

## International

### Russia launches drone & missile attacks on Ukraine.

Ukraine said that the Russian forces fired nearly 750 drones and missiles during overnight attacks targeting the western part of the country. The Ukrainian Air Force claimed that 711 of the drones and at least seven of the missiles were downed. The attacks mainly targeted Ukraine's western Volyn region, the capital of which, Lutsk, borders Poland and Belarus.

### Death toll from Texas floods rises to over 100.

In the United States, the death toll from a devastating flood in Central Texas rose past 100, as the chance of finding more survivors faded on the fourth day of searching. The majority of those killed were in Kerr County, where 28 children have died at the Camp Mystic Camp a Christian all-girls' summer camp.

### Bulgaria becomes 21st member to adopt euro after EU green light.

The EU ministers gave the final green light on July 8, 2025 for Bulgaria to adopt the euro on January 1, 2026, making it the 21st member of the single currency area. The EU Council has adopted the final three legal acts required for Bulgaria to introduce the euro on 1 January 2026.

Bulgaria's switch from the lev to the euro comes nearly 19 years after the country of 6.4 million people joined the European Union.

### PM Modi conferred with Namibia's highest civilian award.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with Namibia's highest civilian award, the Order of the Most Ancient Welwitschia Mirabilis, in recognition of his contributions to strengthening bilateral ties. This marks the 27th award received by Prime Minister Modi and the 4th during his ongoing tour.

## National

### PM Modi sets \$20 billion trade target with Brazil by 2030.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set a target to scale up bilateral trade with Brazil from the existing 12.2 billion to 20 billion dollars in the

next five years i.e. 2030. Both the countries will work closely to expand the Mercosur preferential trade agreement to cover more products and improve market access for Indian exporters. Mercosur is a regional trade block comprising Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Mr Modi also announced plans to enable Unified Payments Interface adoption in Brazil on the lines of India's digital payments infrastructure. He identified key sectors for enhanced bilateral cooperation including agriculture, food processing, digital public infrastructure and space technology.

### India, Namibia sign 4 MoUs to deepen economic partnership.

India and Namibia have signed MoUs in the field of Health and Medicine, and on the setting up of Entrepreneurship Development Center in Namibia and on Cooperation. An announcement on launching of Digital Payments system in Namibia later this year also took place. Letters of acceptance for Namibia's joining of CDRI and Global Biofuels Alliance have also been presented. The MoUs have been signed after the delegation-level talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Namibian President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah.

Namibia is the first country in the world where NPCI has done a technology agreement with a central bank for the implementation of UPI like payment system in the country.

### INS Nistar: India's first indigenously designed and built Diving Support Vessel.

The Indian Navy has received its first indigenously designed and built Diving Support Vessel (DSV), INS Nistar, from Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) at Visakhapatnam. The induction of Nistar, with nearly 75% indigenous content, is yet another milestone in the Indian Navy's quest for indigenous construction and is in line with the government's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat and the Make in India campaign.

Nistar is a highly specialized warship equipped to conduct Deep Sea Diving and Rescue Operations—an advanced capability possessed by only a select few navies globally.

## **Made-in-India anti-submarine rocket ERASR successfully tested.**

India's naval defence capabilities received a boost as the user trials of the indigenous Extended Range Anti-Submarine Rocket (ERASR) were successfully conducted from INS Kavaratti. The anti-submarine rocket system is expected to significantly enhance the Indian Navy's striking power. ERASR is a totally indigenous anti-submarine rocket used to combat submarines and fired from onboard indigenous rocket launchers of Indian Naval Ships.

ERASR has been designed by DRDO's Armament Research & Development Establishment (ARDE), Pune, in association with High Energy Materials Research Laboratory and Naval Science & Technological Laboratory.

## **Union Minister Pradhan inaugurates Agricultural Technology Innovation Centre in Meerut.**

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has inaugurated the Agricultural Technology Innovation Centre at Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel Agricultural University, Meerut. Highlighting AI's role in doubling farm income and ensuring fair prices, he noted IIT Ropar's lead in the Centre of Excellence for AI in Agriculture. Mr. Pradhan announced the establishment of a Skill Development Centre at the university to boost farmer-focused research and startups.

## **Business And Economy**

### **Odisha tops DMF collections in India with ₹31,324 crore.**

Odisha has collected the highest amount of ₹31,324 crore under the District Mineral Foundation (DMF), far surpassing all other mineral bearing States, as the initiative marks its 10th year.

With objective to help people and area affected by mining activities, DMF was introduced through Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Amendment Act 2015. The DMF fund is governed by guidelines of Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojna (PMKKKY).

## **Meta takes around 3% stake in Ray-Ban-parent EssilorLuxottica.**

Meta Platforms (META) has acquired a nearly 3% stake in its AI-eyewear partner EssilorLuxottica, the parent company of Ray-Ban and Oakley. The stake as reported is valued at about \$3.5 billion.

Meta has collaborated with the eyewear company on smart Ray-Ban glasses since 2019 and plans to continue this work into the next decade. The shades can be used to access Meta AI, get live translations, take photos and videos, listen to music and podcasts, and make calls and texts.

## **Bitcoin soars to all-time peak just shy of \$112,000**

Bitcoin climbed to an all-time high near \$112,000 late on July 9, bolstered by an increased risk appetite and persistent institutional demand as traditional financial market players embraced the world's largest cryptocurrency.

It touched a record peak of \$111,988.90 and was last up 0.4% at \$111,259. Since the beginning of the year, Bitcoin has advanced more than 18%.

## **Gartner pegs Earth Intelligence, an emerging niche in tech, at \$20 billion through 2030.**

Earth Intelligence will offer a \$20 billion new revenue growth opportunity for Technology and service providers through 2030, forecasts Gartner.

Earth intelligence indicates the application of AI to Earth observation data to deliver solutions specific to industries and business functions.

## **Sports**

### **PSG thrash Real Madrid 4-0 to enter FIFA Club World Cup Final.**

In the Football FIFA World Cup 2025, Paris Saint-Germain thrashed Real Madrid 4- nil in the semi-final at New Jersey's MetLife Stadium. With this win, PSG is all set to take on Chelsea in the title clash at the MetLife Stadium in New Jersey.

Chelsea are looking to win the competition for the second time, having lifted the trophy in 2022. On the other hand, PSG are playing the competition for the first time and can secure the title in their maiden outing.

**Novak Djokovic reaches record 14th Wimbledon semifinal.**

Novak Djokovic has defeated Flavio Cobolli to reach a record 14th Wimbledon semifinal in the

men's singles. He defeated Italian Flavio Cobolli 3-1 at the All England Club. Djokovic will next face world No.1 Jannik Sinner of Italy in the semifinal clash. Sinner defeated the 10th seed Ben Shelton of the USA 3-nil in the quarterfinal.