

NATIONAL

- **BrahMos Missile Unit Inaugurated in UP to Boost Defence Self-Reliance**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh virtually inaugurated BrahMos missile production facility in Lucknow under the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor. The plant will produce 80–100 supersonic cruise missiles annually, marking a major step in strengthening India's indigenous defence capabilities and addressing regional security needs.

- **Delhi Police Launches 'Nayi Disha' to Reintegrate School Dropouts**

In a progressive move towards community-focused policing, the Delhi Police has launched 'Nayi Disha – A Path Back to Learning', a new initiative to bring school dropouts back into the education system. The program seeks to reduce dropout rates and ensure continued education for underprivileged children through community outreach and support.

- **'Bharat Bodh Kendra' Inaugurated to Promote India's Cultural Heritage**

Union Minister Manohar Lal inaugurated the 'Bharat Bodh Kendra' at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi. This centre, part of the Habitat Library and Resource Centre, is dedicated to exploring and promoting India's cultural and civilisational legacy through curated collections on art, philosophy, spirituality, and history.

- **India Honoured for Digital Land Reforms at World Bank Meet**

India was named Country Champion at the World Bank Land Conference 2025 for its digital land governance efforts through SVAMITVA and Gram Manchitra, showcasing global leadership in rural property rights and decentralized planning.

- **India Inaugurates First 3nm Chip Design Centres**

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated the nation's first 3nm chip design centres in Noida and Bengaluru, set up by Renesas Electronics India. This marks a technological milestone, advancing India's self-reliance in high-end chip design under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat mission and enhancing its position in the global semiconductor ecosystem.

- **India Launches First Carbon Capture Testbeds for Cement Industry on National Technology Day**

Department of Science and Technology launched India's first cluster of five Carbon Capture and Utilisation (CCU) testbeds for the cement sector. Aimed at cutting industrial CO₂ emissions, this public-private initiative marks a major step toward India's Net Zero 2070 goal by promoting scalable, innovative decarbonization technologies through academia-industry collaboration.

- **Honduras Opens Embassy in New Delhi to Boost Ties with India**

Honduras inaugurated its embassy in New Delhi. The move aims to enhance bilateral cooperation in trade, technology, development, and climate resilience.

- **India to Launch First Manned Deep-Sea Mission 'Samudrayaan' in 2026**

India is set to embark on its first manned deep ocean mission, Samudrayaan, by 2026 using the indigenously developed submersible MATSYA 6000. The mission aims to explore depths of up to 6,000 meters to study marine biodiversity and assess oceanic resource potential.

- **Pushkar Kumbh Begins at Keshav Prayag After 12 Years**

The Pushkar Kumbh commenced Keshav Prayag in Mana village, Uttarakhand, after a 12-year interval.

- **Yala Glacier in Nepal Declared "Dead" Amid Climate Crisis**

Nepal's Yala Glacier was officially declared "dead" during a memorial ceremony in Langtang, marking the first such tribute for a glacier in Asia.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **International Nurses Day 2025: Investing in Nurses for Health and Economy**

International Nurses Day 2025 observed annually on May 12 to honor Florence Nightingale. This year's theme, "Our Nurses. Our Future. Caring for nurses strengthens economies."

- **National Technology Day 2025: Celebrating Innovation for a Sustainable Future**

India observed National Technology Day on May 11, 2025, marking the anniversary of the 1998 Pokhran nuclear tests. This year's theme, "Empowering a Sustainable Tomorrow Through Innovation".

- **International Day of Plant Health 2025: Promoting Global Food Security**

International Day of Plant Health (IDPH) observed on May 12, the highlights the vital role of plant health in ensuring food security, protecting biodiversity, and advancing sustainable development.

- **8th United Nations Global Road Safety Week: Focus on Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety**

The 8th United Nations Global Road Safety Week is being observed from May 12 to 18, 2025, with the theme #MakeWalkingSafe and #MakeCyclingSafe.

- **September 23 Declared as New Ayurveda Day**

India has officially set 23rd September as Ayurveda Day. The fixed date, aligned with the autumnal equinox, symbolizes balance in nature—reflecting Ayurveda's core philosophy—and aims to enhance global recognition, simplify observance logistics, and promote traditional medicine worldwide.

- **National Dengue Day 2025 Observed to Raise Awareness and Promote Prevention**

Observed every year on May 16, National Dengue Day aims to spread awareness about dengue prevention and control.

INTERNATIONAL

- **Taliban Suspends Chess in Afghanistan Over Religious Concerns**

Taliban in Afghanistan suspended the game of chess, citing concerns over its alignment with Islamic law. The ban has drawn international criticism from human rights and sports groups.

- **Anita Anand Becomes Canada's First Hindu Woman Foreign Minister**

Anita Anand, an Indian-origin politician, has been appointed Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs by Prime Minister Mark Carney following his April 2025 election win. She is the first Hindu woman to hold this position and took her oath on the Bhagavad Gita.

- **Denmark Launches World's First Commercial E-Methanol Plant to Fuel Green Shipping**

Denmark inaugurated the world's first commercial-scale e-methanol plant in Kasso, aiming to cut carbon emissions in shipping. Developed by European Energy and Mitsui, the plant will produce 42,000 tons of green methanol annually using renewable energy and captured CO₂.

- **Bhutan Becomes First Country to Launch Crypto-Based Tourism Payments**

Bhutan made history by becoming the first sovereign nation to integrate cryptocurrency payments into its national tourism policy. In partnership with Binance Pay and DK Bank, the Royal Government of Bhutan introduced a crypto-based payment system aimed at offering cashless convenience to international tourists.

SPORTS

- **MCA Unveils 'Rohit Sharma Stand' at Wankhede Stadium to Honour Cricket Icon**

Mumbai Cricket Association paid tribute to Rohit Sharma's stellar cricketing career by inaugurating the 'Rohit Sharma Stand' at Wankhede Stadium.

- **India Shines with Seven Medals at Archery World Cup Stage 2 in Shanghai**

India delivered an impressive performance at the Archery World Cup Stage 2 in Shanghai, winning seven medals—two golds, one silver, and four bronze—highlighting the country's growing prowess in the sport. Veteran Deepika Kumari secured her 18th World Cup medal with a bronze, while rising star Parth Salunkhe earned his first senior-level bronze. Indian archers dominated compound events with gold medals in women's individual and men's team categories, underscoring the strength of India's archery program ahead of major global competitions.

- **India Gets Its 86th Chess Grandmaster: Srihari LR Achieves Milestone**

India's chess legacy grows stronger as 19-year-old Srihari LR from Chennai becomes the country's 86th Grandmaster after earning his final norm at the Asian Individual Championship in the UAE.

- **Pankaj Advani Clinches 2025 CCI Billiards Classic Title**

India's cue sports legend Pankaj Advani secured his third CCI Billiards Classic title by defeating Dhruv Sitwala 5-2 in the final held at Mumbai's Cricket Club of India.

- **Neeraj Chopra Crosses 90m Mark, Finishes Second at 2025 Doha Diamond League**

Indian athletics, Neeraj Chopra crossed the 90m mark for the first time with a throw of 90.23m at the Doha leg of the 2025 Diamond League. He became the first Indian and only the third Asian to do so in men's javelin.

- **Praggnanandhaa Clinches First Grand Chess Tour Title**

Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa made history by winning his maiden Grand Chess Tour event — the Superbet Classic 2025 in Bucharest, Romania. He triumphed in a thrilling tiebreak against top contenders Maxime Vachier-Lagrave and Alireza Firouzja.

AWARDS

- **Brazilian Microbiologist Mariangela Hungria Wins 2025 World Food Prize**

Mariangela Hungria, a Brazilian microbiologist, has received the 2025 World Food Prize for her pioneering work on biological nitrogen fixation, which reduces the need for chemical fertilizers. Her research significantly enhanced Brazil's soybean output and supports eco-friendly agriculture by curbing environmental harm from fertilizer overuse.

- **Dr. Sukhpal Kaur Among Top 10 Finalists for Aster Guardians Global Nursing Award 2025**

Dr. Sukhpal Kaur, Principal of NINE at PGIMER, Chandigarh, has been named among the top 10 finalists for the Aster Guardians Global Nursing Award 2025, recognizing her exceptional contributions and innovation in healthcare.

APPOINTMENTS

- **Justice Surya Kant Appointed Executive Chairman of NALSA**

Justice Surya Kant, the second senior-most judge of the Supreme Court, has been appointed as the new Executive Chairman of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).

- **Ajay Kumar Appointed UPSC Chairman**

Retired IAS officer and former Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

- **Justice B.R. Gavai Appointed Next Chief Justice of India**

Supreme Court judge Justice B.R. Gavai has been appointed as the next Chief Justice of India (CJI), becoming the second person from the Scheduled Caste community to hold the post after Justice K.G. Balakrishnan.

▪ **Harvansh Chawla Appointed Chairman of BRICS Chamber of Commerce & Industry**
Harvansh Chawla, founder of K.R. Chawla & Co., has been appointed as the new Chairman of the BRICS Chamber of Commerce & Industry. With over 30 years in corporate law and trade, he is set to boost economic cooperation and innovation among BRICS nations.

▪ **Former CJI DY Chandrachud Joins NLU Delhi as Distinguished Professor**
Former Chief Justice of India, Dr. DY Chandrachud, has been appointed as a Distinguished Professor at NLU Delhi.

OBITUARIES

▪ **Padma Shri Awardee Dr. Subbanna Ayyappan Found Dead; Calls for CBI Probe Intensify**
Dr. Subbanna Ayyappan, the celebrated fisheries scientist credited with spearheading India's Blue Revolution, was found dead in the Cauvery river near Srirangapatna, Karnataka. His sudden and mysterious death has led to demands for a court-monitored CBI investigation amid suspicions of institutional corruption.

▪ **Former Uruguay President Jose Mujica Passes Away at 89**
Jose Mujica, Uruguay's former president known globally as the "world's poorest president" for his modest lifestyle, has died at 89 after battling oesophageal cancer.

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