

International

Former Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari passes away.

Former Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari has died at the age of 82. Buhari was elected president in 2015 after running unsuccessfully three times. He was re-elected for another four-year term in 2019. He was the first Nigerian opposition candidate to defeat an incumbent President since the country transitioned to multi-party politics. In the 1980s, Buhari first led Africa's most populous nation as a military ruler following a coup.

Israel launches first state-owned communications satellite Dror-1.

Israel has successfully launched its first fully government-funded communications satellite, Dror-1, into space from Cape Canaveral, Florida. The Innovation, Science and Technology Ministry announced that around \$200 million has been invested in the advanced satellite since 2018, in close collaboration between Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) and the Israeli Space Agency.

Weighing approximately 4.5 tons and spanning 17.8 meters, Dror-1 is set to operate in a geostationary orbit roughly 36,000 kilometers above the Earth.

China builds world's lightest mind-controller.

Researchers at the Beijing Institute of Technology have developed the world's lightest brain controller, weighing 74 milligrams, that can be used to control the bees. The device is strapped on the bee's back and pierces its brain using three needles. It creates illusions with electronic pulses to command flight: turn left, turn right, advance, retreat. Nine out of 10 times, the bee obeyed.

ISA to hold 7th Asia-Pacific regional meet in Colombo to boost solar deployment

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) will convene its Seventh Regional Committee Meeting (RCM) for the Asia and Pacific region in Colombo. The event will bring together government officials, private sector leaders, technical institutions, and regional

organisations to accelerate solar deployment in the region.

The three-day meeting will focus on developing investment-ready solar solutions, promoting cross-border solar interconnections, and scaling up emerging technologies such as green hydrogen, energy storage, and e-mobility.

Marathon runner Fauja Singh died in a road accident.

Fauja Singh, the iconic runner who earned the tag of world's oldest marathoner, died at the age of 114 in a road accident. Fauja Singh competed in nine 26-mile (42-kilometre) marathons in London, Toronto and New York. His best time was in Toronto, where he clocked five hours, 40 minutes and four seconds.

He was a torchbearer for the 2004 Athens Games and 2012 London Olympics, and appeared in an advertisement for a major sports brand several years ago alongside the likes of David Beckham and Muhammad Ali.

National

Indian Astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla, Axiom-4 crew safely return to Earth.

Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla and three other crew members of Axiom-4 mission have safely returned to Earth after their 18-day historic mission aboard the International Space Station. The SpaceX Dragon spacecraft splashed down in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of San Diego in California. The crew will now undergo a seven-day rehabilitation program to adjust to Earth's gravity.

Axiom-4 mission's space odyssey began on the 25th of last month when the Falcon-9 rocket carrying the Dragon space capsule blasted off from Florida towards the International Space Station.

ICG, Japan Coast Guard conclude joint exercise 'JA-MATA' off Chennai coast.

Japan Coast Guard (JCG) Training Ship Itsukushima has concluded its week-long port call to Chennai as part of its Global Ocean Voyage Training. The ship undertook this visit to gain exposure to international maritime operations and enhance cooperation between the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and JCG.

According to the Indian Coast Guard, the visit culminated with a joint sea exercise named JA-

MATA (Japanese for “we will meet again”) conducted off the coast of Chennai. The exercise included coordinated manoeuvres such as boarding operations, station keeping, and firefighting drills—symbolising operational synergy and preparedness.

Senior IPS officer Sonali Mishra first woman to lead RPF

Senior IPS officer Sonali Mishra has been named as the first woman Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF). She is a 1993 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Madhya Pradesh cadre. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved Mishra’s appointment as DG, RPF, until her superannuation on October 31, 2026. She will take charge of the post from incumbent Manoj Yadava, who is due to superannuate on July 31.

Business and Economy

R. Doraiswamy takes charge as LIC CEO and MD.

R. Doraiswamy has taken charge as Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) for three years from the date of assumption of charge or till his attaining the age of 62 years (i.e., August 28, 2028). He succeeds Sat Pal Bhanoo, who was appointed interim MD and CEO from June 8 to September 7, 2025, after the end of Siddhartha Mohanty's term on June 7.

Jane Street transfer ₹4,843.6 crore to SEBI.

A week after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) passed an interim order against Jane Street for alleged market manipulation, the U.S.-based investment firm has completed the transfer of ₹4,843.6 crore to an escrow account.

Jane Street informed SEBI that this action was taken “without prejudice to their rights and remedies which remain available to them in law and equity.”. The investment firm also requested that the conditions be relaxed as it had complied to the interim order.

AU Small Finance Bank to distribute LIC products

Life Insurance Corporation of India and AU Small Finance Bank have entered into a tie-up under which the bank will distribute LIC’s range of products, including annuity, ULIP, term insurance and savings category across its branches and digital channels.

The partnership will contribute to greater financial inclusion and expansion of insurance penetration, especially in underserved and rural segments where AU Small Finance Bank has a strong presence.

Sanjay Kaul appointed MD and CEO of GIFT City, Gandhinagar

Sanjay Kaul, a 2001-batch IAS officer of Kerala cadre has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of GIFT City Company Limited in Gandhinagar on deputation. Kaul will be on deputation at GIFT City from the date of assumption of charge of the post, for a period of three years or until further orders

Elon Musk’s Tesla forays into India, launches Model Y starting at ₹60 lakh.

Tesla, the American electric vehicle company, has officially commenced its India operations by opening its first ‘experience centre’ at Bandra-Kurla Complex (BKC), Mumbai. It will be followed by another one in Delhi NCR.

The company announced the launch of Model Y in two variants, starting at ₹59.89 lakh. This model will be imported from Tesla’s factory in China and will be retailed in India.

U.S. defence department awards contracts to Google, Elon Musk's xAI.

OpenAI, Alphabet's Google, Anthropic and Elon Musk's AI firm xAI have won contracts of up to \$200 million each, aimed at scaling up adoption of advanced AI capabilities in the U.S. Department of Defense.

The contracts will enable the DoD to develop agentic AI workflows and use them to address critical national security challenges.

Indian Bank hands over sanction letters worth ₹1,011 cr to over 3,000 women.

Public sector Indian Bank has handed over sanction letters worth ₹1,011 crore to over 3,000 women, extending financial support to Self Help Groups across Tamil Nadu.

Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services, Secretary M. Nagaraju has presented the cheques to the beneficiaries at a Mega Self Help Group Credit Outreach Programme held at Tamukkam Convention Centre, in Madurai.

Sports

Nissan's Oliver Rowland wins Formula E title.

Nissan's Oliver Rowland has won the Formula E title for the first time and with two races to spare, the Briton became the all-electric series' 10th different champion in the space of 11 seasons. The Briton now has 184 points with Wehrlein on 125.

Marc Marquez wins German MotoGP

Ducati rider Marc Marquez has marked his 200th MotoGP start by winning the 2025 German Grand Prix in a race that became a test of survival after only 10 riders finished. Marquez's ninth MotoGP victory at the Sachsenring stretched his championship lead over brother Alex, who finished second, to 83 points while Marc's teammate Francesco Bagnaia finished third to sit 147 points behind.

Golden State Warriors' Quinten Post becomes first-ever NBA Chess Champion at inaugural Chesstival.

Golden State Warriors' Quinten Post became the first-ever NBA Chess Champion after he won the blitz tournament at the inaugural Chesstival in Los Angeles. The Chesstival is a cross-over event hosted by Magnus Carlsen's Freestyle Chess and American basketballer Derrick Rose. Post claimed the title with a dominating performance, acquiring 4.5 points out a maximum of five. Rajon Rondo, who used to represent Boston Celtics, finished second with four points.