

International

US President invokes Alien Enemies Act of 1798.

US President Donald Trump has invoked the Alien Enemies Act of 1798, claiming the United States is being invaded by a Venezuelan gang. The law gives the President broad powers, allowing him to speed up mass deportation of undocumented immigrants.

The act was last used as part of the internment of Japanese-American civilians during World War II and has only been used two other times in American history, during World War I and the War of 1812.

Important Days

National Vaccination Day: 16th March

National Vaccination Day, celebrated every year on March 16, highlights India's commitment to safeguarding public health through immunisation. The day aims to raise awareness about the crucial role vaccines play in preventing serious diseases. Conditions like measles, tetanus, tuberculosis, hepatitis, and diphtheria can be effectively avoided with timely vaccination.

National

Nominations for Padma Awards 2026 begins.

Nominations for the Padma Awards-2026 to be announced on the occasion of Republic Day next year have started.

The Padma Awards – Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri, are amongst the highest civilian awards of the country. The Awards seek to recognize ‘work of distinction’ and is given for distinguished and exceptional achievements in all disciplines, such as Art, Literature and Education, Sports, Medicine, Social Work, Science and Engineering, Public Affairs, Civil Service, and Trade and Industry.

BIS cracks down on E-Commerce platforms selling unsafe Non-Certified products.

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has carried out search and seizure operations at multiple warehouse locations of leading e-commerce platforms, including Amazon and Flipkart, in cities like Lucknow, Gurugram and Delhi.

BIS has identified that several non-certified products are being sold on e-commerce platforms even though BIS certification has been made mandatory for these products.

India intends to fully fence its 1,643-km border with Myanmar.

India intends to fully fence its 1,643-km border with Myanmar within the next ten years. According to government officials and a parliamentary panel report, this border will be secured with an “anti-cut, anti-climb” fence.

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) approved a ₹31,000 crore proposal to fence the Indo-Myanmar border and build roads to enhance connectivity to Assam Rifles' company operating bases (COBs).

Business and Economy

India to become world's third-largest economy by 2028, overtaking Germany, says Morgan Stanley.

India will become the world's third-largest economy by 2028, overtaking Germany, according to a report by global financial services firm Morgan Stanley.

The report said, the Indian economy, valued at 3.5 trillion dollars in 2023, is projected to expand to 4.7 trillion dollars by 2026. In 2028, India will overtake Germany as its economy will expand to 5.7 trillion, Morgan Stanley said.

India's global economic ranking has improved significantly, moving from the 12th largest economy in 1990 to the 13th in 2000, and then rising to 9th in 2020 and 5th in 2023.

Standard Chartered raises €1 billion via first social bond issuance.

Standard Chartered has successfully raised approximately ₹9,400 crore through its first social bond issuance. The funds will be used to support sustainable development projects across the bank's emerging market network, including India.

This 8-year bond is designed to promote lending to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), improving access to finance, fostering job creation, and empowering women-owned SMEs.

India holds the largest share of Standard Chartered's social assets at 57%, followed by Malaysia (10%), Bangladesh (6%), Mainland China (5%), and Nepal (4%).

Sports

Mumbai Indians clinch second Women's Premier League title.

In the Women's Premier League cricket final, Mumbai Indians secured their second title as Delhi Capitals faltered for the third consecutive time.

Harmanpreet Kaur was named Player of the Match for her impressive innings, while Nat Sciver-Brunt claimed the Most Valuable Player award. Sciver-Brunt also earned the Orange Cap after scoring 523 runs during the season.

Harmanpreet Singh, Savita Punia win Hockey India Player of the Year Awards

India captain Harmanpreet Singh and senior goalkeeper Savita Punia won the Hockey India Balbir Singh Senior Player of the Year award in the men's and women's categories.

In men's hockey, Harmanpreet led India to their second consecutive bronze medal at the 2024 Paris Olympics. He was also a part of the Tokyo Games bronze medal-winning side.

The seventh Hockey India Annual Awards were held to commemorate 100 years of Indian hockey and also to celebrate the country's World Cup win in 1975 in Kuala Lumpur.

Vaidehi Chaudhary, Rashmika Bhamidipaty clinch W35 Nonthaburi Women's Doubles title

India's Vaidehi Chaudhary and Rashmika Bhamidipaty have clinched the W35 Nonthaburi Women's Doubles title in Thailand.

The Indian duo defeated the second-seeded pair of Punnin Kovapitukted of Thailand and Yuki Naito of Japan in the final.

Mirra Andreeva beats Iga Swiatek to reach Indian Wells final.

In tennis, Russian teenager Mirra Andreeva pulled off a stunning victory over defending champion Iga Swiatek to book her place in the Indian Wells final.

Andreeva will face top seed Aryna Sabalenka in the women's singles final.

Andreeva is the youngest woman to reach the Indian Wells final since Kim Clijsters, who lost to Serena Williams in 2001.