

## International

### Typhoon Yagi wrecks Myanmar, death toll doubles to 226.

The number of people in Myanmar who died in the wake of Typhoon Yagi rose to more than 220, with nearly 80 others still missing. The storm swept through northern Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and Myanmar in early September and has killed more than 500 people across the region so far. It triggered severe floods and mudslides in Myanmar, leaving at least 226 dead as whole villages were wrecked.

### Democratic Republic of the Congo will launch its first phase of Mpox vaccination campaign.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) will launch its first phase of the Mpox vaccination campaign on October 2. The vaccination effort runs until October 11, following the receipt of over 2.65 lakh doses from international partners. The process of procuring 3,000 doses of vaccines for children is sufficiently advancing. This comes as the World Health Organization (WHO) recently announced the approval of the MVA-BN vaccine as the first Mpox vaccine to its prequalification list. The country accounts for about 90 per cent of Mpox cases in Africa. Congo has reported 21,813 suspected cases of Mpox. This includes 716 deaths since the start of 2024.

### India to host COP9 Bureau & Fund Approval Committee meetings.

India will host the 2nd formal meeting of the COP9 Bureau and the 3rd formal meeting of the Fund Approval Committee under the UNESCO International Convention against doping in sport in New Delhi. As the Vice-Chairperson of the COP9 Bureau, India has taken the lead in organizing the two-day high-level gatherings, which will bring together key

decision-makers and dignitaries from across the world.

The meetings will see participation from distinguished delegates representing countries such as France, Italy, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Barbados, Singapore, The Netherlands, Türkiye, UAE, and Zambia.

### India wins 16 medals & Medallions of Excellence at World Skills 2024

India won 16 medals and Medallions of Excellence at the World Skills 2024 in Lyon, France. The prizes include four Bronze in Patisserie and Confectionery, Industry 4.0, Hotel Reception and Renewable Energy. In addition to that, the Indian delegation earned 12 Medallions of Excellence, a testament to their exceptional skills and consistent performance across various trades.

The event saw more than 1400 participants from over 70 countries competing in diverse skill categories.

## National

### PM Narendra Modi flags off India's first Nammo Bharat Rapid Rail.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated India's first Vande Metro, now known as the Nammo Bharat Rapid Rail service, which connects Bhuj and Ahmedabad. The train covers 360 kilometres in 5 hours and 45 minutes and has a top speed of 110 km/h. For the public, the regular service will start on September 17 from Ahmedabad. The total journey will cost Rs 455.

Featuring 12 coaches with seating for 1,150 passengers, the Rapid Rail offers a host of innovative features with ergonomically designed seats, fully air-conditioned cabins and modular interiors.

## **Two Indian Navy women officers to go on a gruelling blue-water global voyage.**

Two Indian Navy women officers -- Lt Commander Roopa A and Lt Commander Dilna K -- would be embarking on an arduous blue-water voyage around the world soon after three years of preparations. The duo will be undertaking the expedition of circumnavigating the globe onboard Indian naval sailing vessel (INSV) Tarini. The two women officers have been preparing for the 'Sagar Parikrama' expedition for the last three years.

## **Swacchata Hi Sewa Abhiyan 2024 to begin from Sept 17.**

Swacchata Hi Sewa Abhiyan 2024 will be celebrated from 17th September to 2nd October across the country. The theme for this year is Swabhav Swachhata-Sanskaar Swacchata. This event marks a significant milestone as the Swachh Bharat Mission celebrates its tenth anniversary this year.

Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Manohar Lal, announced that the central government will transform 2 lakh Cleanliness Target Units (CTU) as part of this year's campaign.

## **FM Nirmala Sitharaman to Launch NPS-Vatsalya Scheme.**

As per the Union Budget 2024-25 announcement, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will launch the NPS-Vatsalya scheme on September 18 in New Delhi. Ms Sitharaman will also launch an online platform for subscribing to NPS Vatsalya, release of scheme brochure, and distribute Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN) cards to new minor subscribers.

The NPS Vatsalya scheme will allow parents to save for their children's future by investing in a pension account and ensuring long-term wealth with the power of compounding. The scheme offers flexible contributions and

investment options, allowing parents to invest Rs. 1,000 annually in the name of the child.

## **Business and Economy**

### **Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal launches BHASKAR.**

The Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has launched the Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry-BHASKAR in New Delhi. BHASKAR is an interactive online platform that will centralise, streamline, and enhance collaboration among key stakeholders within the entrepreneurial ecosystem, including startups, investors, mentors, service providers, and regulatory bodies.

### **Torrent Power to invest ₹64000 crore in green projects.**

Torrent Power Limited, the integrated power utility of diversified Torrent Group, has announced that it will invest ₹64,000 crore in green energy projects and generate 26,000 new jobs. As part of these commitments, Torrent Power signed an MOU with Government of Gujarat for execution of 5 GW solar, wind or solar-wind hybrid project at Dwarka District.

### **Bank of Baroda unveils Gen AI-powered solutions.**

Bank of Baroda has announced the introduction of three different generative AI-powered solutions for its customers and employees. These include 'Aditi', a GenAI powered Virtual Relationship Manager aims to enhance the digital customer service experience, a GenAI-enabled knowledge management platform, 'Gyan Sahay.AI' for its employees and a GenAI powered chatbot 'ADI' to improve digital customer experience and get the required queries solved through chatbot.

## **Adani Group to invest over \$48 billion in green energy push.**

The Adani Group has pledged to invest more than \$48 billion, or around ₹4.05 lakh crore, by 2030 to expand its green energy business spread across renewable energy generation, as well as increasing its manufacturing footprint for electrolyzers and in solar and wind energy segments. The conglomerate will infuse the capital in its two companies—Adani Green Energy (AGEL) and Adani New Industries.

## **Zomato expands its train food delivery service across 100 stations.**

Zomato has expanded its train food delivery service to 100 railway stations across 88 cities in the country. Working in association with the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), the online food delivery platform claims to have served 10 lakh orders in trains till date.

## **Sports**

### **Asian Champions Trophy: Indian hockey team reaches final.**

In the Asian Champions Trophy 2024, India entered into the final after thrashing South Korea 4-1. Harmanpreet Singh scored two goals while Uttam Singh and Jarmanpreet Singh hit one goal each in the second semifinal. India will now face hosts, China to chase a second consecutive gold.

India is the only unbeaten team in the tournament