

International

Polling underway in Iraq to elect a new Parliament.

In Iraq, polling is underway across the country to elect a new Parliament. Voters will select 329 members of the Parliament, including 83 seats reserved for women. There are 7,744 candidates running from different political parties. This election will see a powerful Shia bloc headed by former Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki take part, as well as a coalition led by the current Prime Minister, Mohammed Shia al-Sudani.

Thailand suspends US-brokered peace agreement with Cambodia.

Thailand has suspended the implementation of a United States-brokered peace agreement with neighbouring Cambodia after a landmine blast near their border injured two of its soldiers.

Thailand and Cambodia signed a ceasefire on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Malaysia last month after territorial disputes between the two Southeast Asian countries led to five days of border clashes in July.

Salman Rushdie is being honored with a Dayton peace prize lifetime achievement award.

Salman Rushdie was among the honourees at the Dayton Literary Peace Prize event in Ohio, receiving a lifetime achievement award after publishing his first work of fiction since being stabbed on a New York lecture stage three years ago.

The Dayton Literary Peace Prize honours both literary merit and the writers' promotion of peace through their work, with separate awards annually for fiction, nonfiction and lifetime achievement.

National

Malabar naval exercise begins.

The annual multi-nation maritime exercise 'Malabar' has begun on November 11 featuring the Navies of India, US, Japan and Australia. The nine-day exercise (November 10-18) will be hosted by the US at Guam, one of its military bases in the western-part of the Pacific Ocean. Guam, an island, lies about 2,500 km east of the Philippines.

The drills will begin with a harbour phase that includes operational planning and discussions, alignment on communication protocols, familiarisation visits between participating nations, and sports fixtures.

Exercise Malabar began in 1992 as a bilateral naval drill between the Indian and US Navies.

India & Vietnam sign MoA on Mutual Submarine Search and Rescue Support.

Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh co-chaired the 15th India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue in Hanoi with Vietnam Deputy Minister of National Defence Sr Lt Gen Hoang Xuan Chien. They signed an MoU on Mutual Submarine Search and Rescue Support and Cooperation, and also a Letter of Intent on strengthening Defence Industry collaboration.

TN to get India's first 'women's wellness on wheels' vehicles.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Stalin will inaugurate the country's first 'Women's Wellness on Wheels' vehicles. Tamil Nadu plans to launch 38 vehicles in 38 districts under the scheme, to protect women from cancer. Complete check-ups to women to screen them for cancer risks such as cervical cancer and breast cancer are possible in these fully-equipped vehicles, a first of its kind in India.

Gujarat becomes 1st state to launch tribal-focussed genome sequencing project.

Gujarat has emerged as the first State in India to launch a large-scale genome sequencing project specifically focused on tribal communities. Led by the Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC), the effort is part of a visionary plan to decode the genetic blueprint of tribal groups and develop targeted diagnostics, treatment strategies and long-term preventive care.

Gujarat's tribal population has long faced a higher incidence of inherited conditions such as thalassemia and sickle cell anaemia.

Telangana's poet Ande Sri no more.

Renowned Telangana poet and lyricist Ande Sri, author of the iconic state song 'Jaya Jaya He Telangana', passed away in Hyderabad. He was 64. He played a prominent role in the Telangana movement, capturing the aspirations of the people who wanted a separate Telangana state, his songs became rallies for activists.

Business and Economy

NPCI arm, BENEFIT sign pact for faster remittances between India, Bahrain.

NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL), the international arm of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has entered into a tie up with BENEFIT, Bahrain's fintech and electronic financial transactions company, to enable real-time cross-border remittances between India and Bahrain.

This linkage will connect India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) with Bahrain's Electronic Fund Transfer System (EFTS), specifically, Fawri+ service, allowing users in both countries to send and receive money instantly and securely.

WB asks India to provide further impetus to financial sector reforms to achieve 2027 vision.

The World Bank in its latest Financial Sector Assessment (FSA) report has stated that India for India to achieve its vision of becoming a \$30 trillion economy by 2047, would require further impetus to the financial sector reforms to boost private capital mobilization.

The FSA report highlighted that India's financial system has become more resilient, diversified, and inclusive since the last Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP), a joint program of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and WB was published in 2017.

International Finance Corporation invests Rs 285 crore in Axis Max Life

International Finance Corporation (IFC), part of the World Bank Group, has invested ₹285 crore (about \$33 million) in Axis Max Life Insurance Limited through long-term subordinated instruments, its first investment in a licensed Indian life insurer. This will support Axis Max Life's solvency margin and power its expansion in the life insurance sector.

This investment aligns with India's vision of 'Insurance for All by 2047'.

Over 1 cr new Jan Dhan accounts opened during 4-month nationwide campaign.

The Finance Ministry has stated that as many as 1.11 crore new PM Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) accounts were opened during the four-month-long Nationwide Financial Inclusion Saturation Campaign.

Besides, 2.86 crore Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), 1.40 crore Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), and 44.43 lakh Atal Pension Yojana (APY) fresh enrolments were carried out during the period.

The objective of the four-month-long campaign, concluded on October 31, was to bring every eligible citizen under the ambit of key financial schemes.

Camps were conducted across the nation to facilitate enrolments, Re-KYC for inactive accounts, and nomination updates. It also advanced financial literacy on digital frauds, unclaimed deposits, and grievance redressal.

Chinese firm bags contract to print Nepal's Rs 1,000 bank notes.

A Chinese company has bagged a contract to design and print 430 million pieces of Nepal's ₹1,000 denomination banknotes.

Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) issued a letter of intent to the China Banknote Printing and Minting Corporation for the design, printing, supply and delivery of the notes.

Amit Shah launches digital apps for urban co-op banks, sets target of one UCB per town.

Union Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has launched two mobile applications — Sahakar Digi Pay and Sahakar Digi Loan — for urban cooperative banks, describing digital payment adoption as essential for their survival in an increasingly cashless economy.

The minister set an ambitious target for National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies Limited (NAFCUB) to establish at least one additional UCB in every town with a population exceeding two lakh within five years. He also directed the federation to convert successful cooperative credit societies into UCBs.

Sports

Karthik Venkataraman reaches fourth round of FIDE Chess World Cup 2025.

Indian Grandmaster Karthik Venkataraman has advanced to the fourth round of the FIDE Chess World Cup 2025 in Panaji, Goa. He reached the fourth round after defeating Romanian Grandmaster Bogdan-Daniel Deac in a tense tiebreaker. With this, Karthik joins four other Indian players-Arjun Erigaisi, R Praggnanandhaa, P Harikrishna, and world junior champion V Pranav-in the fourth round.

Jyoti Singh to captain India at FIH Women's Junior Hockey World Cup 2025 in Chile.

Jyoti Singh will continue to lead the Indian team as Hockey India announced a 20-member squad for the upcoming International Hockey Federation (FIH) Women's Junior Hockey World Cup 2025, scheduled to be held in Santiago, Chile, from November 25 to December 13. The 20-member squad features 18 players and two alternates.