

International

Iran and US to engage in critical nuclear talks in Oman

Iran and the United States will begin crucial talks in Oman to reach a new nuclear deal in an effort to avert another conflict in West Asia.

The Iranian delegation will be led by the country's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, while US envoy Steve Witkoff will represent the American side. Omani Foreign Minister Badr al-Busaidi will act as an intermediary.

Syria, South Korea establish formal diplomatic relations.

South Korea and Syria have formally established diplomatic relations, in another milestone for the transitional government of Syrian President Ahmad al-Sharaa.

The move has also dealt a blow to Seoul's arch enemy, North Korea, which once counted Syria as a friend under the regime of now-deposed President Bashar al-Assad.

Obituary

Bajaj Auto former Vice Chairman Madhur Bajaj passes away.

Former Vice Chairman of Bajaj Auto, Madhur Bajaj, passed away.

He had stepped down from his role earlier this year due to health concerns.

Born on August 19, 1952, he also served as Chairman of Maharashtra Scooters and as a Director of Bajaj Electricals, Bajaj Finance, and other companies within the Bajaj Group. Madhur Bajaj was the grandson of Jamnalal Bajaj, founder of the Bajaj Group, and cousin of the late Rahul Bajaj.

Important Days

National Safe Motherhood Day: 11th April.

National Safe Motherhood Day, observed annually on April 11 in India, is a significant campaign dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of maternal healthcare.

The date commemorates the birth anniversary of Kasturba Gandhi, the wife of Mahatma Gandhi, and serves as a reminder of the need to provide respectful, timely, and adequate care for every pregnant and lactating woman.

World Parkinson's Day: 11th April.

World Parkinson's Day is observed every year on April 11 as a global initiative to raise awareness about Parkinson's Disease — a progressive neurodegenerative disorder that affects millions worldwide.

Established in 1997 by the European Association for Parkinson's Disease, the day commemorates Dr. James Parkinson, who first identified and described the condition in 1817.

National

8th meeting of Joint Committee On ASEAN-India Trade In Goods Agreement concludes.

The 8th Meeting of the Joint Committee on ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA), which was hosted by India, concluded.

In the fiscal year 2023-24, bilateral trade between India and ASEAN reached 121 billion US dollars. The meeting also saw participation from delegates representing ASEAN countries, including Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Centre launches 'Global Tariff And Trade Helpdesk' to assist stakeholders in navigating trade issues.

The Centre has operationalised a dedicated 'Global Tariff and Trade Helpdesk' to assist stakeholders in navigating emerging trade issues.

The Helpdesk will look into issues relating to Import and Export Challenges, Import Surges or Dumping, Logistics or Supply Chain Challenges, Financial or Banking issues and Regulatory or Compliance Issues among others.

WAVES Summit 2025: Winners of Theme Music Competition announced.

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has announced the winners of the Theme Music Competition, one of the 32 challenges being held as part of the WAVES Summit 2025. The first World Audio and Video Entertainment Summit (WAVES 2025) is scheduled to be held in Mumbai from 1st to 4th May this year.

A distinguished jury selected the winners after a rigorous evaluation of their originality, musicality, and alignment with the WAVES theme for music and dance -“India’s vibrant rhythms, from classical performances to contemporary beats”.

Business and Economy

China hikes tariffs on US goods to 125%, accuses US of violating trade rules.

China’s finance ministry announced that it has raised additional tariffs on US goods from 84 per cent to 125 per cent.

The ministry said, the U.S. side’s imposition of excessively high tariffs on China seriously violates international economic and trade rules and is simply an act of unilateral bullying and coercion.

Industrial production slows to 6-month low of 2.9% in February 2025.

India's industrial output growth decelerated to a six-month low of 2.9% in February 2025, reflecting a slowdown in manufacturing and mining activities. This marks a significant dip from previous months, indicating easing momentum in the country's industrial sector amid global and domestic headwinds.

Sports

Tennis: India defeats Chinese Taipei 2-1 in Billie Jean King Cup Asia-Oceania Group 1.

In Tennis, India defeated Chinese Taipei 2-1 in the Billie Jean King Cup Asia-Oceania Group 1 in Pune.

Shrivalli Bhamidipaty and Vaidehi Chaudhari, helped Team India take a significant stride towards their quest for the playoff spot.

This was India’s third consecutive win, helping them climb to the second spot on the points table in this prestigious tournament.

James Anderson receives knighthood for his services to cricket.

Former England fast bowler James Anderson has been awarded a knighthood for his services to cricket as part of former British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak’s resignation honours list. Anderson is the only sportsperson who has made it to the list.

The 42 year old English seamer retired from Test cricket last summer with 704 wickets, making him England’s all-time leading wicket-taker the format.

Shooting: India finishes second in overall standings in first leg Of ISSF World Cup.

In the first leg of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup 2025 at Buenos Aires, Argentina, India finished second in the standings behind China. India won a total of 8 medals, including 4 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze.

The Indian pair of Saurabh Chaudhary and Suruchi Singh won the Bronze, beating compatriots Manu Bhaker and Ravinder Singh by 16-8. Other medal winners for India include Sift Kaur Samra, Rudrankksh Patil, Suruchi Singh, Vijayveer Sidhu, Esha Singh, Chain Singh and the duo of Arya Borse and Rudrankksh Patil.