

International

India donates 50,000 Furosemide injection ampoules to Sri Lanka.

India donated 50,000 ampoules of Furosemide injection to Sri Lanka in response to an urgent request to address a critical hospital shortage.

India has been a consistent supporter of Sri Lanka's healthcare sector, previously providing medicines, COVID-19 vaccines, and one dollar billion credit facility. The latest aid underscores India's role as a key healthcare partner.

UN chief announces new 'UN80 Initiative' to improve efficiencies amid shrinking resources, uncertainty.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has announced a new initiative aimed at improving efficiencies at the 80-year-old world organisation and making it more cost-effective.

The 'UN80 Initiative' will come up with proposals in areas of rapidly identifying efficiencies and improvements in the way the UN works.

It will also review the implementation of all mandates given to the UN by member states, which have significantly increased in recent years.

South Africa to host 1st G20 Trade & Investment Working Group meeting.

South Africa will host the first G20 Trade and Investment Working Group (TWGW) meeting under its presidency from March 18 to March 20.

The TWGW meeting, which will be held virtually, will bring together senior officials from G20 member countries as well as the European Union and the African Union.

South Africa officially assumed the presidency of the G20 in December 2024 for the year 2025 under the theme "Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability".

UAE launches maternity centres in Afghanistan to transform healthcare

The United Arab Emirates has unveiled a transformative project to establish ten state-of-the-art maternity and paediatric centres across Afghanistan.

The maternity clinics are located in Afghan provinces where the need is considered the greatest including Nangarhar, Balkh, Herat,

Ghazni, Paktika, Paktia, Kandahar, and Helmand Provinces.

Science and Technology

ISRO completes De-docking of SpaDex satellites.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully completed the undocking of two satellites, part of the Space Docking Experiment (SpaDEx) mission, marking a significant milestone in India's space exploration journey.

This advanced capability to dock and undock in space is considered pivotal for future space missions, including landing on the Moon, collecting samples and returning to Earth.

India has now become the fourth country after the USA, Russia and China to master this technology.

Important Days

International Pi Day: 14th March.

Pi Day is an annual celebration of the mathematical constant π (pi). It's observed on March 14 (3/14), as 3, 1, and 4 are the first three significant digits of π .

It's important to remember that March 14th is also the International Day of Mathematics, as proclaimed by UNESCO. This reinforces the broader significance of the day beyond just celebrating pi.

National

Govt announces 1 billion dollar fund for creators' economy, ahead of WAVES 2025

Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has announced a 1 billion-dollar fund for the creator's economy as part of the World Audio-Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) 2025.

The session, organised by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, sought to engage the international community ahead of the WAVES 2025.

PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana achieves 10 lakh rooftop solar installations.

PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, the world's largest domestic rooftop solar

initiative, has achieved a historic milestone with 10 lakh installations.

Under the initiative, over 4,770 crore rupees have also been disbursed as subsidies to over six lakh beneficiaries. Chandigarh and Daman & Diu have achieved 100 percent of their government building rooftop solar targets, leading the nation in clean energy adoption. States like Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu are also performing well, contributing significantly to the overall installation figures.

Business and Economy

RBI invites applications for self-regulatory organisation to oversee Account Aggregator Ecosystem.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has invited applications for a self-regulatory organisation (SRO) to oversee the Account Aggregator (AA) ecosystem.

The SRO-AA shall function within the overall regulatory framework for the AA ecosystem issued by the Reserve Bank.

Sports

Lakshya Sen advances to quarterfinal of All England Open Championship.

India's ace shuttler Lakshya Sen delivered a dominant performance to defeat defending champion Jonatan Christie 21-13, 21-10 and advance to the quarterfinals of the 2025 All England Championships.

With the victory, Sen secured his first quarterfinal appearance of the year, marking his best performance since the

Paris Olympics, where he reached the last eight.

India clinches 2 gold, 2 silver, 1 bronze on Day 2 of Special Olympics World Winter Games.

India won two gold, two silver, and one bronze medal on the second day of the Special Olympics World Winter Games, raising its total tally to nine.

In snowboarding, Bharti (F25) won gold in the Novice Slalom Final, her second of the tournament, while Harshita Thakur (F26) claimed bronze. India also excelled in Alpine Skiing, with Nirmala Devi (F06) winning gold, Radha Devi (F01) taking silver in the Intermediate Giant Slalom Final, and Abhishek Kumar (M02) earning silver in the Novice Giant Slalom Final.

India dominates World Para Athletics Grand Prix with 95 medals.

India continues to dominate the World Para Athletics Grand Prix, topping the medal tally with 95 medals-33 gold, 29 silver, and 33 bronze.

The Neutral Para Athletes contingent follows with 26 medals – 13 gold, 9 silver, 4 bronze – while Uzbekistan sits third with four gold, four silver, and four bronze. India's key contenders include Preeti Pal (200 metre T38), Ravi Rangoli (Shot Put F41), Ankur Dhama (5000 metre T12), and Kashish Lakra (Discus Throw F53). Also competing are Pranab Prashant Desai (200 metre T64), Balaji Rajendran (Shot Put F11), and Abhishek B. Jadhav (200 metre T35).