

(10th February 2026)

International

Thailand PM Anutin consolidates power with dominating election win.

Thailand's Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul's Bhumjaithai Party has won a major victory in Sunday's general election, raising the prospect that a more stable coalition may now succeed in bringing an end to a period of prolonged political instability. With 93 percent of ballots counted on Monday, the conservative Bhumjaithai was far ahead of its rivals, looking set to win at least 194 of the 500 seats in Thailand's Parliament.

Anutin set the stage for the snap election in mid-December during a border conflict between Thailand and Cambodia .

South Korean & US air forces commence joint aerial exercise 'Buddy Squadron'

The South Korean and the United States' air forces have commenced a joint aerial exercise this week at Osan Air Base in Pyeongtaek. The "Buddy Squadron" exercise will run till Friday and is aimed at enhancing interoperability and integrated tactical capabilities between the two allies.

The Buddy Squadron exercise is a battalion-level drill conducted in rotation between South Korean and US forces, focusing on sharing air-to-air tactics and conducting integrated tactical training involving fourth- and fifth-generation fighter jets, strengthening joint operational readiness in the region.

2,034 candidates to contest Bangladesh's 13th Jatiya Sangsad election on February 12.

In Bangladesh, a total of 2,034 candidates, including 275 independents, are contesting the 13th Jatiya Sangsad (National Parliament) Election and Referendum scheduled for the 12th of this month. The Election Commission of the country has said that 51 political parties are in the race, with the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) fielding the highest 291 candidates. Islami Andolon Bangladesh has nominated 258 candidates, followed by Jamaat-e-Islami with 229 and the Jatiya Party with 198.

The Election Commission said that more than 127 million voters are eligible to vote at 42,779 polling centres across the country.

Hong Kong tycoon Jimmy Lai sentenced to 20 years in national security trial.

Hong Kong media tycoon Jimmy Lai was sentenced to a total of 20 years in jail on three charges comprising two counts of conspiracy to collude with foreign forces and one count of publishing seditious materials.

The ruling marks a dramatic moment in the downfall of the 78-year-old self-made businessman, once among the wealthiest figures in the Asian financial hub.

National

India announces 175-million-dollar Special Economic Package for Seychelles.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced a Special Economic Package of 175 million dollars for Seychelles. Mr Modi said that this package will support Social Housing, E-Mobility, Vocational Training, Health, Defence, and Maritime Security. India and Seychelles have also signed 7 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) across various sectors, including Health, Meteorology, Electronics and Information Technology and Good Governance.

Indian Army hands over 50 military utility vehicles to Nepal Army.

The Indian Army has handed over 50 military utility vehicles to the Nepal Army at the India-Nepal border. The vehicles will be formally presented by the Ambassador of India to Nepal during a ceremony in Kathmandu. The initiative reflects the Indian Army's commitment to enhancing the capacity-building efforts of the Nepali Army.

India launches iLive Connect, World's 1st Doctor-led AI Healthcare Ecosystem.

India has officially launched iLive Connect, heralded as the world's first doctor-led AI healthcare ecosystem designed to bring continuous clinical monitoring and early-intervention care directly into patients' homes.

The new device aims to reduce the gap between chronic disease management and post-hospital care in remote areas, particularly for elderly patients and people with chronic illnesses.

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AAI signs MoU with Bharat Taxi.

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has entered into an MoU with Bharat Taxi, India's first cooperative ride-hailing platform, to introduce regulated and passenger-friendly cab services at several of its airports. This MoU forms part of Bharat Taxi's broader expansion strategy following its formal launch earlier this month by Union Home Minister Amit Shah as India's first cooperative-based taxi service.

Bharat Taxi, promoted by the National Cooperative Development Corporation and supported by leading cooperative institutions, operates on a unique driver-owned cooperative model.

Business & Economy

Moody's projects India's GDP to grow 6.4% in FY'27, fastest among G20 economies.

Moody's Ratings has projected India's GDP to grow at 6.4% in the next fiscal, the fastest pace among G-20 economies, driven by strong domestic consumption, policy measures, and a stable banking system.

In its banking system outlook report, Moody's said their asset quality will remain resilient, with some stress among micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

Indian Army and IDFC FIRST Bank sign MoU to provide specialised banking services.

Indian Army and IDFC FIRST Bank have signed an MoU to provide specialised banking services and enhanced insurance benefits to serving and retired Army personnel. The MoU has been signed for three years till February 2029.

Under the agreement, Personal Accidental Insurance cover of 60 lakh rupees is available without mandatory salary or pension credit. It added that higher benefits include an additional 35 lakh rupees nominee cover, 1 crore rupees Air Accident Insurance, 4 lakh rupees Higher Education Cover and up to 2 lakh rupees Girl Child Marriage Cover.

RBI proposes exempting NBFCs under ₹1,000 crore assets from registration to ease compliance.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed exempting Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) with asset sizes below ₹1,000 crore from registration requirements with the central bank, reducing the compliance burden for these NBFCs that would also include some family offices. This move aims to reduce compliance burdens for these entities.

Public sector banks post 18% growth in profit to record ₹52,603 cr in Q3.

Led by the country's biggest lender, SBI, public sector banks have logged a record cumulative profit of ₹52,603 crore in the third quarter of the current fiscal, reflecting an 18% year-on-year growth. SBI alone contributed 40% to the total earnings of ₹52,603 crore.

All 12 public sector banks (PSBs) together made a profit of ₹44,473 crore in the December quarter of FY25. Thus, the increase in profit in absolute terms was ₹8,130 crore as compared to the same quarter of the previous financial year.

RBI tells banks not to insist on collateral security for loans up to ₹20 lakh for MSEs.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has asked banks not to insist on collateral security for loans up to ₹20 lakh extended to units in the micro, small enterprises (MSE) sector. Banks are also advised to extend collateral-free loans up to Rs 20 lakh to all units financed under the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) administered by KVIC. However, accepting gold and silver as collateral pledged voluntarily by borrowers for loans sanctioned by the banks up to the collateral free limit, will not be construed as a violation of the mandate.

RBI mandates collateral-free loans up to ₹20 lakh for MSMEs from April 1, 2026, with banks allowed to extend up to ₹25 lakh.

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Sports

Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship: Esha Singh, Manu Bhaker & Rhythm Sangwan wins gold medal.

The Indian trio of Esha Singh, Manu Bhaker, and Rhythm Sangwan have won a gold medal in the women's 25m pistol team event at the Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship in New Delhi. The Indian team topped the standings with a combined score of 1,751 points.

BCCI announces Annual Player Contracts for Senior Men and Women Teams for 2025–26 season

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has announced its Annual Player Contracts for Senior Men and Women Teams for the 2025-26 season. These contracts run from 1st of October 2025 to 30th of September, this year.

In the Senior Men's Team, Shubman Gill, Jasprit Bumrah and Ravindra Jadeja have been placed in Grade A, while senior players like Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, who retired from Test and T20I, have been placed in Grade B.

On the other hand, in the Senior Women's Team, Harmanpreet Kaur, Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues and Deepti Sharma have been placed in Grade A.

Open Masters Games Abu Dhabi 2026 kicks off in Abu Dhabi.

The Abu Dhabi Masters 2026, officially known as the Open Masters Games Abu Dhabi 2026, has officially commenced, marking West Asia's largest-ever mass participation multi-sport event dedicated to athletes aged 30 and above.

The program blends international Olympic-style disciplines with six authentic Emirati heritage sports, including camel racing, falconry, dhow sailing, endurance horse racing, Al Tabaa, and traditional diving, creating a rare fusion of global competition and local tradition.