

International

58 nations including India sign Paris joint statement on inclusive, sustainable AI.

Fifty eight countries, including India, China, Brazil, France and Australia, signed a joint statement on Inclusive and Sustainable Artificial Intelligence for People and the Planet at the AI Action Summit in Paris on February 11, 2025, with more signatories possible after the summit ends. The statement was not signed by the United States and the United Kingdom. The statement calls for promoting the accessibility of AI and ensuring trust and safety in deploying the technology. India and France are co-chairing the summit.

US President Trump pauses anti-bribery law.

US President Donald Trump has ordered a pause in the enforcement of a nearly half-century-old law that was used to go after the Adani Group under the previous Biden administration. The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) bans firms and people with US ties from offering money or gifts to foreign officials to secure business overseas. President Trump had considered pausing the law during his first term.

World Government Summit 2025 opens in Dubai

The World Government Summit (WGS) 2025 opened in Dubai, UAE under the theme Shaping Future Governments, attracting record international participation. Running until February 14, the 12th edition of the summit brings together heads of state, government officials, global institutions, and leading experts to explore emerging trends in governance and critical sectors.

The event features multiple forums, including the Future of Work Forum, Government Experience Exchange Forum, Government Services Forum, Artificial Intelligence Forum, Future of Education Forum, Future of Mobility Forum, and Gender Balance Forum, among others.

Indian students win bronze at Global Best M-Gov Award 2025 in Dubai

Three Indian computer science students from New Delhi won the Bronze Award at the Global Best M-Gov Award 2025 during the World

Government Summit (WGS) in Dubai. The accolade recognizes innovative technological solutions advancing mobile government services and societal progress. The award, along with a cash prize of \$10,000, was presented by Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice President of the United Arab Emirates.

The winning team comprised Sagar Teotia (team lead), Abhinav Mishra, and Anushka Singh, all fourth-semester computer science students from Maharaja Agrasen Institute of Technology, Delhi, who were recognised for their application 'AccessWay.'

FAO launches \$95M Climate Resilient Agriculture Project in Somalia

The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in partnership with Green Climate Fund (GCF) and Government of Somalia officially launched a seven-year project with Somalia that aims to enhance climate adaptation and resilience for vulnerable communities in the country. The 95 million dollar "Climate Resilient Agriculture in Somalia" project, dubbed "Ugbaad," which means hope in Somalia, will tackle climate change challenges and strengthen agrifood systems through large-scale investment.

The project, which was approved in October 2024, represents a significant step in tackling the pressing challenges posed by climate change, restoring productive landscapes, and empowering vulnerable local communities.

World Unani Day is celebrated on February 11.

World Unani Day is observed on February 11 every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of social reformer and renowned Unani scholar Hakim Ajmal Khan, widely regarded as the pioneer of Unani medicine in India. The day commemorates his contribution to the growth of Unani medicine in India and throughout the world.

International Day of Women and Girls in Science, 11 February.

The International Day of Women and Girls in Science, celebrated on 11 February, is implemented by UNESCO and UN-Women, in collaboration with institutions and civil society partners that aim to promote women and girls in science. This day is an opportunity to promote full and equal access to and participation in science for women and girls

On 22 December 2015, the General Assembly decided to establish an annual International Day to recognize the critical role women and girls play in science and technology, through Resolution A/RES/70/212.

This year's celebration, which marks the 10th anniversary of this International Day, focuses on Unpacking STEM Careers: Her Voice in Science.

National

Russia offers Su-57 E to India, including production and transfer of critical technology.

Rosoboronexport, Russia's State-owned defence exports company, a participant in the ongoing Aero India 2025, has offered to partner with India on the Russian fifth generation fighter aircraft (FGFA), the Su-57E.

Rosoboronexport, together with United Aircraft Corporation (UAC), proposes to localise FGFA aircraft in India. This production of the FGFA at the HAL (Hindustan Aeronautics Limited) plant might take place as early as 2025.

Biren Singh quits as Chief Minister 2 years after Manipur violence began.

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh had resigned - two years after ethnic violence broke out in the state. The Chief Minister handed his resignation to the Governor.

Citing the ethnic violence that broke out in May 2023, around 12 MLAs have been strongly pushing for a change in leadership.

More than 250 people have been killed and thousands rendered homeless since ethnic violence broke out in Manipur in May 2023.

Bill introduced to resolve disputes involving aircraft, engines.

Minister for Civil Aviation Ram Mohan Naidu has tabled a Bill in Parliament that seeks to recognise the international treaty on resolution of disputes related to recovery of aviation assets such as aircraft and engines often seen between airlines and lessors including during airline shutdowns such as those of Go First, Jet Airways and Kingfisher Airlines.

The Minister tabled the Protection and Enforcement of Interests in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2025 in Rajya Sabha. It seeks to implement the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment, 2001 or Cape Town Convention (CTC) and Protocol. Though India signed the CTC in 2008, it has not yet ratified it rendering the provisions not legally binding in the country. The passage of the Bill in Parliament will plug this gap.

Business and Economy

India's net direct tax collection rises 14.69% to ₹17.78 lakh crore

As per the data released by the Central Board of Direct Taxes, India's net direct tax collection exhibited growth of 14.69 percent year on year to over 17 lakh 78 thousand crore in the current financial year. The gross direct tax collection increased over 19 percent in comparison to financial year 2023-24.

Personal income tax collection increased to over nine lakh forty seven thousand crore rupees while the corporate tax collection reached to over seven lakh seventy eight thousand crore rupees.

Lam Research announces Rs10,000 crore investment in India: Ashwini Vaishnaw

Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that Lam Research has announced a major investment of over 10 thousand crore rupees in India. Lam Research is an US based global supplier of wafer-fabrication equipment and related services to the semiconductor industry. Founded in January 1980, Lam Research is currently the world's leading semiconductor companies.

Hitachi Payment Services picks up stake in Spydra to enhance offerings in Web 3.0, CBDC, Blockchain tech

Hitachi Payment Services, an end-to-end payments and commerce solutions provider, announced a minority investment in Spydra Technologies to develop and introduce innovative offerings in the domains of Web 3.0, Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) and Blockchain Technology.

Spydra's expertise in enterprise blockchain solutions aligns with Hitachi Payment Services' commitment to drive innovation in digital payments through groundbreaking technologies.

Sports

India enters quarterfinal in Asia Mixed Team Championship in China.

In the Asia Mixed Team Badminton Championships 2025, India opened their

campaign with a commanding 5-0 win over Macau in Qingdao, China. The mixed doubles pair of Sathish Kumar Karunakaran and Aadya Variyath set the tone with a 21-10, 21-9 win against Lok Chong Leong and Weng Chi Ng in the opening match, followed by Lakshya Sen with a 21-16, 21-12 victory against Pang Fong Pui of China in the men's singles event.

In women's singles, Malvika Bansod sealed the tie for India, winning 21-15, 21-9 against Hao Wai Chan.