

## International

### Australian cabinet sworn in after landslide election victory.

Australia's cabinet was sworn into office after the centre-left Labor Party was re-elected in a landslide election. Labor party has secured an estimated 93 seats in the 151-member House of Representatives. The party held 78 seats in the previous Parliament. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has been sworn in for a second term, solidifying his Labor Party's control of the Parliament.

### Anita Anand, Canada's new Indian-Origin Foreign Minister.

Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney has appointed Anita Anand of Indian-Origin to the powerful post of Foreign Minister in his new cabinet. He also appointed Maninder Sidhu as the international trade minister, and two others of Indian descent as secretaries of state, the equivalent of ministers of state.

Indian-origin Anand, who has previously served in roles including Canada's Defence Minister, has replaced Melanie Joly, who had been moved to the role of Minister of Industry.

### Cannes 2025 film festival opens.

The prestigious 78th Cannes Film Festival opened in grand style on the French Riviera. This marks the beginning of a 12-day celebration of global cinema, uniting filmmakers, stars, and cinephiles from around the world.

At the opening ceremony, highly acclaimed veteran American actor, producer, and director, Robert De Niro, has received an honorary Palme d'Or, 49 years after Taxi Driver won the festival's top prize.

### Trump signs executive order aiming to reduce drug prices.

US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order aimed at lowering drug prices, demanding that drug companies offer prices for prescription drugs comparable to those in other developed nations.

Patients in the U.S. generally pay more for drugs than patients in other countries, largely because other countries have government health care systems that set prices they are willing to pay.

### Bhuwan Ribhu becomes first Indian lawyer to receive World Law Congress Honour for child rights.

Bhuwan Ribhu became the first Indian lawyer to receive the prestigious Medal of Honour from the World Jurist Association at the World Law Congress 2025 in the Dominican Republic. Ribhu has led over 60 public interest litigations that have helped reshape child protection laws in India. His legal work has led to major reforms—including the Supreme Court adopting the UN Protocol's definition of trafficking, making trafficking a criminal offence under Indian law, mandatory FIRs for missing children, and a ban on child labour in hazardous jobs.

## National

### BR Gavai takes oath as 52nd CJI.

Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai has been sworn in as the 52nd Chief Justice of India (CJI). He assumed office a day after Justice Khanna formally demits office. Justice Gavai is the first Buddhist CJI and only the second from the Dalit community, after former CJI KG Balakrishnan who held office in 2007, to take over the highest judicial post in India.

### CWRDM's Water Heritage Museum in Kozhikode gets global honour.

The Water Heritage Museum operated by the Centre for Water Resources Development and Management (CWRDM) in Kozhikode has been included in the Global Network of Water Museums, an initiative under UNESCO's Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme.

The museum is only the third such institution in the country to be added to the prestigious international network, marking a significant milestone in highlighting Kerala's rich water heritage on a global platform.

The global network aims to promote awareness of water's cultural significance and foster community participation in sustainable water management.

### Akashteer: India's AI-driven war-cloud neutralized all Pakistani drones, missiles.

The Akashteer air defence system has played a critical role in intercepting and neutralising all inbound Pakistani drones, missiles, micro

UAVs, and loitering munitions, effectively preventing any breach of Indian airspace. Believed to be the first operational AI-driven war-cloud developed entirely without foreign components or satellite dependencies, Akashteer showcases India's growing technological self-reliance.

Akashteer provides a unified, real-time air picture to all key stakeholders, including control rooms, radar units, and air defence gun crews, enabling seamless coordination across the air defence network. The system is designed to automate the detection, tracking, and engagement of enemy aircraft, drones, and missiles.

### **Padma Shri scientist Subbanna Ayyappan found dead.**

Renowned fisheries expert and Padma Shri awardee Subbanna Ayyappan was found dead in the Cauvery river. Ayyappan was widely celebrated as the architect of India's Blue Revolution — a movement that enhanced fish production through scientific aquaculture.

He made history by becoming the first fisheries scientist to serve as the Director General of ICAR, a position traditionally held by crop scientists.

In 2022, Ayyappan was awarded the Padma Shri for his exceptional contributions to fisheries and agricultural research.

### **Business and Economy**

### **Public sector banks post record ₹1.78 tn profit in FY25, growth up 26%.**

Public sector banks' cumulative profit rose to a record level of Rs 1.78 lakh crore in the fiscal year ended March 2025, registering a growth of 26 per cent over the previous year. All 12 public sector banks had earned a total profit of Rs 1.41 lakh crore in FY24.

Out of the total profit of Rs 1,78,364 crore earned during the FY25, market leader State Bank of India (SBI) alone contributed over 40 per cent of the total earnings.

In percentage terms, Punjab National Bank reported the highest net profit growth of 102 per cent to Rs 16,630 crore, followed by Punjab & Sind Bank with a 71 per cent rise to Rs 1,016 crore.

### **India leads global rankings in manufacturing and services growth: J.P. Morgan report.**

India has emerged as the global frontrunner in both manufacturing and services activity, according to the latest Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) data released by J.P. Morgan. The report highlights that for April 2025, India's manufacturing PMI stood at 58.2, while the services PMI reached 58.7—marking the highest levels among developed and emerging economies alike.

A PMI reading above 50 indicates expansion, whereas a figure below 50 reflects contraction.

### **LTIMindtree bags \$450 million multi-year deal from a global agribusiness firm.**

LTIMindtree, Bengaluru-based tech firm owned Larsen & Toubro has secured a \$450 million multi-year deal from a leader in the global agribusiness sector. This deal, across seven years, was the largest deal in the history of LTIMindtree, claimed the firm.

### **Ant Group to sell 4% stake in India's Paytm for \$242 million.**

China's Ant Group will sell a 4% stake in Indian payments firm Paytm for \$242 million.

Ant, an affiliate of Chinese conglomerate Alibaba Group, will sell the stake at 809.75 rupees per share.

As of March 2025, Ant, through its Netherlands-based subsidiary Antfin, held approximately 9.85 per cent stake in Paytm's parent company, One97 Communications.

### **More retail plans ₹2,000-crore IPO in 2026.**

Amazon and Samara Capital-backed supermarket chain More Retail is planning to raise around ₹2,000 crore through an initial public offer (IPO), which is expected to hit the market in the calendar year 2026.

The proposed fund-raise plan will be mostly through fresh capital infusion, with no significant offer-for-sale component.

## Sports

### Indian shuttlers win 19 medals at Fazza Para Badminton International.

Indian shuttlers finished with a haul of 19 medals, including a gold, four silver and 14 bronze, at the 6th Fazza Para Badminton International tournament in Dubai.

Sivarajan Solaimalai and Sudarsan Saravanakumar Muthusamy claimed the only gold medal at the championships.

Experienced shuttler Umesh Vikram Kumar settled for silver in two of his Standing Lower SL3 singles and men's doubles finals. Krishna Nagar signed off with a bronze after losing to Brazil's Vitor Tavares in the semifinal.

### Asian Blitz Championship: Ivan Zemlyanskii and Alua Nurman capture titles.

Fourteen-year-old Ivan Zemlyanskii emerged undefeated to win the Asian Individual Blitz Chess Championship, held at the Danat Resort Hotel in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates.

In the women's section, WGM Alua Nurman of Kazakhstan won the title with 7.5 points, edging out runner-up GM Valentina Gunina (FID) on the basis of a superior opponents' average rating.