

International

Romanian President Klaus Iohannis resigns amid political turmoil.

Romanian President Klaus Iohannis announced his resignation following mounting pressure from populist opposition groups. The announcement came two months after a top court annulled a presidential election. He will leave office on February 12.

Mr. Iohannis has held the presidential role since 2014 and served a maximum of two five-year terms.

Ecuador presidential election heads to runoff.

Ecuador's presidential election will go to a second round after a closely contested first-round result failed to produce an outright winner. The electoral authorities called it a 'technical tie' after the incumbent centre-right candidate, Daniel Noboa, and his main left-wing challenger, Luisa González, received nearly identical percentages of the vote. They will now face a run-off in April.

Namibia's first President Sam Nujoma passes away at age 95.

Namibia's founding father and the first President, Sam Nujoma passed away at the age of 95. The country's current President, Nangolo Mbumba, announced. Nujoma was a key figure in Namibia's fight for independence, the revolutionary leader who guided Namibia to independence from apartheid South Africa in 1990. He served as the nation's first President from 1990 to 2005 and was a founding member of South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

National

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurates Asia's biggest Aero India show in Bengaluru.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 15th edition of Aero India at the Yelahanka Air Force Station in Bengaluru, Karnataka. Divided into five distinct zones, the exhibits give a panoramic view of Indian defence production and research capabilities. This year there are more than 900 exhibitors and 90 countries participating; 30 Defence Ministers from various countries are attending.

2025 year is being declared as the 'Year of Reforms' in the Ministry of Defence.

India launches its first indigenous automated bio medical waste treatment plant

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh launched India's first indigenous Automated Biomedical Waste Treatment Rig, named Srjanam, at AIIMS New Delhi. Developed by the CSIR National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology, NIIST, in Thiruvananthapuram, the rig is the first of its kind in the country. The Srjanam rig is designed to disinfect pathogenic biomedical waste, including blood, urine, sputum, and laboratory disposables, without relying on costly and energy-intensive incinerators. Notably, the rig also neutralizes foul odors, imparting a pleasant fragrance to otherwise toxic waste.

Bharat biotech's lumpy skin disease vaccine Biolumpivaxin gets nod from India's drug regulator.

Bharat Biotech's group company, Biovet, launched the world's first-ever Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) vaccine, Biolumpivaxin, for cattle and buffaloes. The vaccine, which has received approval from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), is touted as the safest and most effective LSD vaccine with a unique DIVA marker concept. Biovet announced that the vaccine will be commercially available in the near future.

Developed from the LSD virus/Ranchi/2019 vaccine strain by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research-National Research Centre on Equines (ICAR-NRCE), Hisar, and in collaboration with Biovet, the vaccine is expected to play a crucial role in India's self-reliance in veterinary healthcare.

Labour Ministry inks pact with FoundIt, to bring 10 lakh more jobs on National Career Service portal annually

Labour Ministry announced the inking of an initial pact with FoundIt — a leading job portal — to enhance job creation and expand opportunities for young jobseekers by adding 10 lakh more opportunities annually.

The memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed in the presence of Union Minister of Labour and Employment Mansukh Mandaviya

and aims to enhance international and domestic employment opportunities for jobseekers registered on NCS (National Career Service) portal.

Business and Economy

US to impose 25 percent tariffs on steel and aluminium imports.

United States President Donald Trump has signed an order to impose 25 percent tariffs on steel and aluminium imports. The tariffs will apply widely to all US imports of steel and aluminium, including from Canada and Mexico, the country's top two foreign suppliers of the metals.

India clocks Rs 1 lakh crore in iPhone exports.

India clocked one lakh crore rupees in exports of iPhone for the first time this financial year. Electronic and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw credited the government's Production Linked Incentive Scheme for achieving these figures. He said that the overall smartphone export is expected to cross 2.25 lakh crore rupees in the next financial year 2025.

Over 54 Cr Jan Dhan Accounts opened; women hold 55% share: FM Sitharaman.

Over 54 crore bank accounts have been opened in the country till January this year under PM Jan Dhan Yojana. In a written reply in the Lok Sabha, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said over 30 crore accounts belong to women, constituting over 55 percent. The minister further said over 22 crore people have enrolled with PM Jeevan Jyothi Bima Yojana and 49 crore people have enrolled with the PM Suraksha Bima Yojana.

Centre eyes completing IDBI Bank disinvestment by mid-2025.

The Centre remains confident of completing the privatisation of IDBI Bank in the next financial year and expects the financial bids for the transaction to be invited by next month. The due diligence process by the bidders is currently ongoing.

As part of the disinvestment of IDBI Bank, the Centre along with Life Insurance Corporation

of India will sell 61% stake in the lender, along with the management control. This includes 30.48% stake of the Government of India and 30.24% of LIC.

New Delhi 6th, Mumbai 7th among 44 cities globally in luxury home price rise: Knight Frank Report

New Delhi jumped to the sixth position among 44 cities globally in price appreciation of luxury homes with the national capital seeing an average 6.7% increase in rates during the latest December quarter, according to Knight Frank 'Prime Global Cities Index Q4 2024' report. Seoul ranks first with 18.4% increase in average prices during October-December quarter of 2024, followed by Manila (17.9%), Dubai (16.9%), Tokyo (12.7%), and Nairobi (8.3% rise).

Sports

India dominates 2025 Para Archery Asia Cup, tops medal table with 6 golds.

India ended their participation in the 2025 Para Archery Asia Cup in Thailand with six gold medals, finishing at the top of the medal table. On the final day of the competition, India won six medals, including two golds. Sarita won the gold in the women's compound open. Shyam Sundar Swami also won gold in the men's compound open. India pocketed a total of 12 medals in the competition, including six gold, three silver, and three bronze.

WTA Mumbai Open 2025: Jil Teichmann triumphs over Mananchaya Sanwangkaew to lift title.

Jil Teichmann of Switzerland added another WTA 125 title to her growing collection, defeating Mananchaya Sawangkaew of Thailand 6-3, 6-4 to win the L&T Mumbai Open in Mumbai, India. Teichmann needed 1 hour and 37 minutes to best No. 8 seed Sawangkaew in the championship final.

Chennai Open ATP Challenger 2025: Jacquet defeats Ymer to claim title.

Frenchman Kyrian Jacquet beat Swede Elias Ymer 7-6(1), 6-4 in the final to clinch the Chennai Open ATP Challenger title. With this win, he earned 22730 USD and 100 ranking points.