

# Weekly One Liners 25th November to 1st December 2024

## 116th PM Man Ki Baat

This comprehensive speech from Mann Ki Baat touches upon various inspiring themes, initiatives, and the spirit of collective efforts in India. Here's a summary of its key highlights:

### 1. Youth Empowerment and NCC (National Cadet Corps):

- Celebrating NCC Day, the PM emphasized the transformative impact of NCC on youth, instilling discipline, leadership, and service.
- NCC's reach has expanded to over 20 lakh cadets, with a significant increase in girl cadets (40%).
- A call for maximum youth participation in NCC for personality development and nation-building.

### 2. 'Vikasit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue':

- Scheduled for 11-12 January 2024 at Bharat Mandapam, Delhi, coinciding with Swami Vivekananda's 162nd birth anniversary.
- An initiative to gather 2,000 youth leaders from across India to present ideas for India's development, inspiring new participation in politics and leadership.

### 3. Digital Inclusion:

- Examples of young changemakers like Virendra (Lucknow) and Mahesh (Bhopal) aiding elderly citizens with Digital Life Certificates and digital payments.
- Awareness campaigns against cyber fraud like "Digital Arrest" scams.

### 4. Libraries and Education:

- Creative libraries like Prakrith Arivagam (Chennai) and others in Bihar and Hyderabad are fostering a love for books among children and aiding competitive exam preparation.
- Libraries are becoming hubs for creativity and social transformation.

### 5. Indian Diaspora and History:

- The Indian diaspora's contributions in countries like Guyana and Oman are being documented through projects preserving their historical and cultural legacies.
- The PM invited citizens to share stories of Indian immigrants with #IndianDiasporaStories.

### 6. 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Campaign:

- Over 100 crore trees planted in just five months under this campaign, now gaining international traction.
- Stories of remarkable contributions, such as 12 lakh trees planted in 24 hours in Indore and unique women-led efforts in Rajasthan.

### 7. Sparrow Conservation:

- Campaigns like Kudugal Trust in Chennai and Early Bird in Mysuru are promoting biodiversity and reviving the sparrow population, engaging children creatively.

### 8. Cleanliness and Sustainability:

- A special Swachhata Abhiyan has led to clutter-free government offices and waste-to-wealth innovations.
- Examples include Akshara and Prakriti from Mumbai creating fashion items from fabric scraps and Kanpur's Ploggers Group converting garbage into tree guards.

## Key Messages:

- The PM underscored the importance of youth in shaping a developed India.
- Citizens were encouraged to take proactive roles in conservation, sustainability, digital inclusion, and cultural preservation.
- Collective efforts and creativity were celebrated as powerful tools for transformation.

This episode is a testament to how grassroots initiatives, guided by inspired leadership, are creating significant impact across India.

## Samvidhan Diwas 2024

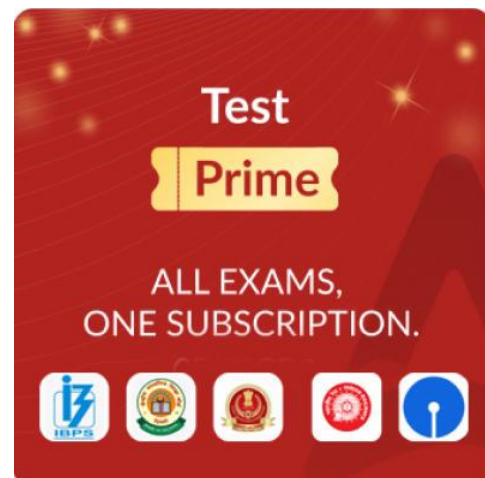
India celebrates **Constitution Day** or **Samvidhan Diwas** annually on **November 26**, marking the adoption of the **Indian Constitution** in 1949. This historic day is a tribute to the values of **justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity**, which form the bedrock of India's democracy. In 2024, the nation observes the **75th Constitution Day**, honouring the transformative journey and ideals that guide the republic.

As India celebrates **Samvidhan Diwas 2024**, it is a moment to honour the monumental efforts of the **Constituent Assembly** and recommit to the ideals that have shaped the nation. This day serves as a reminder of the enduring spirit of the Constitution and its role as a beacon of hope and justice for every Indian citizen.

## Date and Historical Context

**Constitution Day** commemorates the adoption of the Constitution by the **Constituent Assembly** on **November 26, 1949**, which later came into effect on **January 26, 1950**—celebrated as **Republic Day**. The day was formally designated as **Samvidhan Diwas** in **2015** by the **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**, coinciding with **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's 125th birth anniversary**.

The Indian Constitution, under the leadership of **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**, was designed to ensure justice, liberty, and equality for all. This document, the longest written constitution in the world, initially had **395 Articles** and **8 Schedules**, embodying the essence of India's sovereignty and diversity.



**Significance of Constitution Day**

**Honouring Constitutional Values**

Constitution Day emphasizes the importance of understanding and upholding the **values of the Constitution**, including justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity. It reminds citizens of their **rights and duties**, fostering unity and civic responsibility.

**A Tribute to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**

Known as the “Father of the Indian Constitution,” **Dr. Ambedkar’s vision** ensured that the Constitution was not just a legal framework but a reflection of India’s socio-political aspirations. His iconic quote—“The Constitution is not a mere lawyer’s document; it is a vehicle of life, and its spirit is always the spirit of the age”—highlights its enduring relevance.

**National Reflection**

The day encourages citizens to reflect on **India’s journey** as a democratic nation and renew their commitment to building an inclusive, progressive, and equitable society. It also underscores the importance of **active civic participation**.

**The Journey of Drafting the Indian Constitution**

**The Need for a Framework**

India’s independence struggle revealed the necessity for a robust framework to guarantee **justice, equality, and liberty** for all citizens. The **Government of India Act, 1935**, served as a foundation but lacked provisions for a **sovereign, democratic republic**.

**Formation of the Constituent Assembly**

The **Constituent Assembly** was established in **December 1946** under the **Cabinet Mission Plan**, comprising **389 members**, later reduced to **299** after Partition. Key members included **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, and Dr. Rajendra Prasad**.

**Drafting the Constitution**

- The **Drafting Committee**, chaired by **Dr. Ambedkar**, prepared the initial draft.
- The Assembly deliberated over the draft in **11 sessions**, spanning **2 years, 11 months, and 18 days**.
- On **November 26, 1949**, the Assembly adopted the Constitution, establishing India as a sovereign democratic republic.

**Features of the Indian Constitution**

**Blend of Rigidity and Flexibility**

The Indian Constitution is unique for combining elements of **rigidity and flexibility**, drawing inspiration from global constitutions, including the **British, American, and Irish Constitutions**.

**Comprehensive and Inclusive**

At inception, the Constitution contained:

- **395 Articles** organized into **22 Parts**.
- **8 Schedules** outlining administrative details.

**Progressive Vision**

The Constitution reflects a vision of an **inclusive India**, safeguarding citizens’ rights while emphasizing their responsibilities.

Celebrations and Observance of Constitution Day 2024

**Nationwide Events**

Constitution Day is celebrated with:

- **Ceremonies in schools, colleges, and government institutions** to promote awareness of constitutional values.
- Special sessions in **Parliament** to honor the contributions of the **Constituent Assembly**.
- Public readings of the **Preamble** and discussions on constitutional ideals.

**75th Constitution Day**

This milestone observance highlights:

- India’s progress as a **sovereign, socialist, secular, and democratic republic**.
- Renewed emphasis on fostering **national solidarity** and promoting **civic participation**.

**Legacy of the Indian Constitution**

The Indian Constitution is a living document that has evolved through **105 amendments**, addressing the changing needs of the nation. It remains a testament to India’s commitment to **democracy, diversity, and equality**, inspiring generations to uphold its principles.

**Times Higher Education (THE) Interdisciplinary Science Rankings 2024**

India has made great progress in global university rankings, especially in **Interdisciplinary Science**, as shown in the **Times Higher Education (THE) Interdisciplinary Science Rankings 2025**. This ranking highlights universities that are leading the way in **research and collaboration** across different subjects to tackle global challenges like **climate change, health issues, and technology developments**.

**Why This is Important for India**

India has emerged as the **most represented country** in the rankings, with **65 Indian universities** making it to the list. This reflects India’s growing role in **interdisciplinary research**, where universities bring together knowledge from different fields to solve complex issues.

**Top Indian Universities in the Interdisciplinary Science Rankings 2025**

The following table shows the top Indian universities ranked in the **Interdisciplinary Science Rankings 2025**. Indian universities are recognized for their research output, reputation, and focus on addressing global problems.

Rank	University
42	Anna University
65	VIT University
84	SRM Institute of Science and Technology
92	KIIT University
98	University of Delhi
99	Lovely Professional University
101	Amity University, Noida
102	Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences
103	Jamia Millia Islamia
105	Jawaharlal Nehru University

**Top Global Universities in the Interdisciplinary Science Rankings 2025**

The rankings also feature universities from across the world, including the **United States** and **Singapore**, which continue to lead the field of interdisciplinary research.

Rank	University	Country
1	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States
2	Stanford University	United States
3	National University of Singapore	Singapore
4	California Institute of Technology	United States
5	Duke University	United States
6	University of Minnesota	United States
7	Wageningen University & Research	Netherlands
8	University of California, Santa Barbara	United States
9	Nanyang Technological University	Singapore
10	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	United States

**India's Growing Role in Global Academia**

India is becoming a key player in global academic research, with many universities focusing on **interdisciplinary studies**. This involves combining **engineering, life sciences, computer science**, and other fields to solve important challenges like **healthcare, environmental sustainability, and technology innovation**.

**Cabinet Approves PAN 2.0 Project**

The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)**, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the **PAN 2.0 Project**, an upgrade of the current **PAN/TAN system**, with a financial **outlay of ₹1,435 crore**. The project aims to streamline and digitize the PAN services, enhancing taxpayer registration and service delivery. PAN 2.0 is a part of the government's Digital India vision, which focuses on improving the digital infrastructure and making the PAN a common identifier across various government systems.

**Key Features of PAN 2.0**

**Seamless Transition:** There is no need for existing PAN holders to reapply, as the current PAN cards remain valid.

**Digitization:** Introduction of QR codes on PAN cards and significant upgrades to infrastructure for better security and user experience.

**Improved Efficiency:** The system promises faster service delivery, enhanced data consistency, and eco-friendly operations by minimizing paper use.

**Centralized Ecosystem:** Consolidation of core and non-core PAN/TAN activities for smoother operation and improved validation services.

Impact on Taxpayers

**No Reapplication Needed:** Current PAN cards will remain valid, and there is no need for taxpayers to reapply for a new card.

**Enhanced User Experience:** The digital transformation ensures quicker processing, increased security, and better integration across various government services, making the PAN a unified digital business identifier.

**Free of Cost:** The upgrades, including the addition of a QR code, will be provided free of charge to taxpayers.

**55th International Film Festival of India 2024**

The 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) came to a magnificent conclusion on **28th November 2024** at the **Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium, Goa**, marking the end of a nine-day celebration of global and Indian cinema. The closing ceremony honored cinematic excellence, promoted creative dialogue, and celebrated young and seasoned filmmakers from across the globe.

This year's festival was unique, with a theme centred on **"Young Filmmakers: The Future is Now."** It showcased over 195 films, creating a platform for budding talent while paying homage to cinematic legends.

Curtains Down on a Celebratory Journey

The closing ceremony was a blend of glamour and meaningful dialogue, celebrating the magic of storytelling. From dazzling performances to award presentations, the event honoured those who made significant contributions to the art of cinema.

The night ended with the screening of the **closing film "Dry Season"** by Czech filmmaker **Bohdan Sláma**, a moving story emphasizing sustainability and human relationships.

Key Highlights from the Closing Ceremony

**1. Golden Peacock Award: Best Film**

The prestigious **Golden Peacock Award for Best Feature Film** was awarded to the Lithuanian film **"Toxic"**, directed by **Saulė Bliuvaitė**. The film, a coming-of-age narrative, received high praise for its sensitive portrayal of friendship and adolescence in a struggling socio-economic environment.

**2. Silver Peacock Awards**

- **Best Director:** Bogdan Muresanu for The New Year That Never Came (Romania).
- **Best Actor (Male):** Clément Faveau for Holy Cow (France).
- **Best Actor (Female):** Jointly awarded to Vesta Matulytė and Ieva Rupeikaitė for Toxic (Lithuania).

**3. Special Jury Award**

French filmmaker Louise Courvoisier received the **Special Jury Award** for her film Holy Cow.

**4. ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal**

The Georgian film “Crossing” by Levan Akin was honored for promoting peace and non-violence.

**5. Best Debut Film**

The award for **Best Debut Feature Film** was won by Sarah Friedland for Familiar Touch (USA).

**Honouring Indian Talent**

**1. Best Debut Director of an Indian Feature Film**

The newly introduced award for Best Debut Director of Indian Feature Film went to Navjyot Bandiwadekar for the Marathi film Gharat Ganpati. This recognition highlights IFFI’s commitment to encouraging emerging Indian filmmakers.

**2. Best Web Series (OTT)**

The Best Web Series (OTT) award was presented to the Marathi series “Lampan”, directed by Nipun Dharmadhikari.

**3. Indian Film Personality of the Year**

Actor Vikrant Massey was honored with the Indian Film Personality of the Year Award for his exceptional contributions to Indian cinema.

**Lifetime Achievement and Special Felicitations**

**1. Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award**

Australian filmmaker Phillip Noyce received the **Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award**, recognizing his outstanding contributions to global cinema.

**2. Special Felicitations**

Veteran Indian filmmaker Ramesh Sippy and celebrated actress **Jaya Prada** were felicitated for their remarkable contributions to Indian cinema.

**Voices from the Ceremony**

**Chief Minister of Goa, Pramod Sawant**

“The festival has placed Goa on the global map as a hub for cinema. Initiatives like Film Bazaar have attracted international filmmakers, and we assure seamless support for shooting in Goa.”

**Secretary, Ministry of I&B, Sanjay Jaju**

“This IFFI has been the most vibrant, celebrating young filmmakers and creative talents. The future of Indian cinema is brighter than ever.”

**Complete Winners List**

Award	Winner	Film/Project	Country
Golden Peacock (Best Film)	Saulė Bliuvaitė	Toxic	Lithuania
Silver Peacock (Best Director)	Bogdan Muresanu	The New Year That Never Came	Romania
Silver Peacock (Best Actor – Male)	Clément Faveau	Holy Cow	France
Silver Peacock (Best Actor – Female)	Vesta Matulytė, Ieva Rupeikaitė	Toxic	Lithuania
Special Jury Award	Louise Courvoisier	Holy Cow	France
Best Debut Feature Film	Sarah Friedland	Familiar Touch	USA
Best Debut Director of Indian Film	Navjyot Bandiwadekar	Gharat Ganpati	India
ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal	Levan Akin	Crossing	Georgia
Best Web Series (OTT)	Nipun Dharmadhikari	Lampan	India
Indian Film Personality of the Year	Vikrant Massey	—	India

**National Affairs**

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** participated in the **Odisha Parba 2024** celebrations held at **Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi** from **November 22-24**, organized by the **Odia Samaj**. The event highlighted **Odisha's vibrant cultural, social, and political heritage**. In his address, the Prime Minister celebrated Odisha’s **legacy**, historical contributions, and promising future. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh** inaugurated the **VISION Portal** (Viksit Bharat Initiative for Student Innovation and Outreach Network) on **21 November 2024** in **New Delhi**. Developed by the **Utsav Foundation**, a non-profit organization based in **Gurugram**, the portal aims to uplift **underprivileged youth** through **education, skill development, and sustainable livelihoods**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Union Cabinet**, led by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, approved the **One Nation One Subscription (ONOS)** scheme, allocating **₹6,000 crore** for **2025-2027**. The initiative aims to provide **seamless access** to scholarly articles for **1.8 crore students, faculty, and researchers** across **6,300 government-managed institutions**. This aligns with **India's ViksitBharat@2047 vision, NEP 2020, and the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)**. Access will be managed digitally via the **INFLIBNET platform** under the **UGC**. ([Click here to read article](#))



- The **Government of India** launched the **National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)** with a ₹2,481 crore allocation, approved by the **Union Cabinet** on **November 25, 2024**. The scheme aims to promote **natural farming** for **1 crore farmers** and cover **750,000 hectares** over two years. It integrates past initiatives like **Bhartiya Prakratik Krishi Paddhati** and **Gobardhan Mission** to promote **Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF)** and locally adapted methods. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Union Minister for Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, launched **The TeacherApp**, a digital platform developed by **Bharti Airtel Foundation** to empower educators. The app offers **260+ hours** of digital content, including **courses, videos, podcasts, and live expert sessions**. It aligns with the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** to enhance **pedagogical skills, foster creativity, and improve classroom engagement**. Key features include **teaching kits** with 900+ hours of content and **interactive webinars**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan** launched the third edition of the **"Nayi Chetna – Pahal Badlaav Ki"** campaign on November 25, 2024, to combat gender-based violence in India. Organized by DAY-NRLM, the month-long initiative aims to raise awareness, promote community engagement, and strengthen victim support systems across all states and UTs, running until December 23, 2024. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Ministry of Tourism promotes **India's tourism potential** globally, with specific initiatives to boost tourism in **states like Himachal Pradesh**. It utilizes various **platforms and strategies** to enhance India's visibility as a top tourist destination. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **26th November 2024**, **President Droupadi Murmu** unveiled the **Sanskrit and Maithili translations** of the **Indian Constitution** in New Delhi, marking **Samvidhan Diwas** and the **75th anniversary** of its adoption. The event celebrated India's **linguistic diversity** and reaffirmed the Constitution's importance as the nation's guiding framework. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian government** has extended the **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** until **31st March 2028** with a renewed focus under **Atal Innovation Mission 2.0**. Approved by the **Union Cabinet** on **25th November 2024**, the initiative aims to fill gaps in the **innovation ecosystem, promote inclusivity, and improve entrepreneurial outcomes**, building on its original mission launched in 2016 to foster **innovation and entrepreneurship**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Union Minister Smt. Annapurna Devi** launched the **"Bal Vivah Mukta Bharat"** campaign in New Delhi, aiming to **eradicate child marriage** and empower girls. The campaign aligns with **Viksit Bharat** by 2047 and includes the launch of the **Child Marriage Free Bharat Portal**, an online platform for reporting child marriage incidents and enforcing the **Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006**. The initiative supports **education, health, and safety** for girls. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **13th National Seed Congress (NSC) 2024**, inaugurated virtually by **Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan** on **November 28**, is being held at the **International Rice Research Institute South Asia Regional Centre (ISARC)** in **Varanasi**. The three-day event brings together over **700 delegates** to discuss **innovation, collaboration, and strategies** to enhance the **Indian and global seed sectors**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Ministry of Tourism** has approved **40 projects** worth over **Rs 3,295 crore** to promote sustainable tourism and reduce overcrowding at popular sites. These projects, spanning **23 states**, aim to transform lesser-known destinations into iconic tourist spots. The projects were selected from **87 proposals** received under the **Special Assistance to States/Union Territories for Capital Investment (SASCI)** guidelines and will be funded through **long-term interest-free loans**. This initiative focuses on enhancing **tourism infrastructure** and stimulating local economies. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **India International Science Festival (IISF) 2024** will be held at **IIT Guwahati** from **November 30 to December 3, 2024**, marking the first time the event is hosted in **North East India**. Organized by the **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)** and coordinated by **CSIR-NIIST**, the festival focuses on **science-society engagement and interdisciplinary collaboration**. The theme, **"Transforming India into an S&T driven Global Manufacturing Hub,"** aligns with India's vision to integrate **science, technology, and industrial growth** for global leadership. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** has received **28 proposals** from **23 states** for developing new cities, in line with the **central government's initiative** to address urban expansion. This follows a **commitment made in February 2021** to create eight new cities, with an allocated **Rs 8,000 crore** for their development. Each city will receive **Rs 1,000 crore**, and the proposals are under review by an expert committee to ensure quality and adherence to **15th Finance Commission** guidelines. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** revealed that **Telangana, Karnataka, and Maharashtra** have reported the highest number of **cybercrime cases** in the past three years, with **Telangana** leading. Between 2020-2022, **Telangana** recorded **30,596 cases**, **Karnataka 31,433**, and **Maharashtra 19,307**. To tackle this, the **Central Government** has introduced a **13-pronged strategy** to strengthen **cybercrime detection, investigation, and prosecution**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Indian Railways** launched the **'Sanraksha' mobile app** to enhance passenger safety by training and building the capacity of railway staff. After a successful pilot in the **Nagpur division**, the app is being rolled out across 16 divisions and will eventually be implemented nationwide. Key features include **data analytics, AI integration, smart learning, and real-time feedback** to improve **frontline safety staff** performance. Developed by **Dilip Singh**, the app aims to create a more secure environment for travelers. ([Click here to read article](#))

- India has been re-elected to the **United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)** for the **2025-2026 term**, emphasizing its continued commitment to **global peace and stability**. This re-election highlights India's role as a **founding member** and major **contributor** to UN **peacekeeping** efforts, reaffirming its ongoing engagement with the PBC since its establishment in **2005**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Supreme Court Collegium**, led by **Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna**, has proposed the elevation of **Delhi High Court Chief Justice Manmohan** to the Supreme Court. This recommendation comes as the court operates with **32 judges**, two short of its sanctioned strength of **34**, following the retirements of Justices **DY Chandrachud** and **Hima Kohli**. The decision was finalized by a five-member Collegium, including Justices **BR Gavai**, **Surya Kant**, **Hrishikesh Roy**, and **AS Oka**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav 2024** will be held at **Bharat Mandapam**, New Delhi, from **December 6th to 8th**, showcasing the cultural and economic potential of **Northeast India**. Organized by the **Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER)**, the event features over **250 artisans** displaying **handicrafts, handlooms, and GI-tagged products**. Key highlights include the **Eri and Muga Silk Gallery**, and technical sessions on topics like **women's leadership, IT, and healthcare**. The festival's mascot, **Purvi**, represents all eight northeastern states. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **'Hamara Samvidhan, Hamara Samman'** campaign, launched on **January 24, 2024**, celebrates **75 years of India as a Republic** and its **Constitution**. Aimed at reaffirming commitment to the Constitution and raising awareness about **legal rights and duties**, the campaign features **regional events** and utilizes the **'Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman Portal'** (launched on **July 16, 2024**) as a key resource for **constitutional rights, legal literacy, and fundamental duties**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Gyan-Kumbh 2024**, organized by **Siksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas**, was held at **Pondicherry University** from **November 21st to 23rd, 2024**. The event focused on **transformative educational philosophies, sustainability, and human unity**, with the **Auroville Foundation** showcasing its vision of **human unity and sustainable living**. Auroville's stall attracted educational leaders, and representatives **Dr. Mollika Ganguly** and **Ms. Vishnupriya** engaged visitors with insights into Auroville's innovative educational approach. ([Click here to read article](#))
- For the first time, **Jammu and Kashmir (J&K)** observed **Constitution Day (Samvidhan Diwas)** on **November 26, 2024**, marking the **75th anniversary** of India's **Constitution**. The event highlighted core values of **justice, equality, and fraternity**, with **Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha** leading the celebrations, emphasizing the region's **integration** into the national framework. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Supreme Court** upheld the **Uttar Pradesh government's decision to acquire land** urgently for the development of the **Yamuna Expressway**. The Court justified the use of **urgency provisions** under **Sections 17(1) and 17(4)** of the **Land Acquisition Act, 1894**, allowing the **Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA)** to proceed without waiting for **objections** from landowners. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Amara Raja Infra**, part of the **Amara Raja Group**, has launched **India's first green hydrogen fuelling station** in **Leh, Ladakh** for **NTPC Ltd**. The station, producing **80 kg of green hydrogen daily**, supports **NTPC's green mobility initiatives** under the **National Hydrogen Energy Mission**. Inaugurated by **Union Power Minister Manohar Lal**, it will fuel **hydrogen fuel cell buses** and contribute to the development of **hydrogen infrastructure** in India, marking a key step towards **emission-free transport**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **International Gita Mahotsav** celebrates the birth of the **Bhagavad Gita**, marking Lord Krishna's divine discourse to Arjuna on the battlefield of **Kurukshetra** over **5152 years** ago. In 2024, the event will run from **November 28 to December 15** and take place in **Kurukshetra, Haryana**, aligning with the **Shukla Paksha Ekadashi** of the **Margashirsha month** in the Hindu lunar calendar. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Gujarat government** launched the **Cottage and Rural Industries Policy 2024-29** to strengthen the cottage industry, preserve handicrafts, and boost its market presence. The policy focuses on **increased credit support, infrastructure development**, and promoting local products through initiatives like **One District One Product (ODOP)** and **GI tagging** for intellectual property protection. The policy was announced by **Ministers Balvantsinh Rajput and Jagdish Panchal** in **Gandhinagar**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### States in the News

- The **Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly** approved a bill on **November 21, 2024**, to **abolish the garbage tax** introduced by the previous **YSRCP government**. Championed by **Municipal Administration Minister P. Narayana**, the move aims to ease **financial pressure on citizens** and investigate potential **contractor benefits** tied to the tax. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Hemant Soren** is set to take oath as the **Chief Minister of Jharkhand** on **November 28**, after meeting **Governor Santosh Kumar Gangawar** to stake his claim to form the government. This follows the victory of the **INDIA bloc**, comprising **Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), Congress, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), and CPI (ML)**, in the recent state elections. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio** inaugurated new facilities at **Naga Heritage Village, Kisama**, ahead of the **25th Hornbill Festival**. The enhancements include the **International Morung** for cultural exchange, a **Lodge/Dormitory** for cultural troupes, a **Handloom & Craft Pavilion** showcasing Naga crafts, a **medical booth** with cash vending facilities, a **Tourism Department Lounge** for VIPs, and a **Toyota Ki Display Area**. The event also marked the inclusion of the **USA** as a new partner country. ([Click here to read article](#))
- A **deep depression** over the **Southwest Bay of Bengal** is expected to intensify into **Cyclone Fengal** and make landfall between **Karaikal** and **Mahabalipuram** on **November 30**, bringing **heavy rainfall** and **strong winds** to **Tamil Nadu** and **Puducherry**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Odisha government** has approved **20 major investment projects** worth **Rs 1.36 lakh crore** across nine sectors, including **steel, chemicals, aluminium, green energy, aviation fuel, apparel, power, and cement**. These projects, approved by the **High-Level Clearance Authority (HLCA)** led by **Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi**, will create over **74,350 jobs** and boost the state's **industrial and infrastructural development**. The initiative strengthens Odisha's position as a key hub for **industrial growth**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate the **Rising Rajasthan Global Summit** at the **Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Center (JECC)** on **December 9, 2024**. The three-day event (December 9-11) aims to **boost industrial growth** and attract investments to **Rajasthan**. **Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma** highlighted the summit's role in accelerating the state's **economic trajectory** under Modi's leadership. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **12th Edition of the International Tourism Mart (ITM)** began on **November 27, 2024**, in **Kaziranga, Assam**, highlighting the tourism potential of **Northeast India**. Inaugurated by **Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**, with **Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sharma** and **Arunachal Pradesh CM Pema Khandu** in attendance, the event aims to promote the region's **cultural, natural, and biodiversity-rich** tourism, fostering collaboration among **tourism professionals, buyers, sellers, and government agencies**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Gujarat's '**Gharchola**' handicraft has been awarded the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag**, bringing the state's total to **27 GI tags**, with **23 for handicrafts**. Traditionally worn in **Hindu and Jain weddings**, Gharchola is recognized for its rich cultural significance and vibrant colors. The craft has evolved with modern designs while maintaining its traditional appeal, and its popularity is growing, with increased availability at **Garvi Gurjari** sales centers in Gujarat. ([Click here to read article](#))

## International Affairs

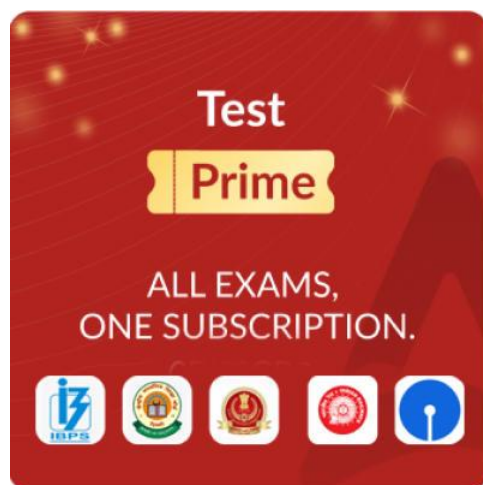
- **Yamandu Orsi**, a former **history teacher** and **mayor of Canelones**, has been elected **Uruguay's president** with **49.8%** of the vote in the **November 2024 runoff**. Representing the **center-left Broad Front coalition**, Orsi defeated **Alvaro Delgado** of the **conservative National Party**. His victory signals a shift back to **center-left governance** after five years of conservative rule, promising **change** while maintaining Uruguay's **moderate ethos**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Sri Lanka's **Central Bank (CBSL)** has introduced a single **Overnight Policy Rate (OPR)** of **8%** to support the country's recovery post-financial crisis. This move replaces the previous system of **Standing Deposit Facility Rate (SDFR)** and **Standing Lending Facility Rate (SLFR)**, signaling a shift in the **monetary policy** framework amidst ongoing **debt restructuring**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **first round of the India-Japan Dialogue on Economic Security, Strategic Trade, and Technology** took place in **Tokyo** on **November 27, 2024**. Co-chaired by **Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri** (India) and **Vice Minister Masataka Okano** (Japan), the dialogue focused on enhancing **bilateral cooperation** in **economic security, supply chain resilience, and emerging technologies**, marking a significant step in strengthening the **India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India and **Bosnia & Herzegovina** held their **4th Foreign Office Consultations (FOC)** in **Sarajevo**, led by **Arun Kumar Sahu** (India) and **Tarik Bukvic** (Bosnia). Discussions focused on strengthening **bilateral political ties, trade and investment, scientific collaboration, and cultural relations** through **student exchanges** and **youth programs**. The two sides reviewed **regional developments** and discussed global issues, including cooperation in **BRICS, UN, EU, and NAM**. These consultations are part of efforts to celebrate **30 years of diplomatic ties** in 2025 and deepen multi-faceted relations. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian and Sri Lankan Navies** conducted a successful **anti-narcotics operation** in the **Arabian Sea**, seizing **500 kg of crystal methamphetamine** from two **Sri Lankan-flagged fishing vessels** on **November 24-25, 2024**. The operation, based on inputs from the Sri Lankan Navy, highlights the growing **cooperation** between the two nations in combating **transnational crimes**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar** inaugurated the new **Indian Embassy Chancery in Rome**, emphasizing the **historical ties** and **maritime connections** between **India** and **Italy**. The inauguration strengthens the growing **India-Italy partnership** and enhances the Embassy's capacity to serve the **Indian diaspora**, reflecting India's expanding **global presence** and **diplomatic outreach**. ([Click here to read article](#))



- Australia has introduced a **world-first legislation** banning children under **16** from social media platforms like **TikTok**, **Facebook**, and **Instagram** to protect minors from online harm. The law imposes fines of up to **AUD 50 million** for non-compliance, with platforms given one year to implement changes. While praised for enhancing **child safety**, critics express concerns about potential **privacy risks** and unintended harm to vulnerable youth. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Agreements/MoUs Signed

- The **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** has signed an **MoU** with the **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** to promote **commerce-based skill courses**, particularly in the **Banking, Financial Services, and Insurance (BFSI)** sector. The collaboration aims to equip students with **industry-aligned competencies**, enhancing **employability** and bridging the gap between **academic learning** and **professional requirements**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India has signed the **Riyadh Design Law Treaty (DLT)**, a landmark agreement adopted by **WIPO** member states after nearly **20 years of negotiations**. The treaty aims to **harmonize industrial design registration** procedures globally, enhancing **accessibility** and **efficiency** for applicants and promoting **equitable access to intellectual property (IP)** protection across jurisdictions. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India and the **United Kingdom** have signed a **framework agreement to co-design and co-produce electric propulsion systems** for future warships, strengthening their **strategic defense collaboration**. This initiative aligns with the broader **India-UK partnership** and focuses on **indigenous development** of advanced naval technologies. The **Statement of Intent (SoI)** outlines the roadmap for collaboration, particularly for projects like **Landing Platform Docks** to be built in Indian shipyards. ([Click here to read article](#))



### Books and Authors

- **HarperCollins India** has released **Beyond the Higgs Boson: The W Boson and Dr. Ashutosh Kotwal's Quest for the Unknown**, a biography written by his mother, **Manik Kotwal**, and translated by **Jerry Pinto**. The book chronicles the journey of **Dr. Ashutosh Kotwal**, an Indian physicist pivotal in **Higgs boson** and **W boson** research, offering a deeply personal perspective on his groundbreaking achievements. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Amitava Kumar's My Beloved Life** tells the story of **Jadunath "Jadu" Kunwar** from a small village in **Bihar**, and his daughter **Jugnu**, as they navigate **love, loss, and personal growth** in a changing India. The novel, set against India's **political and historical events**, follows Jadu's journey from hardship and loss to becoming a **history professor in Patna**. His life reflects the resilience of ordinary people amidst India's transformation, from the **pre-Partition era** to the **Emergency** in the 1970s. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Banking/Economy/Business News

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** and the **Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA)** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to promote the use of **local currencies—Indian Rupee (INR) and Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR)—in cross-border transactions**. Signed by **RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das** and **MMA Governor Ahmed Munawar**, the MoU aims to enhance **bilateral trade**, reduce **transaction costs**, and optimize **settlement times**, enabling **exporters and importers** to invoice and settle payments in their respective **domestic currencies**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **IndusInd Bank** and **UNICEF** have launched a strategic initiative under the bank's **CSR program** to promote **Disaster Resilient Communities** and **Climate Risk-Informed Administrative Systems**. The program aims to enhance climate-informed frameworks and build resilience against climate-induced disasters in five districts: **Dharashiv (Maharashtra)**, **Begusarai (Bihar)**, **Virudhunagar (Tamil Nadu)**, **Baran (Rajasthan)**, and **Bahraich (Uttar Pradesh)**. This effort is part of the bank's **Holistic Rural Development** initiative, reflecting its commitment to **community upliftment** and **environmental sustainability**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** has joined the **Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF)**, marking a key step in its **climate action journey**. This move aligns with **global standards for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions accounting** and the **RBI's draft framework on climate-related financial risk disclosures**, reflecting PNB's commitment to **sustainability** and **climate transparency**. ([Click here to read article](#))



- The **Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB)** has recommended **Binod Kumar**, currently **Executive Director of Punjab National Bank (PNB)**, as the next **Managing Director and CEO of Indian Bank**. Kumar is set to succeed **S L Jain**, who will retire next month. The decision follows a thorough selection process involving **15 candidates**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **S&P Global Ratings** maintained **India's GDP growth forecast for FY25 at 6.8%**, but revised **FY26 down to 6.7% from 6.9%**. The agency raised its **inflation projection for FY25 to 4.6%**, citing persistent **food inflation** and **supply shocks** due to **climate factors**. The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, tasked with maintaining **4% ± 2% inflation**, is expected to cut **policy rates** only once this fiscal year, with the **repo rate** steady at **6.5%** since February 2023. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Canara HSBC Life Insurance** has launched **OmniGen AI**, a groundbreaking **generative AI solution** designed to optimize **risk evaluation in underwriting**. Powered by **Amazon Web Services (AWS)**, the system helps underwriters make faster, more accurate decisions by leveraging a comprehensive set of data points. The AI-driven models aim to **reduce errors**, improve **consistency**, and accelerate **policy issuance**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India has signed a **historic Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA)** with **Switzerland, Iceland, Norway, and Liechtenstein** (forming the **European Free Trade Association (EFTA)**). The agreement grants India access to **99.6% of EFTA's market**, with projections of **\$100 billion in FDI** and **1 million direct jobs** over the next 15 years. It aims to boost India's **global market position** and support initiatives like **"Make in India"** and **"Atmanirbhar Bharat."** ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** established a **strategy cell in Coimbatore** to help **manufacturing SMEs** develop sustainable growth strategies and compete globally. The cell offers **expert mentorship**, strategic advice, and support for **6 to 12 months** to help businesses scale. The initiative aims to make local industries **global players** with tailored support from a team of **six experts**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** has approved **Alphabet Inc.'s subsidiary, Shoreline International Holdings LLC**, to acquire a stake in **Walmart-owned Flipkart**. This follows **Flipkart's May 2024 funding round**, where **Google** invested **\$350 million** of the **\$1 billion** raised. Additionally, CCI approved **MUFG Bank Ltd.'s** acquisition of an additional stake in **DMI Finance**, raising MUFG's shareholding to **20%**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- In **FY24**, the Union Government collected **₹16,398 crore** in **GST** from **health and life insurance services**, marking a **680% increase** from **FY20**. However, this was a slight decrease from **₹16,770 crore** in **FY23**. **Life insurance** contributed **₹8,135 crore**, while **health insurance** contributed **₹8,263 crore**. Additionally, **₹2,045 crore** was raised from **reinsurance services**, with **₹561 crore** from life reinsurance and **₹1,484 crore** from health reinsurance. **Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana** and **Jan Arogya Bima Policy** remain exempt from **GST**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's **milk production** reached **239.30 million tonnes** in 2023-24, a **3.78% increase**, maintaining its position as the world's largest producer. The growth, driven by better **milch cattle productivity** and higher **per capita milk availability**, was highlighted by **Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh** on **National Milk Day**. **Per capita milk availability** rose from **459 gm** to **471 gm** per day. Despite a slight slowdown, India continues to lead globally in milk production and aims to boost **milk exports**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **State Bank of India (SBI)** raised **₹50,000 crore** in **FY25** through three types of domestic bonds: **AT1 Bonds** (₹5,000 crore), **Tier 2 Bonds** (₹15,000 crore), and **Long-Term Bonds** (₹30,000 crore). This significant achievement underscores SBI's strong financial position and commitment to **economic growth, financial inclusion**, and supporting **rural entrepreneurs**, including **women and small businesses**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Union Minister **Piyush Goyal** launched the **CII Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) and Regulatory Affairs Portal** at the **2nd DPIIT-CII National Conference** in New Delhi. The portal provides **real-time updates** on government and CII initiatives to improve **business efficiency, transparency, and accountability**. It includes a member dashboard to track suggestions and progress, supporting the transformation of India's business ecosystem. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's **GDP growth** slowed to **5.4%** in Q2 FY 2024-25, down from **6.7%** in Q1, marking the lowest growth in **seven quarters**. **Gross Value Added (GVA)** growth also dropped to **5.8%** from **6.8%** in Q1. Compared to **Q2 FY 2023-24**, when GDP grew at **8.1%**, the current slowdown highlights significant **economic challenges**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India has secured a **\$98 million loan** from the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** to boost **horticulture productivity** through **plant health management**. The funding supports the **Atmanirbhar Clean Plant Programme (CPP)**, focusing on **disease-free planting material** systems to improve crop yield, quality, and climate resilience. The project, led by the **Ministry of Agriculture**, involves collaboration with the **National Horticulture Board, Indian Council of Agricultural Research**, and other stakeholders. Key objectives include setting up **clean plant centres** and enhancing regulatory frameworks for plant health. ([Click here to read article](#))
- India's **core sector growth** rose to **3.1% in October**, marking a recovery after a contraction in August. This growth, driven by coal, refinery products, and steel, follows a **2.4% increase** in September. The core sector, which makes up **40%** of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), showed signs of improvement despite challenges in crude oil and natural gas. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Appointments/Resignations

- **Pankaj Tripathi** has been appointed as the **festival ambassador** for the **Arunachal Rang Mahotsav 2024**, a prestigious international theatre festival. This recognition highlights his contribution to **Indian cinema** and the growing cultural significance of **Arunachal Pradesh**. The **Arunachal Rang Mahotsav**, running from **November 29, 2024 to December 5, 2024**, is the largest theatre festival in **Northeast India**, celebrating the state's rich cultural heritage and **theatre traditions**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Balasubramanian**, an experienced **Indian Foreign Service (IFS)** officer from the **1998 batch**, has been appointed as the next **High Commissioner of India** to the **Republic of Maldives**. His appointment highlights India's strategic focus on strengthening ties with the **Maldives**, a key partner in the **Indian Ocean Region**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Shri Dinesh Bhatia**, a **1992-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS)** officer, has been appointed as the next **Ambassador of India** to **Brazil**. The **Ministry of External Affairs** announced the appointment on **November 25, 2024**. Bhatia brings extensive **diplomatic experience** from his roles in multiple countries and key positions. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Dr. Jaiteerth Raghavendra Joshi** has been appointed as the new **Chief of BrahMos Aerospace**, known for the **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile system**. With over **three decades** of experience, he has made significant contributions to **missile technology, non-destructive testing (NDT), and industry professional development**, emphasizing **innovation and excellence** in India's **defense sector**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA)** has appointed **Dr. Thomas Schinecker**, CEO of **Roche**, as its new **President**, effective **January 1, 2025**. **Rob Davis**, CEO of **MSD**, will serve as **Vice-President**. This leadership change follows the completion of **Dr. Albert Bourla's** term as President. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Defence News

- The **Indian Naval Sailing Vessel (INSV) Tarini** began the second leg of the **Navika Sagar Parikrama-II (NSP-II)** on **November 24, 2024**, after being flagged off by **Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi** on **October 2, 2024**. The expedition, with a **two-woman naval crew**, aims to circumnavigate the globe. This leg, covering **3,400 nautical miles** from **Fremantle, Australia to Lyttelton, New Zealand**, underscores India's commitment to **gender equality, maritime cooperation, and women's empowerment**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** will host the **11th edition of SAREX-24** (National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercises & Workshop) in **Kochi** from **November 27 to 30, 2024**. Organized under the **National Maritime Search and Rescue (NMSAR) Board**, the event aims to enhance India's **maritime search and rescue (SAR)** capabilities through **collaboration** with national and international stakeholders. **Rajesh Kumar**

**Singh, IAS (Defence Secretary)**, will inaugurate the event. ([Click here to read article](#))

- **Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi** presented the prestigious **President's Colours** to the **26th and 27th Battalions of the Mechanised Infantry Regiment** and the **20th and 22nd Battalions of the Brigade of The Guards** at a ceremony in **Ahilyanagar**. This significant achievement honors these units as the youngest battalions of the arm, with the event attended by veterans, military officials, and civil dignitaries. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Indian Army launched "**Eklavya**", an online learning platform to enhance officers' training, aligning with the 2024 theme, "**Year of Technology Absorption**." Developed in collaboration with **BISAG-N** at zero cost, the platform integrates with the **Army Data Network** and offers **96+ courses** from **17 Category 'A' training establishments**. **Eklavya** supports continuous professional development while optimizing training resources, contributing to the Army's broader "**Decade of Transformation**". ([Click here to read article](#))
- India successfully tested the **K-4 nuclear-capable ballistic missile** with a **3,500 km** range from the **INS Arighaat** submarine in the **Bay of Bengal**. This test enhances India's **nuclear deterrence** and positions it among the few nations with the capability to launch **submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs)**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian Coast Guard** conducted **SAREX-2024**, the 11th National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise, off the **Kochi** coast. Inaugurated by **Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh**, the two-day event focused on **sea drills, workshops, and search-and-rescue** collaboration. It supported India's **SAGAR** vision and involved **38 international observers**, reinforcing India's role in global maritime **security**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Awards and Recognitions

- The **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's 'One Health' Pavilion** at the **43rd India International Trade Fair (IITF)** in **New Delhi** was awarded a **Special Appreciation Medal** for its innovative design and impactful presentation of India's **healthcare initiatives**. This recognition highlights the Ministry's commitment to a **holistic approach** to health, integrating **human, animal, plant, and environmental well-being**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Indian Chemical Council (ICC)** was awarded the prestigious **2024 OPCW-The Hague Award** at the **29th Session of the Conference of the States Parties (CSP)** in **The Hague** on **November 25, 2024**. This marks the first time a **chemical industry body** has received the award, highlighting India's commitment to **chemical safety** and compliance with the **Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)**. **Mr. D. Sothi Selvam**, Director General of ICC, accepted the award from **Ambassador Fernando Arias** (OPCW Director-General). ([Click here to read article](#))

### Summits and Conferences News

- The **United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29)** in **Baku** ended with a controversial agreement to **triple climate finance** for developing nations to **\$300 billion annually by 2035**, far short of the **\$1.3 trillion** requested by these nations until 2030. The deal faced strong opposition, particularly from **India**, which rejected the proposed goal as **“abysmally poor”** and criticized the **unfair distribution** of funds. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **Global Cooperative Conference 2024** was inaugurated by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** at **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi**, marking the launch of the **United Nations' International Year of Cooperatives 2025**. The event highlighted the role of cooperatives in global development, particularly for **rural populations, women, and farmers**. Key moments included the release of a **commemorative postal stamp** and an address by **Union Home Minister Amit Shah**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Ranks and Reports

- India has climbed 11 spots to **49th** in the **2024 Network Readiness Index (NRI)**, reflecting significant progress in **network infrastructure, digital capabilities, and technological advancements**. India improved its score from **49.93** in 2023 to **53.63** in 2024, ranking **1st** globally in **AI scientific publications, AI talent concentration, and ICT services exports**. The country also ranked highly in **5G launch, broadband expansion, and telecom infrastructure growth**, positioning itself as a leader in **digital transformation and future telecom technologies** like **Bharat 6G**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Sports News

- **Rishabh Pant** made history by becoming the **costliest player** in IPL history, fetching ₹27 crore from **Lucknow Super Giants (LSG)**, despite mixed white-ball performances. His move was influenced by uncertainty over his **captaincy** at **Delhi Capitals**. **Shreyas Iyer** followed closely with ₹26.75 crore, while **Venkatesh Iyer** was a surprise, returning to **Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR)** for ₹23.75 crore, showcasing the franchise's faith in him. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Vaibhav Suryavanshi**, a 13-year-old cricketer from **Bihar**, made history by becoming the youngest player ever signed at an IPL auction. On **Day 2 of the IPL 2025 Mega Auction in Jeddah**, **Rajasthan Royals** secured him for ₹1.10 crore, outbidding **Delhi Capitals** in a fierce bidding war. This remarkable achievement has positioned Suryavanshi as a promising **rising star** in Indian cricket. ([Click here to read article](#))

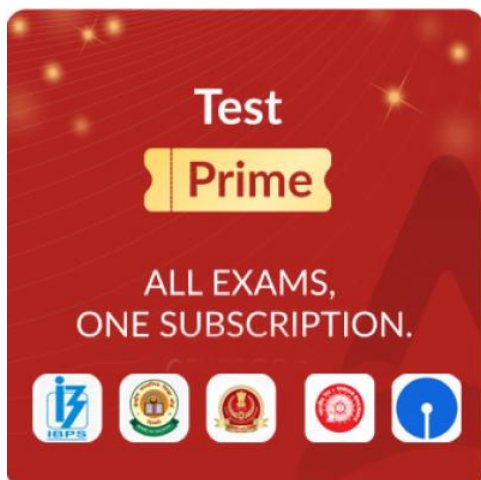
- On **November 24, 2024**, **Anders Antonsen** made history as the first **Danish player** to win the **China Masters men's singles title**, defeating **Jonatan Christie** (Indonesia) 21-15, 21-13. This marked Antonsen's **fourth BWF Tour title** of 2024, securing his top spot in the **Race to Finals** rankings. Despite the defeat, **Christie** earned a spot in the **BWF Tour Finals** in **Huangzhou**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Reetika Hooda** made history by winning the **gold medal** in the **women's 76kg category** at the **World Military Championships**, becoming the second **Indian woman** to achieve this feat. This victory follows **Jyoti Sihag's** gold in the **55kg category**, marking a significant debut for **India's women's wrestling contingent** at the prestigious event. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **40th edition of the Governor's Gold Cup International Football Tournament** concluded on **November 24, 2024**, at **Paljor Stadium** in **Gangtok**, with **NorthEast United FC** winning in a dramatic **4-3 penalty shootout** over **Gangtok Himalayan SC**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **November 25, 2024**, **India** achieved a historic **295-run victory** over **Australia** in the **first Test** of the **Border-Gavaskar Trophy** at **Optus Stadium, Perth**. This stunning win gave India a **1-0 lead** in the series and shattered a **47-year-old record**, marking India's **biggest victory against Australia** in Australia in terms of runs, surpassing the previous record of **222 runs** set in **Melbourne** in 1977. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Emma McKeon**, Australia's most decorated Olympian, announced her retirement on **November 25, 2024**, at age 30. She leaves a remarkable legacy with **14 Olympic medals—six golds, three silvers, and five bronzes—**earned across **three Olympics: Rio 2016, Tokyo 2020, and Paris 2024**. McKeon's **historic seven-medal performance at Tokyo 2020** remains the most by a female swimmer at a single Games and tied for the most by any female athlete in one Olympics. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The **National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)** has imposed a **four-year suspension** on Olympic bronze medallist **Bajrang Punia** for violating the **anti-doping code**. The suspension follows his refusal to provide a **urine sample** during **selection trials** on **March 10, 2024**. This decision extends the **provisional suspension** from April 2024, barring him from **competitive wrestling and coaching opportunities abroad**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Divith Reddy**, an **eight-year-old** from **Hyderabad**, won the **Under-8 World Cadets Chess Championship**, securing **9/11 points** and the **gold medal** on tie-break over fellow Indian **Sattwik Swain**, who earned silver. **Ziming Guo** of **China** took the bronze with 9/11 points. This victory highlights **India's growing dominance** in junior chess. ([Click here to read article](#))



- **Max Verstappen** secured his **fourth consecutive Drivers' Championship title** despite finishing **fifth** in the **2024 Las Vegas Grand Prix**. The race, held on **November 24** in the **United States**, saw **George Russell** of **Mercedes** emerge victorious, with **Lewis Hamilton** finishing second. Verstappen's dominance continued, as his commanding lead in the points table ensured his historic fourth title, making him the **sixth driver** in history to achieve this feat. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Siddarth Kaul**, a 34-year-old fast bowler, announced his retirement from Indian cricket after a 17-year career. Kaul, who played six international matches (3 ODIs, 3 T20Is), was part of India's **Under-19 World Cup winning team** in 2008 and had **IPL success** with **Sunrisers Hyderabad**, where he was the joint-highest wicket-taker in 2018. He intends to explore **opportunities overseas** after achieving his childhood dream of representing India. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Schemes and Committees News

- The **Delhi government** expanded its **old-age pension scheme** to include 80,000 more senior citizens, raising the total beneficiaries to **5.3 lakh**. **Arvind Kejriwal** launched an **online portal** to streamline applications. Seniors aged 60-69 will receive **Rs 2,000** monthly, and those 70+ will get **Rs 2,500**. The scheme also introduces a **Rs 5,000** pension for **differently-abled** individuals. Eligibility includes being a **Delhi resident, 60+ years old**, with an **annual family income** under **Rs 1 lakh**, and no other government pension. ([Click here to read article](#))
- On **December 9**, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will launch the '**Bima Sakhi Yojana**' in **Panipat, Haryana**, to empower women by creating job opportunities in the **insurance sector**. Under this scheme, women will work as **LIC agents**, selling insurance and earning income. This initiative aims to promote **women's empowerment**, **economic independence**, and **financial literacy** across India. ([Click here to read article](#))



- The government has issued **14 lakh Ayushman Vay Vandana cards** to senior citizens aged 70 and above under the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), as of November 25, 2024. This initiative aims to provide comprehensive healthcare coverage to vulnerable populations, benefiting approximately 6 crore individuals from 4.5 crore families. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Science and Technology News

- An international team of astronomers, led by **Kathleen Charlton** from the **University of Cape Town**, discovered a new **giant radio galaxy (GRG)** using the **MeerKAT radio telescope** in the **Cosmological Evolution Survey (COSMOS)** field. The discovery, published on **November 11, 2024**, reveals **MGTC J100022.85+031520.4**, a galaxy with remarkable properties that offer insights into **galaxy evolution** and **radio source formation**. GRGs are rare, massive structures known for their immense size and powerful emissions. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **TakeMe2Space (TM2Space)**, a **Hyderabad-based** space tech company, will launch **India's first AI laboratory in space**, **MOI-TD**, aboard **ISRO's PSLV C60 rocket** in December 2024. The mission will enable **real-time in-orbit data processing**, reducing **data transmission costs** and expanding space research access. Developed with support from **IN-SPACE Technical Centre**, the initiative aims to **democratize space technology** and accelerate **India's space innovation**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **ISRO** will launch the **ESA's Proba-3 mission** on **December 4, 2024**, using the **PSLV-XL rocket**. The mission will study the **Sun's corona** through **precision formation flying** with two satellites: the **Occluder Spacecraft** (200 kg) and the **Coronagraph Spacecraft** (340 kg). This mission, the first of its kind, aims to create an **artificial solar eclipse** to observe the Sun's outer atmosphere, showcasing a **technological breakthrough** and **international collaboration** in space exploration. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **ISRO** has announced several **groundbreaking initiatives**, including the **Shukrayaan Venus Mission** set for launch in **2028** to explore **Venus's atmosphere and surface**. Other plans include advancements in **lunar, Mars missions**, the development of **India's space station**, and upgrades to **weather and communication systems**, reflecting India's growing ambitions in **space exploration** and interplanetary studies. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Union Minister **Dr. Jitendra Singh** announced the selection of **eight startups** under the **National Quantum Mission (NQM)** and **National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NMICPS)**. These startups are driving innovations in **quantum technology**, focusing on areas like **secure communication, quantum computing, quantum sensing, and energy efficiency**. Notable startups include **QNu Labs, QPiAI India, Dimira Technologies, and Pristine Diamonds**, among others, contributing to advancements in **cryogenics, superconducting materials, and quantum applications**. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Important Days News

- November 25, the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**, raises global awareness about **violence against women and girls**. Observed annually, it urges **governments, organizations, and civil society** to take action to combat this issue. In 2024, the day marks the **25th anniversary** of its official UN designation and features a **UN Women-led campaign** to release a new **report** and highlight **best practices** for eliminating violence. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **National Milk Day** is celebrated on **November 26** in India to honor the contribution of **milk** and the **dairy industry** to the country's growth. The day marks the **birth anniversary** of **Dr. Verghese Kurien, the Father of the White Revolution** in India. ([Click here to read article](#))
- The Airports Authority of India (AAI) observes **Aviation Safety Awareness Week** from **November 25 to 29** to emphasize its commitment to aviation safety. Led by Chairman Vipin Kumar, the initiative promotes a strong safety culture across airports and Air Navigation Services in India, aligning with global safety standards. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People** is observed on **29 November** annually, established by the **UN General Assembly** in **1977**. The day emphasizes the **inalienable rights** of the Palestinian people and calls for support in achieving **peace**. It marks the adoption of **UN Resolution 181** on this date in **1947**, which proposed the **Partition Plan for Palestine**. The day highlights the international community's responsibility to uphold **justice, human rights, and international law** for the Palestinian people. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **International Jaguar Day** is observed on **November 29** each year to raise awareness about the **importance** of **jaguars** (*Panthera onca*) and their **conservation**. As apex predators in the **Americas**, jaguars play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance. Established in **2018** by **Panthera** and conservation partners, the day highlights the urgent need to protect this threatened species. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare** is observed on **November 30** to honor victims of chemical warfare and reinforce global commitment to eradicating **chemical weapons**. Established during the 20th session of the **Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)**, it emphasizes principles of **peace, security, and multilateral cooperation**. The date coincides with the opening of the CWC's annual sessions, underscoring the international resolve to prevent

future chemical warfare atrocities. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Obituaries News

- **Shashikant Ruia**, co-founder and Chairman of **Essar Group**, passed away at 81 after a prolonged illness. Renowned for his **visionary leadership**, he played a key role in transforming **Essar** into a **global conglomerate**. His journey from a modest family business to a world-class enterprise reflects his **acumen, innovation, and commitment to philanthropy**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **Breyten Breytenbach**, a **South African-born poet, memoirist, and former political prisoner**, was a prominent **anti-apartheid** activist. His works captured the struggles of his time, shaped by his experiences of **exile, imprisonment, and activism**. Breytenbach passed away at **85** in **Paris**, marking the end of an era for **South African literature and anti-apartheid resistance**. ([Click here to read article](#))
- **John Tinniswood**, born in **Liverpool, UK** on **August 26, 1912**, became the world's **oldest man** after the death of **Juan Vicente Perez** in April 2023. He passed away peacefully at **112 years old** in a **care home in Southport, England** on **November 25, 2024**. Tinniswood lived through major historical events, including both **World Wars** and the **Titanic sinking**, attributing his longevity to "pure luck" and promoting **moderation** in life. ([Click here to read article](#))
- Professor **Amiya Kumar Bagchi**, a distinguished economic historian and macroeconomist, passed away on **November 28, 2024**. Known for his groundbreaking work on **India's colonial economic history**, development, and the impact of **imperialism**, Bagchi's scholarship bridged **economic theory and historical data**, influencing both economists and historians. His contributions remain vital to understanding **underdevelopment** in post-colonial India. ([Click here to read article](#))

### Miscellaneous News

- **Operation Tamarisk** was a **covert Cold War intelligence operation** involving **U.S., U.K., and French** agents. The mission targeted **Soviet troops** in **East Germany**, collecting and analyzing **discarded waste** (food scraps, letters, used toilet paper) for intelligence. The operation, known as **Tamarisk**, aimed to gain any advantage in the intense rivalry between the **United States** and the **Soviet Union**. ([Click here to read article](#))

**Static Takeaways**

Sr. No	Org/Bank/Country/State Names	Static Details
1	NADA (National Anti Doping Agency)	HQ - Delhi
2	CII ( Confederation of Indian Industry)	President - Sanjiv Puri
3	CCI (Competition of India)	Chairperson - Ravneet Kaur
4	SBI	Chairman - Challa Sreenivasulu Setty Head Office - Mumbai
5	PNB	Chairman - Shri K G Ananthakrishnan Head Office - New Delhi
6	RBI	Governor - Shashikant Das Head Office - Mumbai
7	ADB (Asian Development Bank)	President - Masatsugu Asakawa HQ - Manila, Philippines
8	ISRO	Chairman - S Somnath Head Office - Bengaluru
9	ICG (Indian Coast Guard)	DG - Vice Admiral Paramesh Sivamani
10	Switzerland	President - Vila Amherd Capital - Bern
11	Iceland	President - Halla Tomosdottir Capital - Reykjavik
12	Norway	PM - Jonas Gahr Store Capital - Oslo
13	Uruguay	President - Yamandu Orsi Capital - Montevideo
14	Bosnia and Herzegovina	President - Nermin Niksic Capital - Sarajevo
15	Sri Lanka	President - Anura Kumara Dissanayake Capital - Colombo
16	Gujarat	Governor - Acharya Devvrat CM - Bhupendra Patel Capital - Gandhinagar
17	Nagaland	Governor - Shri La Ganesan CM - Neiphiu Rio Capital - Kohima
18	Uttar Pradesh	Governor - Anandi Ben Patel CM - Yogi Adityanath Capital - Lucknow
19	Haryana	Governor - Bandaru Dattatraya CM - Nayab Singh Saini Capital - Chandigarh
20	Andhra Pradesh	Governor - S. Abdul Nazeer CM - Chandra Babu Naidu Capital - Amaravati
21	Jharkhand	Governor - Santosh Gangwar CM - Hemant Soren Capital - Ranchi