

## International

### India to host side events in partnership with UN at COP 29.

India will host side events in partnership with the United Nations (UN) and other multilateral organizations at the ongoing Climate Change Conference – COP 29 in Baku, Azerbaijan. The side events will be hosted in the respective pavilions, ensuring high-level participation and wider outreach. India added that COP 29 should ensure that climate finance is adequate, predictable, accessible, grant-based, low-interest, and long-term.

### Australian govt appoints country's first anti-slavery commissioner.

Australian government has appointed the country's first anti-slavery commissioner. Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus announced that Chris Evans, a former senator and human rights official, will serve as the inaugural Australian anti-slavery commissioner for a five-year term commencing in December. The new commissioner's role will strengthen the work undertaken across government, business, and society in Australia to prevent and respond to modern slavery.

Walk Free's 2023 Global Slavery Index estimated that there were 41,000 people living in modern slavery in Australia in 2021.

## National

### Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal releases book titled 'Maa-Mother'

Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal released a book titled 'Maa-Mother' in New Delhi. The book is written by Dr Davendra Kumar Dhodawat, Additional Secretary to the Governor of Kerala. The book includes an illustration of motherhood in the form of poems that are written in Hindi and English. It also delves into the untold story of the love and affection of mothers.

### Home Ministry approves setting up of first all women battalion of CISF

The Home Ministry has approved the establishment of the first all-women battalion of CISF in a landmark decision aimed at empowering women and enhancing their role in national security. The proposal for the creation

of all-women battalions in the Force was initiated following the direction of Home Minister Amit Shah, on the occasion of the 53rd CISF Day function.

The training is being specially designed to create an elite battalion capable of performing multifarious roles as commandos in VIP security, as well as the security of airports and Delhi Metro Rail duties.

### DRDO successfully conducts maiden flight test of long range land attack cruise missile.

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has conducted the maiden flight test of the Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha, from a mobile articulated launcher. During the test, all sub-systems performed as per expectations and met the primary mission objectives.

The Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM) has been developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment, Bengaluru, along with contributions from other DRDO laboratories and Indian industries.

### FSSAI urges food business operators to ensure 45-day expiry of their products

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has asked e-commerce Food Business Operators (FBOs) to adopt practices that ensure a minimum shelf life of 30 per cent or 45 days before expiry at the time of delivery to the consumer. FSSAI reiterated the mandate that no FBO can operate on any e-commerce platform without a valid FSSAI license or registration, emphasizing the critical need for regulatory compliance.

### 16th India Game Developer Conference begins in Hyderabad.

The 16th edition of India Game Developer Conference (IGDC) began in Hyderabad. The three-day conference is expected to attract about 20 thousand attendees. Organized by the Game Developer Association of India (GDAI), the 16th edition of IGDC is expected to highlight the rapid growth of India's gaming and interactive entertainment sector.

The IGDC ranked among the top three video gaming conferences worldwide and this year's conference will underscore the country's rising influence in the global gaming industry.

## Business and Economy

### India in global top 10 for patents, trademarks & designs.

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has published the World Intellectual Property Indicators (WIPI) 2024, underscoring global trends in intellectual property (IP) filing. India recorded the fastest growth in patent (+15.7%) applications in 2023 among the top 20 origins, marking the fifth consecutive year of double-digit growth.

India ranks sixth globally for patents with 64 thousand 480 applications, with resident filings accounting for over half of all submissions. The patent office also granted 149.4 per cent more patents in 2023, compared to the previous year. India ranked fourth globally in trademark filings, with a 6.1% increase in 2023. Nearly 90% of these filings were by residents, with key sectors including Health (21.9%), Agriculture (15.3%), and Clothing (12.8%) leading the way.

### India's retail inflation rises to 6.21% in Oct

India's retail inflation climbed to 6.21 per cent in October, up from 5.49 per cent in September of the current fiscal year. According to data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), inflation in rural areas stood at 6.68 per cent compared to 5.62 per cent in urban regions.

India's retail inflation remained above the central bank's target in October.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) aims to keep inflation within a range of 2 to 6 per cent, with a medium-term target of 4 per cent.

### PSBs report 11% YoY growth at ₹236 lakh crore in April-Sep FY25.

Public Sector Banks, PSBs have shown strong performance in the First Half of 2024-25 with 11 per cent Year-on-Year growth. The aggregate business stood at 236.04 lakh crore rupees. The Finance Ministry said that major banking reforms were undertaken in the last few years. These include the Implementation of Enhance Access and Service Excellence (EASE), enactment of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), and putting in place a robust Governance Framework. The global credit portfolio grew by 12.9 per cent and the deposit portfolio grew by 9.5 per cent Year on Year.

PSBs have also shown significant progress in adopting new-age technologies like AI, cloud, and Blockchain and put in place necessary systems and controls to tackle cyber security risks.

### India's Renewable Energy sector surges by 24.2 GW

According to the latest data by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, India's Renewable Energy sector has achieved significant growth from October last year to October this year. India's total renewable energy installed capacity increased by a staggering 24.2 gigawatts in a year, reaching 203.18 GW in October 2024 from 178.98 GW in October 2023.

The total non-fossil fuel capacity, including nuclear energy, rose to 211.36 GW in 2024, compared to 186.46 GW in 2023. The solar sector saw a remarkable increase of 20.1 GW, growing from 72.02 GW in October 2023 to 92.12 GW in October 2024.

### RBI announces rules to reclassify FPI investment as FDI once it crosses 10% holding in Indian firms

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in consultation with the Government of India and the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI), has finalised rules for Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) whose investments would be reclassified as Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) the moment it breaches the 10% stake threshold in an Indian company, under the Foreign Exchange Management (Non-debt Instruments) Rules, 2019.

### Travel brand Cox & Kings returns under the ownership of PE firm Wilson & Hughes Pte.

Cox & Kings, one of the oldest travel brands has re-entered the travel market under the ownership of Wilson & Hughes Pte, a Singapore-based private equity and venture capital firm.

The brand's erstwhile owners Cox & Kings Ltd which was declared bankrupt in 2020 was subsequently liquidated through the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (IBC) procedure.

Acquired through its Indian subsidiary, Wilson & Hughes PTE, has exclusively acquired the brand Cox & Kings along with over 200 plus specialised sub-brands that were part of its portfolio.

## Sports

### Joshna Chinappa advances to quarterfinals of Monte Carlo Classic 2024.

In Squash, India's Joshna Chinappa advanced to the women's singles quarterfinals of the Monte Carlo Classic 2024, in Monaco last evening. She defeated the fourth seeded

Melissa Alves of France, 3-2, in a fiercely fought pre-quarterfinal. Chinappa will next take on the sixth seeded English player Alicia Mead.

### India beat South Korea 3-2 in Women's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy.

In the Women's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy, India defeated three-time winners South Korea 3-2 at the Rajgir Hockey Stadium in Bihar today. Deepika Sehrawat converted a penalty stroke to claim her second and decisive goal of the match, just three minutes before the final whistle. The first goal was scored by Sangita Kumari in the 3rd minute of the match