

International

Dominica to confer Highest National Honour on Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Dominica has announced that it would confer its highest national honour on Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Dominica Award of Honour will be bestowed on the Prime Minister in recognition of his contributions to Dominica during the COVID-19 pandemic and his dedication to strengthening the partnership between India and Dominica. President of Dominica, Sylvanie Burton will confer the award during the upcoming India-CARICOM Summit, scheduled to take place in Georgetown, Guyana from 19th to 21st of this month.

Sri Lanka parliamentary election: Ruling NPP coalition wins majority in polls.

The ruling National People's Power (NPP) coalition in Sri Lanka won a majority in parliamentary election, the news agency AFP reported on Friday citing the provisional results. The NPP coalition won at least 159 seats in the 225-member assembly -- exceeding a two-thirds majority. The coalition had nearly 61.5 per cent of the vote while opposition leader Sajith Premadasa's party was well behind with only 17.6 per cent

Trump picks Tulsi Gabbard to be Director of National Intelligence.

US President-elect Donald Trump has chosen Tulsi Gabbard, a 43-year-old former Democratic representative and critic of the Biden administration, as his director of national intelligence. Gabbard, who left the Democratic Party in 2022 to become an independent and was considered a possible candidate to become Trump's running mate, would take over from Avril Haines as the top official in the US intelligence community after the Republican president-elect starts his second term in January.

World's largest coral found near Solomon Islands: Scientists

Scientists have found the world's largest coral near the Pacific's Solomon Islands. Measuring

34 metres wide and 32 metres long," the "mega coral" was three times bigger than the previous record holder — a coral dubbed "Big Momma" in American Samoa .

The standalone structure, formed from a complex network of tiny coral polyps, has likely been growing for 300 years or more.

National

43rd IITF begins at Bharat Mandapam.

The 43rd India International Trade Fair (IITF) has begun at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, inaugurated the 14-day event. The theme of this year's fair is Viksit Bharat @ 2047. The focus state this year is Jharkhand, while Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are the partner states. This year, 11 countries including China, Egypt, Iran, South Korea, Thailand, Turkey, and UAE are participating in this international fair. The first five days of the fair till 18th November, will be open for business trade.

DRDO completes Flight Tests of Guided Pinaka Weapon System.

Defence Research and Development Organisation, DRDO has completed the Flight Tests of Guided Pinaka Weapon System as part of Provisional Staff Qualitative Requirements (PSQR) Validation Trials. The flight tests have been conducted in three phases at different field firing ranges. Twelve rockets from each production agency from two in-service Pinaka launchers upgraded by the launcher production agencies have been tested.

Guru Nanak Jayanti celebrated globally

Guru Nanak Jayanti or Gurburab is being celebrated with religious fervour across India and the world on November 15. It marks the birth of the first Sikh Guru, Guru Nanak Dev Ji, who laid the foundation of Sikhism. This year marks the 555th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas observed on November 15th.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas marked the 150th birth anniversary of the legendary tribal freedom fighter from Jharkhand, Birsa Munda on November 15, 2024. To honour his legacy, the Centre declared his birth anniversary as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Divas' during the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in 2021, which marked 75 years of Indian independence.

The day is also meant to observe the role of the tribal population in preserving India's heritage and advancing its progress, and ultimately integrating them into the mainstream society.

Business and Economy

GABV Member Banks Endorse Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty at COP29 in Baku.

The Global Alliance for Banking on Values (GABV) at the ongoing United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) at Baku in Azerbaijan announced that 25 of its member banks have endorsed the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty initiative, marking the first collective endorsement of the initiative by financial institutions. The treaty is a proposal for a global binding plan to end the expansion of new coal, oil and gas projects, and manage a global transition away from fossil fuels.

Founded in 2009, the GABV is a network of 70 sustainable banks operating across all major world regions, united by a mission to finance change and change finance. They collectively manage 117 billion dollars in assets and serve over 11.3 million people worldwide.

India's export performance during April–October 2024 shows strong growth.

India's export performance from April–October 2024 has shown strong growth, with an overall increase of 7.28 percent. The total export is 468.27 billion dollars, which is more than a 7 percent increase from 436.48 billion dollars year-on-year. Merchandise exports alone

reached 252.28 billion dollars, marking a steady growth of 3.18 percent compared to 244.51 billion dollars in the same period last year.

The value of service exports during April–October 2024 stands at 215.98 billion dollars, a significant jump from 191.97 billion dollars in the previous year, reflecting growth of over 12 percent.

EU slaps Meta with a nearly 800 million euro fine.

European Union regulators hit Facebook parent Meta with a fine of nearly 800 million euros for what they call "abusive practices" involving its Marketplace online classified ads business.

The European Commission, the 27-nation bloc's executive branch and top antitrust enforcer, issued the 797.72 million euro (\$841 million) penalty after its long-running investigation found that the company abused its dominant position and engaged in anti-competitive behaviour.

Wholesale price inflation hardens to 2.4% in October.

Inflation in India's wholesale prices hardened from 1.84% in September to 2.4% in October, led by a well over two-year high spike in food prices to 11.6% from 9.5% in the previous month. Vegetable prices soared over 63%, compared with the 14-month peak inflation of about 49% recorded in September.

Sports

Women's Asia Hockey: India thrash Thailand 13-0.

At the ongoing Women's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy in Bihar, India defeated Thailand 13-0 in their third match at Rajgir, Bihar. Deepika scored five goals, while Preeti Dubey, Lalremsiami, and Manisha Chauhan each contributed two goals to India's sweeping victory.