **new 328-metre-long bridge**, inaugurated on **July 10, 2025**, by **Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis**, will improve traffic in **South Mumbai**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Central Government** has announced that a new **Akashvani Kendra** will be set up in **Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh**, under the **BIND scheme**. The decision was made during a meeting on **July 8, 2025**, between **Union Minister L. Murugan** and **Chief Minister Mohan Yadav**. The goal is to improve **regional broadcasting**, reach more people with reliable information, and boost **media infrastructure** in the state. **Akashvani Ujjain** will help share **news, education, culture, and government messages** more effectively with the public. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Maharashtra government**, on **July 10, 2025**, declared **Sarvajanik Ganeshotsav** as a **state festival**, as announced by **Cultural Affairs Minister Ashish Shelar** in the **Legislative Assembly**. The festival, started by **Lokmanya Tilak in 1893**, is a symbol of **unity, culture, and pride** in **Maharashtra**. The government will now **fund and promote** the grand celebrations across the state. This step aims to support traditional **community spirit**, enhance **cultural heritage**, and involve more people in the joyful occasion. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Arthunkal Police Station** in **Alappuzha, Kerala**, became the **first police station in India** to receive the **IS/ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System certification** from the **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)**. The award acknowledges the station's excellent service in **crime control, law and order, public response, and grievance redressal**. The certification is part of the **Modernised Cherthala Police Programme**, led by **ASP Harish Jain**, which aims to upgrade policing standards. Senior police officers, including **State Police Chief Ravada Azad Chandrashekhhar**, attended the event, highlighting the importance of quality standards in public safety. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Uttarakhand** will celebrate the **Harela festival** on **July 16, 2025**, by planting **over 5 lakh saplings** across the **Garhwal and Kumaon regions**. The event, guided by **Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami**, will focus on the themes "**Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam**" and "**Harela Ka Tyohar Manao, Dharti Maa Ka Rin Chukao**." The plantation drive will involve **students, villagers, and government bodies**. This green initiative aims to **break the previous record** and highlight the state's commitment to **environmental protection** and **community participation**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Gingee Fort**, located in **Villupuram district of Tamil Nadu**, was declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** on **July 11, 2025**, as part of the **Maratha Military Landscapes**. The decision was made during the **47th session of the World Heritage Committee** in **Paris**. Known as the "**Troy of the East**", the fort stands out for its unique architecture, strong military design, and deep historical roots. The recognition brings global attention, expected tourism boost, and preservation support to one of **India's iconic heritage sites**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### International Affairs

- On **July 6, 2025**, **Jennifer Geerlings-Simons** was elected as **Suriname's first female President**. She will take office on **July 16** and faces the **huge task** of fixing the country's **troubled economy**. The previous government had taken help from the **IMF** and reduced subsidies, which caused **protests**. Simons plans to improve **tax collection** and manage the country's **debt**. Suriname is also waiting for its **offshore oil** production to begin in **2028**, which could bring **economic relief**. The country hopes her leadership will bring **stability and progress**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Mauna Loa Observatory** in **Hawaii**, which has been **measuring atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>** for over **65 years**, may soon shut down due to a **lack of U.S. government funding**. Known for producing the iconic **Keeling Curve**, this observatory has provided crucial evidence of **human-caused climate change** by showing a steady rise in **carbon dioxide** levels—mainly from **burning fossil fuels**. Its long-term data is vital for **tracking global warming** and guiding climate action worldwide. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Elon Musk** has announced the formation of a new US political group called the **America Party**, aiming to change the country's traditional **two-party system**. This move comes after a major public argument with **former President Donald Trump**, where Musk criticized Trump's financial plans and left his role in the government. Musk wants the **America Party** to fight waste and give people more power. So far, the party has not been officially registered, and it's not clear who will lead it. ([Click here to read article](#))



- **United Nations General Assembly** passed a **resolution** with **116 votes** urging **Afghanistan's Taliban rulers** to stop their **oppression of women and girls** and to remove **terrorist groups** from the country. While **Germany** led the effort, the **United States** and **Israel** voted against it, and **12 countries** including **India, China, and Iran** abstained. The resolution also asked for more **economic support** for Afghanistan and suggested that **UN Secretary-General António Guterres** appoint a **coordinator** to lead global actions. The resolution is **not legally binding**, but it shows strong **world opinion** and concern about **human rights and terrorism** in Afghanistan. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Colombia** and **Uzbekistan** have joined the **New Development Bank (NDB)**, taking the total number of members to **11**. This announcement comes ahead of the **17th BRICS Summit**. The **NDB**, led by **Dilma Rousseff** and based in **Shanghai**, funds projects in **infrastructure, clean energy, and digital development**. The bank aims to support the **Global South** and help countries keep pace with modern technology. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **July 7, 2025**, **Trinidad and Tobago** became the **eighth country** and the **first in the Caribbean** to adopt **UPI (Unified Payments Interface)** for Indian travelers. The move was announced during **Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit**, and it allows Indian visitors to **pay in rupees by scanning QR codes** at partner stores using UPI-enabled apps. Other countries with **UPI access** include **UAE, Singapore, France, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Mauritius**. To use UPI abroad, travelers need a **linked UPI app, international roaming, and UPI Global access**. The **conversion fees are minimal**, making UPI a **low-cost and simple way** to pay while traveling. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **EU finance ministers** approved **Bulgaria's adoption of the euro**, making it the **21st member of the eurozone** starting **January 1, 2026**. Bulgaria will shift from the **lev to the euro** at a **fixed rate of 1.95583 lev per euro**. Prime Minister **Rossen Jeliakov** called it a "**landmark moment**", while top EU leaders like **Ursula von der Leyen, Christine Lagarde, and Valdis Dombrovskis** praised the move. Though **economic criteria** have been met, the transition faces **domestic opposition**, with **protests in Sofia** over **inflation and loss of purchasing power**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The United States has imposed sanctions on **Francesca Albanese**, the **UN Special Rapporteur** on human rights in the **occupied Palestinian territories**, accusing her of **anti-Israel bias** and links to **extremism**, which she denies. The move, announced amid the **Gaza conflict**, has drawn condemnation from the **UN, NGOs, and legal experts** for threatening the **independence of UN investigators**. Albanese, a seasoned **international human rights lawyer**, has accused Israel of **genocide and apartheid** and supported **ICC arrest warrants** against Israeli leaders. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **July 9, 2025**, during the **47th session** in **Paris**, **UNESCO** removed three African sites—the **Rainforests of Atsinanana** in **Madagascar**, **Abu Mena** in **Egypt**, and the **Old Town of Ghadames** in **Libya**—from the **World Heritage in Danger List**. These sites had faced **serious threats** such as illegal logging, rising water levels, and war damage. UNESCO's **Director-General Audrey Azoulay** praised the countries for restoring their sites and noted that Africa is receiving special support. This success shows the positive results of ongoing global efforts to protect **cultural and natural heritage**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **UNESCO** added **three sites in Cambodia**—**Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, M-13 prison, and Choeung Ek Killing Fields**—to its **World Heritage List** on **July 11, 2025** during its **47th committee session in Paris**. These places were once used by the **Khmer Rouge regime (1975–1979)** for torture and executions. The move comes on the **50th anniversary** of the regime's rise to power. **Prime Minister Hun Manet** and several leaders welcomed the recognition. This marks **Cambodia's first modern historical nomination** and aims to **educate youth, honor victims, and promote peace**. ([Click here to read article](#))

#### Agreements/MoUs Signed

- On **July 7, 2025**, the **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD)** signed an **MoU** with the **Sri Aurobindo Society (SAS)** in **New Delhi** to launch **Project Inclusion**. This project, part of the **Rupantar Programme**, will offer **online training** for teachers and school staff to improve **inclusive education for children with disabilities**. It supports the goals of the **RPwD Act, 2016**, and will even reach **remote areas like Leh** through the **Leh Inclusion Initiative**. The project includes **e-certificates**, new teaching tools, and **research work** to make learning better for all children. ([Click here to read article](#))
- During **Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Namibia** on **July 9, 2025**, India and Namibia signed **two key MoUs**—one to set up an **Entrepreneurship Development Center** and another for **cooperation in health and medicine**. Namibia also joined the **Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)** and the **Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA)**. In a historic move, **Namibia became the first country to sign a licensing agreement to adopt India's UPI digital payment technology**, marking a big step in global digital cooperation and India-Africa ties. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS)** started new projects with **UNICEF India, Tata Motors, and the Ex-Navodayan Foundation** to support over **1.3 lakh tribal students**. The programs include **TALASH**, a career guidance and life skills platform; the **Kaushalya Program**, a job training course with **Tata Motors**; and **coaching for competitive exams** like **IIT-JEE and NEET**. These efforts will improve **education, boost confidence, and prepare tribal youth for jobs and higher studies**, helping them build a better future. ([Click here to read article](#))



- **Prasar Bharati** and the **Handball Association of India (HAI)** have signed a **three-year MoU** to produce and broadcast **national and international handball events** in India. The agreement was exchanged by **Gaurav Dwivedi** and **Anandeshwar Pande**, with **Navneet Kumar Sehgal** present. All events will be shown on **DD Sports, Waves OTT**, and other platforms. This partnership is set to **promote handball**, help discover **new talent**, and bring more attention to the sport in the country. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Books and Authors

- **Retired IPS officer V.S. Ravi** launched his book **"Confessions of a Shakespeare Addict"** on **July 7, 2025**, in **Hyderabad**. The event was attended by **former officials, scholars, and literature lovers**. The book is a tribute to **William Shakespeare**, showcasing Ravi's long journey with the Bard's works. Guests like **P.S. Ramamohan Rao, S. Chakravarthy, and A.K. Khan** praised Ravi's deep understanding of **Shakespeare's timeless writings**. The **Hindu Chairperson Nirmala Lakshman** also appreciated Ravi's literary contributions. The book captures Ravi's love for Shakespeare and is aimed at making his work accessible to modern readers. ([Click here to read article](#))
- A new book titled **"Das Paise ka Postcard"** by **S.N. Ahmed**, a **retired Indian Army officer**, was released on **July 10, 2025**, in **Hyderabad**. The book, which highlights the emotional value of **postcards** from the past, was launched by **actor and director Vinay Varma**. It will soon be **adapted into a stage play**, aiming to revive the memories of handwritten letters and their role in human connection. **The book is a heartfelt tribute to the postcard era**, reminding us of the beauty of simple, personal messages. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Indian Bank** and **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** have waived **minimum balance penalties** for **savings account holders** starting from **July 7** and **July 1, 2025**, respectively. **Indian Bank** also reduced its **one-year lending rate** to **9%**, offering relief to loan borrowers. These steps are aimed at boosting **financial inclusion** and making banking **easier, cheaper, and more accessible** for all—especially **students, senior citizens, farmers, and low-income families**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** said on **July 1, 2025**, that **₹2000 notes worth ₹6,099 crore** are still in circulation, even though it announced their withdrawal on **May 19, 2023**. Out of the original **₹3.56 lakh crore**, **98.29% has been returned**. People can still **deposit or send** these notes through **RBI offices or post offices**. The **₹2000 note** is still **legal** but is being **gradually removed** from use. ([Click here to read article](#))

- On **July 4, 2025**, the **liquidity surplus** in India's banking system rose to **₹4.04 trillion**, its highest since **May 2022**, thanks to increased **government spending** and a **₹2.69 trillion surplus transfer** by the **RBI**. A **7-day VRRR auction** saw bids of **₹1.7 trillion**, with **₹1 trillion** accepted at **5.47%**. The **RBI's 0.50% CRR cut** earlier had also added **₹1.16 trillion** to the system. These developments show strong **bank liquidity**, likely leading to **cheaper loans** and more **credit flow** in the economy. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** will hold an **auction on July 11, 2025**, to sell **two government bonds** worth **₹25,000 crore** through its **e-Kuber platform** in **Mumbai**. One bond is **new**, and the other is a **re-issue** of an older one. These **dated securities** will pay interest every **six months** and are used to help the government raise money. The auction will follow a **multiple-price method**, and both **big and small investors** can take part. The **settlement** will be done on **July 14, 2025**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Adani Power Ltd** has **acquired the 600 MW Vidarbha Industries Power Ltd** in **Butibori, Nagpur** for **₹4,000 crore**, increasing its total capacity to **18,150 MW**. The deal was approved by the **NCLT** and completed on **July 7, 2025**. The company is building several new **brownfield and greenfield power plants** and aims to reach **30,670 MW by 2029-30**. **CEO SB Khyalia** said the company remains focused on providing **reliable, affordable electricity** to support **India's development goals**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Nvidia** became the **first publicly traded company** to reach a **\$4 trillion market value**, thanks to a **1,350% rise** in its stock since **October 2022**. The company now has the **largest share** in the **S&P 500**, showing its growing power in the stock market. Other tech giants like **Microsoft, Apple, and Amazon** are also close behind, with the **technology sector** now making up **one-third** of the S&P 500. This event proves how important **Nvidia** and other tech companies have become to the global economy. ([Click here to read article](#))
- From **July 16, 2025**, all **government payments above ₹75 crore** must be made through the **RBI's e-Kuber system** to improve **transparency, speed, and real-time tracking**. The earlier limit of **₹500 crore** has now been lowered, with some transactions needing e-Kuber from **₹100 crore** onward. The move will shorten the time for **account reconciliation to just 24 hours** and could further reduce the payment limit to **₹50 crore** next year, making public finance systems more **efficient and accountable**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Indian public sector banks** will raise around **₹45,000 crore** in **FY26** through **Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP)** of shares, starting with **SBI**. The government also plans to **complete its stake sale in IDBI Bank by October 2025** and sell shares in several other PSU banks. These moves are part of the government's **₹47,000 crore disinvestment plan** announced in the **Union Budget 2025–26**, aimed at strengthening banks and encouraging private investment. ([Click here to read article](#))

- The **Government of India's net direct tax collections** fell by **1.3%** as of **July 10, 2025**, mainly because **refunds grew by 38%**, even though **gross collections** rose by **3.2%** to **₹6.6 lakh crore**. The dip was caused by **lower tax inflows** from both corporate and non-corporate sources. The **Central Government** released this data on **July 11**, highlighting a trend where **higher refunds** are impacting revenue in the early months of the financial year. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** imposed monetary penalties on **HDFC Bank** and **Shriram Finance** for **violating regulatory norms**. **HDFC Bank** was fined **₹4.88 lakh** for issues involving **foreign investment** in term loans, while **Shriram Finance** was penalised **₹2.70 lakh** for **digital lending rule violations** discovered during a routine inspection. The action highlights RBI's commitment to ensuring that all financial entities follow proper rules and maintain transparency in their operations. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Indian government** extended the **tax exemption for Sovereign Wealth Funds (SWFs) and Pension Funds** on their investments in India until **March 31, 2030**. This policy covers **dividends, interest, and long-term capital gains** and aims to **attract long-term foreign investment** in sectors like **telecom, logistics, and energy**. The rule was first introduced in **2020** under **Section 10(23FE)** of the **Income Tax Act**, and the latest extension was officially notified by the **Department of Revenue**. According to **NSDL**, assets held by SWFs in Indian companies have grown by **60% year-on-year**, reaching **₹4.7 lakh crore** by **April 2024**, showing strong investor confidence. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Sahil Kini**, an **IIT Madras** graduate and **co-founder of Setu**, has been appointed as the new **CEO** of the **Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)** in **July 2025**. He replaces **Rajesh Bansal**, who led the hub for four years. The **RBIH**, located in **Bengaluru**, was launched in **2022** to promote **innovation in financial services** and support **digital financial infrastructure**. Kini's experience in **IndiaStack, Aadhaar**, and **UPI** is expected to help take the hub's work forward in areas like **inclusive credit, fraud detection, and fintech collaboration**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Sukanya Sonowal**, a **B.Tech. student** from **IIT Guwahati**, has been named a **Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassador** for the **2025–2027** term. She will serve as **Lead - Communications & Public Relations** in the **Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassadors Network (CYPAN)**, which works to build peace across **56 member countries**. Sukanya is also the **co-founder of STEMvibe** and has led several youth projects and competitions. She was selected through a **three-stage process** for her strong work in **leadership, outreach, and peacebuilding**. Her success brings pride to her home state **Assam**, her institute **IIT Guwahati**, and the entire country. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Sanjog Gupta** has been appointed as the **new CEO of the ICC** on **July 7, 2025**, replacing **Geoff Allardice**. Gupta was chosen after a **global recruitment process** involving **over 2,500 applicants**. Known for leading major sports coverage at **Star India** and **JioStar**, Gupta is expected to guide the ICC during a key time, especially with cricket's **entry into the 2028 Olympics**. **ICC Chairman Jay Shah** praised his deep knowledge of fans, technology, and global media. Gupta has also supported the **growth of women's cricket and digital innovation** in sports. His leadership aims to take **world cricket** to new heights. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Eternal**, the **parent company of Zomato**, appointed **Aditya Mangla** as the **CEO of its food ordering and delivery division** on **6 July 2025**, for a **two-year term**. He replaces **Rakesh Ranjan**, who has exited senior management. Mangla has been a part of Eternal since **2021** and has held key roles to improve restaurant partnerships and customer experience. **Founder Deepinder Goyal** praised Aditya's leadership qualities and honest feedback. This change comes as Eternal plans to strengthen its business amidst ongoing challenges, including an **antitrust case** involving **Zomato** and the **CCI**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Mr. Hardeep Singh Brar** has been appointed as the **President and CEO of BMW Group India**, starting from **1 September 2025**. He replaces **Mr. Vikram Pawah**, who will now lead **BMW Australia and New Zealand**. Mr. Brar has **over 30 years** of experience in the **Indian car industry**, having worked with many top companies. BMW India, which started in **2007**, operates from **Gurugram** and has a strong network across the country. This leadership change shows BMW's focus on **strengthening its business in India**, one of its **fastest-growing markets**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Appointments/Resignations

- On **July 3, 2025**, **IndiGo Airlines** appointed **Amitabh Kant** as a **Non-Executive Director** on its **Board of Directors**. Kant, a former **NITI Aayog CEO** and **G20 Sherpa**, has played major roles in national campaigns like **Make in India** and **Startup India**. He brings years of leadership experience to IndiGo. He praised the airline's growth and said he looks forward to helping IndiGo connect India with global markets. This appointment highlights **IndiGo's global ambitions** and commitment to **efficiency and innovation**. ([Click here to read article](#))



- **Apple Inc.** announced the appointment of **Sabih Khan** as its new **Chief Operating Officer (COO)**, succeeding **Jeff Williams**, who will retire later this year. The leadership change comes amid **global supply chain challenges, tech transitions, and regulatory pressures**. Khan, who joined **Apple** in 1995, has played a key role in **operations, manufacturing, and logistics**, and became **SVP of Operations** in 2019. With degrees in **Economics and Mechanical Engineering** from **Tufts** and a **master's** from **RPI**, and prior experience at **GE Plastics**, Khan is known for his **strategic precision and supply chain innovation**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL)** announced that **Priya Nair** will become the new **Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director** from **August 1, 2025**. She is currently **President of Beauty & Wellbeing** at **Unilever** and has been with the company since 1995. She will succeed **Rohit Jawa**, who is stepping down after leading HUL for two years. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Kumar Mangalam Birla**, Chairman of the **Aditya Birla Group**, was appointed to the **Executive Committee** of the **US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF)** during the **Leadership Summit in Washington, DC**. He leads India's largest greenfield investor in the US, with over **\$15 billion** invested, including a **\$4.1 billion aluminium plant** in **Alabama**. Mr. Birla also received the **2025 Global Leadership Award** for strengthening **US-India economic ties**. Leaders like **John Chambers, Shantanu Narayen, and Raj Subramaniam** praised his **visionary leadership** and global business impact. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI)** has reappointed **Abhijit Kishore** of **Vodafone Idea** as **Chairperson** and **Rahul Vatts** of **Bharti Airtel** as **Vice Chairperson** for **2025–26**, as announced during the **Annual General Body meeting** on **July 9, 2025**, in **New Delhi**. The COAI praised their leadership, especially as the telecom sector prepares for **5G and digital expansion**. **Kishore and Vatts** bring deep experience in telecom operations and regulation, making them key leaders for guiding industry growth. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Babitha B P** joined the **State Bank of India (SBI)** as the **Deputy Chief Information Security Officer (General Manager – Infrastructure Security & Special Projects)**. She will be in charge of managing **cybersecurity efforts**, building **secure infrastructure**, and leading **strategic digital safety projects**. This decision strengthens SBI's security team and reflects its focus on **digital safety** in a fast-changing online world. It also highlights the growing presence of **women leaders** in India's **technology and financial sectors**. ([Click here to read article](#))

## Defence News

- India has **successfully completed user trials** of the **Extended Range Anti-Submarine Rocket (ERASR)**, a **fully indigenous** naval weapon designed to **detect and destroy enemy submarines**, boosting India's **maritime defence and self-reliance in defence technology**. Conducted from **INS Kavaratti** between **June 23 and July 7, 2025**, the trials involved **17 rocket launches** across multiple ranges. Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** hailed the **DRDO, Indian Navy, and domestic defence industry** for the achievement, stating it will **enhance the Navy's striking power**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **July 9, 2025**, the **Indian Navy** received **INS Nistar**, its first **indigenously designed and built Diving Support Vessel (DSV)**, from **Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)** in **Visakhapatnam**. With **75% indigenous content**, **INS Nistar** can perform **deep sea diving up to 300 metres**, rescue trapped submariners using **DSRV**, and carry **ROVs** for operations up to **1000 metres**. This modern ship supports the Navy's underwater missions and reflects the goals of **Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Japanese Coast Guard Ship JCGS Itsukushima** reached **Chennai Port** on **July 7, 2025**, as part of the **Global Ocean Voyage Training**. The six-day visit includes **joint training, official meetings, and a sea exercise** named '**Jaa Mata**'. Senior officials like **Captain Naoki Mizoguchi, Vice Admiral Hiroaki Kaosue, and Director General Paramesh Sivamani** are part of the engagement. This visit strengthens the **India-Japan maritime partnership** and supports regional goals like **SAGAR** and the **Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **DRDO and Indian Air Force** successfully conducted flight tests of the **Astra Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM)** from a **Su-30 MKI fighter jet** off the **Odisha coast**. The missile, equipped with an **indigenous Radio Frequency (RF) Seeker**, accurately hit **high-speed aerial targets** in both tests. This success boosts **India's defense strength**, supports the '**Make in India**' initiative, and reduces **reliance on foreign technology**. ([Click here to read article](#))

## Awards and Recognitions

- **Deepika Padukone** has become the **first Indian actress** to be honoured with a **Hollywood Walk of Fame star**, announced on **July 3, 2025**, in **Hollywood**. She will receive the star as part of the **Class of 2026**, along with famous names like **Miley Cyrus, Timothee Chalamet, and Emily Blunt**. Deepika made her **Hollywood debut in 2017** and has since gained global fame through her movies and public appearances. She will soon appear in big films such as **Kalki 2898 AD, AA22xA6, and King**. This honour celebrates her achievements and puts **Indian cinema** in the global spotlight. ([Click here to read article](#))



- **Veteran archaeologist V. Vedachalam** has been honoured with the **Tamil Wikki Suran Award** in **Madurai** for his **51 years** of contribution to archaeology and Tamil epigraphy. Starting from his early work at **Karur** to being an early supporter of the **Keeladi site**, he has made several important discoveries. Through his **25 books**, village awareness visits, and student interactions, he continues to spread knowledge about **Tamil Nadu's ancient history**. Even at **75**, his passion for exploring the past and preserving it remains **strong and inspiring**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Kerala Fisheries Department** has awarded **Kasaragod district** the **Fisheries Department Excellence Award 2025** for its outstanding work under the **Popular Fish Farming Project**. Recognized as the **best district in the state**, Kasaragod was honored for its **sustainable aquaculture practices**, **grassroots engagement**, and **inland fish production** efforts. Part of the **State Farmer Awards**, this achievement underscores Kasaragod's **leadership in fisheries development**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Marathi writer Sarankumar Limbale** has been selected for the **Chintha Raveendran Award 2025**, which includes a **₹50,000 cash prize**, **memento**, and **citation**. The award will be given on **July 26** at **K.P. Kesavamenon Hall in Kozhikode**, during the **Chintha Raveendran commemoration event**. **Former MP Subhashini Ali** will speak on 'Manuvadi Hindutva', and **writer N.S. Madhavan** will preside. The award honours Limbale's **contribution to Dalit literature and social thought**, marking his influence in promoting **equality and justice through writing**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Telangana** won the **IESA Industry Excellence Award 2025** in the **State Leadership – Battery Manufacturing** category at the **India Energy Storage Week (IESW) 2025** in **New Delhi**. The award, received by **S.K. Sharma**, highlights the state's achievements in promoting **battery production**, **EV development**, and **green energy policies**. With support from its **EV and Renewable Energy Policies** and **dedicated industrial clusters**, Telangana has emerged as a hub for **energy storage** and **electric mobility**, setting an example for other states in India. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Varsha Deshpande**, an advocate from **Satara, Maharashtra**, received the **2025 United Nations Population Award** on **July 11, 2025**, in **New York**, for her work in **gender equality**, **saving the girl child**, and **empowering Dalit women**. She is the **secretary of Dalit Mahila Vikas Mandal**, known for her **sting operations**, work under the **PCPNDT Act**, and **legal reforms**. The **UNFPA** praised her courage in tackling **gender and caste-based discrimination**. The **UN Population Award**, now in its **40th year**, honours major contributions to **reproductive health and rights** globally. ([Click here to read article](#))

## Summits and Conferences News

- At the **11th India Maize Summit** held on **July 7, 2025**, in **New Delhi**, **Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan** launched a bold plan for a **Maize Revolution**. He stressed the use of **research, technology, and field programs** like **Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan** to help farmers. **Uttar Pradesh** showed major success under its **Accelerated Maize Development Program**, and experts shared how maize supports India's **ethanol goals, livestock feed, and climate-smart farming**. With efforts from the **government, industry, and scientists**, India aims to become a global leader in maize. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Minister Harsh Malhotra** inaugurated the **India Energy Storage Week 2025** on **July 10** at **Yashobhoomi, Delhi**, highlighting India's journey toward **clean mobility**. He emphasized the government's efforts through schemes like **FAME-II** and **PM e-Drive**, support for **EV-friendly policies**, and development of **green logistics parks**. The Minister also stressed the need for **local battery technology, recycling**, and investment in **renewable energy**. These steps are part of India's larger mission to achieve the **Net Zero target by 2070** and generate **500GW of green energy by 2030**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India will host the **first Global Conference on Manuscript Heritage** from **September 11 to 13, 2025**, at **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi**, announced by the **Ministry of Culture**. The event, titled "**Reclaiming India's Knowledge Legacy Through Manuscript Heritage**," will feature **500+ delegates**, rare exhibitions, live demos, and expert talks on **digitisation, conservation, and AI archiving**. The date honors **Swami Vivekananda's historic 1893 speech** and highlights India's commitment to preserving its cultural legacy. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary** inaugurated the **Trade Facilitation Conference 2025** in **New Delhi**, organised by **CRCL and CBIC**. The conference, with the theme "**Scientific Excellence for Seamless Trade**," focused on improving **testing infrastructure** to promote **faster, smoother trade**. With over **400 participants**, the event showcased the government's commitment to supporting **economic growth**, ensuring **compliance**, and boosting **India's global trade** through modern scientific methods. ([Click here to read article](#))

## Ranks and Reports

- **Prajakta Koli**, also known as **MostlySane**, has become the **only Indian** to be featured in the **2025 TIME100 Creators List**, a global list of the most powerful digital creators. With over **7 million YouTube subscribers**, acting roles in **Netflix and Bollywood**, a debut novel, and work with groups like the **UN and World Economic Forum**, her influence spans far beyond comedy videos. In her emotional post, she thanked her fans and younger self for the journey. ([Click here to read article](#))

## Sports News

- **Lando Norris** won the **British Grand Prix** at **Silverstone** on **July 6, 2025**, in a wet and exciting race. He took the lead after **Oscar Piastri** received a **10-second penalty**, which helped Norris reduce the points gap in the **Formula 1** championship. It was **McLaren's first win** at Silverstone since **2008**. **Nico Hülkenberg** finished third, and **Max Verstappen** came fifth after a spin. Many **rookie drivers** crashed out due to the rain. Norris called the win a dream come true in front of his home fans. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India achieved a **historic Test victory** at **Edgbaston** on **July 6, 2025**, beating **England** by a **record 336-run margin**, the **biggest overseas win** for India in terms of runs. **Akash Deep** stood out with **10 wickets**, the **best Test figures by an Indian in England**. This was also **India's first Test win at Edgbaston** after **seven losses**. The match saw several records broken, including the **highest total runs** in a Test between the two nations. **India has now leveled the series 1-1**, marking a proud moment in Indian cricket history. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **India** will place a **strategic bid** to host the **2029 or 2031 World Athletics Championships**, according to **AFI official Adille Sumariwalla** on **July 6, 2025** in **Bengaluru**. The bidding process starts this year, and final decisions will be made in **September 2026**. Since **Tokyo (2025)** and **Beijing (2027)** are already hosting, **India** may have a better chance at **2031**. India has also shown interest in hosting the **2028 Junior World Championships** and future **Athletics Relay** events. These efforts are part of India's goal to bring the **Olympics to the country in 2036**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Mexico** defeated the **United States 2-1** in the **CONCACAF Gold Cup 2025 final** held at **NRG Stadium, Houston**. **Chris Richards** scored early for the **US**, but **Raul Jimenez** and **Edson Alvarez** scored for **Mexico** to seal the win. This victory gives **Mexico** a **record 10th Gold Cup title**. The match saw dramatic moments, strong performances, and emotional tributes, making it a memorable final for football fans across the region. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India made history at the **World Boxing Cup 2025** in **Astana** by winning **11 medals**, including **3 gold**, **5 silver**, and **3 bronze**. **Sakshi, Jaismine**, and **Nupur** were the gold medal winners who led the team to success. Their wins against strong opponents from the **USA**, **Brazil**, and **Kazakhstan** brought pride to the country. This was India's **best medal haul ever** at this event and shows the **growing power of Indian women boxers** on the global stage. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Magnus Carlsen** won the **SuperUnited Rapid and Blitz 2025** chess tournament in **Zagreb, Croatia** on **July 7**, finishing with **22.5/36**. He secured the title one round early. **Wesley So** of the **USA** came second with **20/36**, and **India's D Gukesh** took

third with **19.5/36**. This **Grand Chess Tour** event tested players in **Rapid and Blitz formats**. **Gukesh**, despite challenges in Blitz, showed strong progress. The **next event** will be held in **Saint Louis, Missouri** in **August 2025**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Neeraj Chopra** won the **inaugural Neeraj Chopra Classic 2025** in **Bengaluru** with a best **javelin throw of 86.18 metres**. The event was held at the **Sree Kanteerava Stadium** as part of the **World Athletics Gold-level series**. **Kenya's Julius Yego** finished second with **84.51 metres**, while **Sri Lanka's Rumesh Pathirage** came third with **84.34 metres**. Neeraj impressed the crowd with a strong third throw, keeping his top form ahead of upcoming global competitions. This new event also marks **India's growing presence in international athletics**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **IPL's total value** rose to **\$18.5 billion** in **2025**, showing its growing status as a top sports league. **RCB** became the **most valued franchise** at **\$269 million** after winning the **2025 title**. **Mumbai Indians** and **CSK** followed behind. **Sponsorships** and **viewership** also broke records—**JioHotstar** and **Star Sports** saw historic numbers. **Tata Group** extended its sponsorship deal, and **PBKS** showed the highest growth in brand value. The league's success shows that the **IPL is now a global sports business**, combining cricket, entertainment, and media in a way few other events do. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **July 10, 2025**, **Sachin Tendulkar's portrait** was officially unveiled at the **MCC Museum at Lord's Cricket Ground** in **London**, a place known as the **Home of Cricket**. The painting was created by **Stuart Pearson Wright**, and Tendulkar also **rang the bell** to begin the day's **India vs. England Test match**. He shared memories of his early days in **England** and said the portrait was a special moment in his journey. He also praised **Shubman Gill**, India's new captain, for his calm leadership and good form. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)** shared that **India** will host the **Shooting World Cup in 2027** and the **World Junior Championship in 2028**, as decided by the **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF)**. In the meantime, India will also organize the **Junior World Cup in September 2025**, the **Asian Rifle and Pistol Championship in February 2026**, and the **first-ever Shooting League of India in November 2025** in **Delhi**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian men's football team** has dropped **six places** to **133rd** in the **FIFA rankings**, marking its **worst ranking since December 2016**. The decline follows recent defeats to **Thailand** and **Hong Kong** in **June 2025**, which also led to **coach Manolo Marquez's exit**. India's performance under him saw just **one win in eight matches**. With the team struggling and **qualification for the 2027 Asian Cup** at risk, **India's next chance** to bounce back will come in **October** against **Singapore**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- On **July 11, 2025**, both **Italy** and the **Netherlands** confirmed their spots in the **ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026** after the final matches of the **Europe Qualifiers**. This will be **Italy's first appearance** at the global event. Despite losing to the Netherlands, Italy ensured qualification by holding their opponents till the **17th over**, maintaining a better **net run rate**. The Netherlands chased down **134/7** with strong performances from **Roelof van der Merwe** and **Michael Levitt**. A total of **15 teams** have qualified so far, with more to be confirmed through upcoming qualifiers. The World Cup will take place in **India and Sri Lanka** in 2026. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Harikrishnan A. Ra.**, a **23-year-old** from **Chennai**, became **India's 87th Grandmaster** after earning his **third GM norm** at the **La Plagne International Chess Festival** in **France** on **July 11, 2025**. Coached by **Shyam Sundar**, Harikrishnan had previously earned GM norms in **Switzerland** (2023) and **Spain** (June 2025). His final performance, including a draw with **P. Iniyan** and a win over **Jules Moussard**, secured the title. Harikrishnan, who recently finished his **M.Com from SRM**, plans to compete in **Spain and Portugal** before pursuing an **MBA in the USA**. His next goal is to reach an **Elo rating of 2600**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Dr. Lavanya R. Mundayur**, head of **AIC**, shared her views on the **10-year journey** of the **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana** in **New Delhi**. She said the scheme has shown progress, especially in bringing non-loanee farmers under coverage, but the overall reach has flattened. She recommended **greater central funding**, a **national-level model**, and **independent third-party evaluation**. These steps can help make **PMFBY** more **affordable, transparent, and useful** for **India's small and marginal farmers**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Government of Andhra Pradesh** launched the **Digi-Lakshmi scheme** on **June 30, 2025**, to help **urban poor women** become **entrepreneurs**. Under this plan, **9,034 Common Service Centres (CSCs)** will be set up in **Urban Local Bodies**, each run by **Self-Help Group (SHG)** women. These centres, called **ATOM Kiosks**, will provide **around 250 public services**. The **Mission Director of MEPMA** will lead the project, and women will get training and loans of **₹2 to ₹2.5 lakh** to start their centres. The scheme is part of the **'One Family, One Entrepreneur'** mission and aims to support **women empowerment** and **digital job creation** across **Andhra Pradesh**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Assam Cabinet** approved the **'Gajah Mitra'** scheme on **July 11, 2025**, to stop the rising number of **human-elephant conflicts**. The plan will be carried out in **80 problem areas** where both **people and elephants have died** in past years. It includes **growing elephant-friendly plants**, setting up **rapid response teams**, and raising **village awareness**. According to a **Wildlife Institute of India** report, **over 1,400 people and 1,209 elephants** died between **2000 and 2023**, mainly due to **human activities** like illegal fencing. **Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma** said the situation is serious and needs urgent action. The scheme aims to ensure **safety and harmony** for both **humans and elephants** in **Assam**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India launched its **first electric truck scheme** under the **PM E-DRIVE initiative**, with a **maximum incentive of ₹9.6 lakh per vehicle**. The scheme, announced by **Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy**, targets **N2 and N3 category electric trucks**, and promotes **cleaner freight transport**. With **5,600 e-trucks** expected to be deployed and support from companies like **SAIL, Tata Motors, and Ashok Leyland**, the scheme supports the **Atmanirbhar Bharat vision** and India's **net-zero goal by 2070**. **Old diesel trucks must be scrapped**, and strict **warranty rules** will ensure quality and reliability. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Union Cabinet** approved a **₹1 lakh crore employment-linked incentive scheme** to generate **3.5 crore jobs**, with **1.92 crore for first-time workers**, between **August 2025 and July 2027**. The scheme offers **₹3,000 per employee per month** to employers and **wage support of up to ₹15,000** to new employees. Announced by **Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw**, it is part of the **PM's ₹2 lakh crore youth employment plan**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Schemes and Committees News

- The **Rajasthan government** has launched the **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Poverty-Free Village Scheme** on **July 4, 2025**, to support **BPL families in 5,000 villages**. The plan offers up to **Rs 1 lakh** for job and business help, and **Rs 15,000** for women in SHGs. Families who moved out of poverty will receive **Rs 21,000** as a reward and **Atmanirbhar Parivar Cards**. So far, **30,631 families** have been identified, and **61,000 applications** have been received. The government is also creating **village-wise plans** to connect families with skill and job programs. This step is a **major effort to reduce rural poverty** and build **self-reliant villages** in **Rajasthan**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Punjab government** launched the **Mukhya Mantri Sehat Yojana** on **July 8, 2025**, offering **free and cashless medical treatment up to ₹10 lakh per year** for every family in the state. Unveiled by **Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann** and **AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal** in **Chandigarh**, the scheme will cover around **65 lakh families** (nearly **3 crore people**), including **farmers, workers, pensioners, businessmen, and government employees**. **Digital health cards** will enable treatment for **2000+ diseases** at **government and private hospitals**. Beneficiaries of **Ayushman Bharat** will receive a **₹5 lakh top-up**, ensuring **₹10 lakh total coverage**. ([Click here to read article](#))



### Science and Technology News

- On **July 6, 2025**, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh opened the **National Biobank** at **CSIR-IGIB, New Delhi**. This project will collect data from **10,000 Indians** to support **personalized medicine** and better disease treatment. It is part of the **Phenome India** project. The minister also highlighted India's work in **genomics, CRISPR technology, and healthcare innovation**. Experts like **Dr. N. Kalaiselvi** and **Dr. Souvik Maiti** praised the move as a major step toward **healthcare self-reliance** and **global leadership** in science. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India became the **fourth-largest biofuel consumer** in the world in **2024**, moving ahead of **China** for the **second year in a row**, according to the **Statistical Review of World Energy 2025**. India consumed **77 kbbloe/d**, a **40% rise** from last year, while **China consumed 60 kbbloe/d**. However, in **biofuel production**, India made **70 kbbloe/d**, still behind China's **106 kbbloe/d**. The report also showed that global demand for biofuels rose, especially in the **Asia Pacific** and **North America** regions. While **biofuels** help cut pollution, overall **global emissions** from energy **rose by 1% in 2024**, marking another **record high**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- HCLSoftware**, the software arm of **HCLTech**, has launched **Domino 14.5**, an advanced platform focused on **data sovereignty** and **enhanced privacy** for **governments and regulated organisations**. Its key feature, **Domino IQ**, is a **sovereign AI solution** designed to safeguard **sensitive national and enterprise data** from **foreign surveillance**. **Richard Jefts**, Executive VP, emphasized the importance of **local digital control**, especially as nations tighten **data protection frameworks**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** successfully conducted **two hot tests** of the **Gaganyaan Service Module Propulsion System (SMPS)** on **July 3, 2025**, at its **Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu**, marking a crucial step for India's **first crewed space mission** under the **Gaganyaan Programme**. The **SMPS**, featuring **5 Liquid Apogee Motors (LAMs)** and **16 Reaction Control System (RCS) thrusters**, is key for **orbital maneuvers, trajectory corrections, and crew safety**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Switzerland's health authority, Swissmedic**, has given its **first approval** to a **malaria medicine for infants**, made by **Novartis**. The approval came on **July 9, 2025**, and applies to babies weighing **2 to 5 kilograms**. The decision is important because **malaria kills thousands of children**, especially in **Africa**, where **95% of global malaria deaths** occurred in **2023**. Experts say the new medicine is **safe and effective**, and it will be offered on a **not-for-profit basis** in malaria-hit countries. This move could **help protect the youngest lives** in the fight against one of the world's **deadliest diseases**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- The **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB)** has launched the **Kalaa Setu – Real-Time Language Tech for Bharat Challenge** via its **WaveX Startup Accelerator Platform**. The challenge calls on **AI startups** across India to build tools that turn **text into audio, video, or graphics** in various **Indian languages**. Applications can be submitted on the **WaveX portal** by **July 30**, while the **Bhasha Setu translation challenge** closes on **July 22**. This effort is part of the **WAVES initiative**, aiming to boost **innovation in media and language tech**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Government of Andhra Pradesh** has introduced the **Smart Mosquito Surveillance System (SMoSS)** to fight **mosquito-borne diseases** like **dengue** and **malaria**. This **AI-powered project** will start in **66 places** across **six major cities** including **Vijayawada** and **Visakhapatnam**. It will use **smart sensors, drones, apps, and hospital data** to track and control mosquito breeding. The system will help officials take quick action by sending alerts and mapping problem areas. This is a **big step** toward **tech-based public health** and can serve as a **model for other states** in India. ([Click here to read article](#))
- A **new species, Garcinia kusumae**, has been discovered in **Baksa district, Assam**, by botanist **Jatindra Sarma**, who named it in honour of his **late mother, Kusum Devi**. The discovery was made in **April 2025** and published in the global journal **Feddes Repertorium**. This **evergreen tree** has unique flowers and fruits and is used in **traditional food and medicine**. With this, Assam adds to its record of **12 Garcinia species**. The new finding boosts **India's botanical diversity** and shows how much more is still to be discovered in the country's rich forests. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Important Days News

- World Rural Development Day** was celebrated for the first time on **July 6** by the **United Nations**. It aims to focus on the needs of **rural communities** around the world, where **poverty, hunger, and poor services** still exist. The UN urges **governments, civil society, and others** to act by supporting **women, youth, farmers, and small businesses**. The day promotes **rural empowerment, better infrastructure, and stronger digital and financial inclusion**. The effort is part of the broader mission to achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030** and to ensure that **no one is left behind**, even in the most **remote villages**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- World Bioproduct Day** was celebrated on **July 7, 2025**, to honor and promote the use of **sustainable bioproducts**. These products, made from **renewable materials**, help **protect the environment** and **reduce pollution**. India is playing a leading role in this field, especially in **biopharmaceuticals, agriculture, and bio-industrial sectors**. Globally, platforms like **worldbiorefineries.com** are being launched to support **green innovation**. The day reflects a strong global push towards a **cleaner, more circular economy**. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **World Population Day 2025**, observed on **July 11**, highlights the importance of addressing global population growth and supporting young people in making family decisions. It was started in **1989** by the **UNDP**, inspired by **Five Billion Day** in **1987**. The theme this year is “**Empowering young people to create the families they want in a fair and hopeful world**”, focusing on **youth empowerment, reproductive rights, and gender equality**. With **India** becoming the **most populous country** in **2025**, this day also draws attention to how population trends affect development and sustainability. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **World Horse Day**, first observed on **July 11, 2025**, honors the **historic and vital role of horses** in agriculture, warfare, therapy, transport, and culture. Established by the **UN Resolution 79/291**, it urges global action to protect equine welfare amid **climate change** and **neglect**. Horses support **600 million people** globally, contribute to **sustainable farming**, and provide **emotional healing** through **equine therapy**. From **Olympic sports** to **rural livelihoods**, their legacy continues. Celebrations include **visits to rescue centers**, sharing **educational facts**, and supporting horse welfare. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **World Swahili Language Day** is observed every year on **July 7**, as declared by **UNESCO** in **2022**. It honors **Swahili**, a language spoken by over **200 million people**, mostly across **East Africa**. The day also remembers the efforts of African leaders like **Julius Nyerere** and **Jomo Kenyatta**, who used Swahili to unite people during the **independence struggles**. This is the **first time the UN has officially recognized an African language** with its own day. The celebration aims to promote **cultural pride, unity, and global respect** for African languages. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **caretaker and mentor** to younger elephants, becoming a **symbol of wildlife conservation** and the **human-nature bond**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Charupara Ravi**, **state vice-president of the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD)** and a **committed socialist leader**, passed away at the age of **77** on **July 8, 2025**, in **Thiruvananthapuram**. A lifelong political activist, Ravi began his journey at **18** through the **Independent Student Organisation (ISO)** and later led **Yuva Janatha** during the rise of the **Janata Party** in **1977**. Known for his **grassroots activism, simplicity, and public engagement**, he also served as **chairman of RJD's parliamentary board**. Despite unsuccessful bids in the **1980 (Aryanad), 1996 (Neyyattinkara), and 2011 (Nemom)** Kerala Assembly elections, Ravi remained a **respected figure** for his **unwavering dedication to socialist ideals** and the **democratic process**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Bismillah Jan Shinwari**, a respected **ICC International Panel umpire**, passed away at **41** on **July 7, 2025**, during **abdominal surgery** in **Peshawar, Pakistan**. His funeral was held in **Achin district, Nangarhar province, Afghanistan**, on **July 8**. Shinwari began his **international umpiring career** in **2017**, debuting in an **ODI between Afghanistan and Ireland** in **Sharjah**. He went on to officiate **34 ODIs, 26 T20Is, 31 First-Class, 51 List A, and 96 domestic T20 matches**, earning recognition for his **fairness, precision, and calm demeanor**, and becoming a **prominent figure in global cricket umpiring**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Veteran legal and political leader N. Tippanna** passed away on **July 11, 2025**, in **Ballari** at the age of **97**. Born in **Turuvarur**, he had a **60-year-long career** in law, politics, and community service. He was **Chairman of the Karnataka Legislative Council**, led the **JD(S) State Unit**, and worked to improve **education** in **Ballari**. He was also a **key leader in the Veerashaiva-Lingayat community**. His funeral will take place on **July 12** in **Chitradurga district**. Many people across **Karnataka** are mourning his death and remembering his contributions. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Obituaries News

- **Peter Rufai**, a former **Super Eagles** goalkeeper from **Nigeria**, died at the age of **61** on **July 4, 2025**, after a long illness. Known as **Dodo Mayana**, he played a major role in Nigeria's **AFCON 1994** win and featured in the **FIFA World Cups of 1994 and 1998**. He earned **65 international caps** and was loved for his calm and confident goalkeeping style. The **Nigeria Football Federation** and fans have paid tribute, calling him a "**giant of Nigerian football**." His passing is the **sixth** among the golden 1994 squad, marking a deep loss for African football. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In a **deeply emotional moment**, **Vatsala**, **Asia's oldest living elephant**, passed away on **July 8, 2025**, at **Panna Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh**, at the remarkable age of **over 100 years**. Her journey began in the **Nilambur forests of Kerala**, working in the **timber trade**, before being relocated to **Hoshangabad** in **1971** and then to **Panna** in **1993**, where she played a key role in **tiger tracking** and **forest patrols**. Even after her **retirement in 2003**, she continued as a



**Static Takeaways**

Sr. No	Static Name	Static Details
1	Indian Bank	<b>MD</b> - Binod Kumar
2	PNB Bank	<b>MD</b> - Ashok Chandra
3	RBI	<b>Governor</b> - Sanjay Malhotra
4	SBI	<b>MD</b> - Challa Sreenivasalu Setty
5	Adani Power	<b>CEO</b> - Shersingh Khyalia
6	NVIDIA	<b>CEO</b> - Huang Jensen
7	IndiGo India	<b>CEO</b> - Pieter ELbers
8	Hindustan Unilever Limited	<b>CEO</b> - Priya Nair
9	Apple	<b>CEO</b> - Tim Cook
10	ICC	<b>Chairman</b> - Jay Shah
11	Birla Group	<b>Chairman</b> - Kumar Manglam Birla
12	Suriname	<b>President</b> - Jennifer Simons <b>Capital</b> - Paramaribo
13	Colombia	<b>President</b> - Gustavo Petro <b>Capital</b> - South Carolina
14	USA	<b>President</b> - Donald Trump <b>Capital</b> - Washington D.C.
15	Bulgaria	<b>President</b> - Rumen Radev <b>Capital</b> - Sofia
16	France	<b>President</b> - Emmanuel Macron <b>Capital</b> - Paris
17	Himachal Pradesh	<b>Governor</b> - Shiv Pratap Shukla <b>CM</b> - Sukhvinder Sukkhu <b>Capital</b> - Shimla
18	Kerala	<b>Governor</b> - Arlekar Rajendra <b>CM</b> - Pinarayi Vijayan <b>Capital</b> - Thruvananthpuram
19	Andhra Pradesh	<b>Governor</b> - Abdul nazeer <b>CM</b> - Chandrababu Naidu <b>Capital</b> - Amravati
20	Delhi	<b>L. Governor</b> - Vinai Saxena <b>CM</b> - Rekha Gupta <b>Capital</b> - New Delhi
21	Bihar	<b>Governor</b> - Arif Khan <b>CM</b> - Nitish Kumar <b>Capital</b> - Patna
22	Maharashtra	<b>Governor</b> - Radhakrishnan <b>CM</b> - Devendra Fadnavis <b>Capital</b> - Mumbai
23	Uttarakhand	<b>Governor</b> - Gurmit Singh <b>CM</b> - Pushkar Dhama <b>Capital</b> - Dehradun