

## International

### Second Round of Nuclear Talks Between US & Iran Over Tehran's Nuclear Program Concludes

The second round of nuclear talks between the United States and Iran over Iran's nuclear program has concluded in Rome with signs of cautious optimism.

The US has been against Iran's nuclear plans, wanting Tehran to stop production of highly enriched uranium, which it believes is aimed at building an atomic bomb.

On the other side, Iran has doubled down on its right to enrich uranium but has suggested it is willing to negotiate some compromises in return for sanctions relief to ease the pressure on its hard-hit economy.

## National

### World Liver Day: 19<sup>th</sup> April

World Liver Day is celebrated annually on April 19 to spread awareness about liver health, the prevention of liver diseases, and the need for a healthy lifestyle.

The theme for 2025, "Food is medicine," highlights the essential role of nutrition in safeguarding and restoring liver function.

## National

### ISRO Develops Indigenous Stellite Nozzle Divergent for PSLV, Cuts 90% Import Cost

In line with its self-reliance mission, ISRO has developed an alternative for the imported columbium material used for the nozzle divergent in the fourth stage of the PSLV launch vehicle. It has indigenously developed the nozzle divergent made of stellite. This alternate material is a cobalt-based alloy with additions of chromium, nickel, tungsten and iron.

The test was conducted at the ISRO Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri in Tamil Nadu. The use of stellite nozzle divergent in PSLV will save ISRO 90 percent of the cost incurred on imported columbium.

### India's Pharmaceutical Exports Surge Over 9 Percent to Reach 30 Billion Dollars in Last Financial Year

India's pharmaceutical exports surpassed 30 billion dollars in the last financial year, with the United States remaining a key market, accounting for more than one-third of the country's total pharma exports.

Pharmaceutical exports reached over 30 billion dollars in financial year 2024-25, marking an increase of over 9 percent compared to nearly 27.5 billion dollars in financial year 2023-24.

## Business and Economy

### ICICI Bank Q4 Net Profit Grows 18% to ₹12,630 Crore

ICICI Bank Ltd., the second-largest private sector bank in India, reported an 18% year-on-year (YoY) rise in standalone net profit for the quarter ended March 31, 2025, reaching ₹12,630 crore. This growth was primarily driven by an improvement in Net Interest Income (NII).

The bank reported a decline in Gross Non-Performing Assets (GNPA) to ₹24,166 crore, down from ₹27,962 crore in the same period last year.

### HDFC Bank Q4 Net Rises 7%, YoY to Rs 17,616 Cr

HDFC Bank rose 1.28% to ₹1,931 after reporting a 6.68% year-on-year (YoY) increase in standalone net profit to ₹17,616.14 crore for the fourth quarter of FY25, up from ₹16,511.85 crore in Q4 FY24.

As of March 31, 2025, gross advances stood at ₹26,43,500 crore, marking a 5.4% YoY growth. Retail loans grew by 9%, commercial and rural banking loans rose 12.8%, and corporate and other wholesale loans declined by 3.6%. Overseas advances made up 1.7% of the total advances.

### Yes Bank Net Profit Up 63.3%

Yes Bank reported a 63.3% year-on-year (YoY) increase in standalone net profit, reaching ₹738 crore in the fourth quarter of

FY25, compared to ₹452 crore in the same period last year. This growth was primarily driven by lower provisioning during the quarter.

The bank's Gross Non-Performing Assets (GNPA) ratio remained steady at 1.6% of total advances. However, the Net NPA ratio improved to 0.3% in Q4 FY25, down from 0.6% in Q4 FY24.

The Net Interest Margin (NIM) for the quarter stood at 2.5%.

## Sports

### Arjun Babuta Wins Silver at ISSF World Cup 2025

In shooting, Indian shooter Arjun Babuta narrowly missed out on a historic gold medal at the ISSF World Cup 2025 in Lima, Peru, after a nail-biting 10m air rifle final that saw him finish just 0.1 points behind reigning Olympic champion Lihao Sheng of China.

Babuta, who led the competition for most of the final, put up a remarkable performance under pressure but was ultimately edged out in the last few shots by Sheng, who claimed gold.

### Squash: Veer Chotrani, Anahat Singh Storm Into Finals of World Championship Qualifiers (Asia)

In squash, Veer Chotrani and Anahat Singh advanced to the finals of the World Championship Qualifying Event (Asia) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The second-seeded Chotrani prevailed 3-1 against Chi Him Wong, his eighth-seeded opponent from Hong Kong.

The winners of the tournament will qualify for the world championships scheduled in Chicago from May 9 to 17.

### Kriish & Rethin Clinch the ITF Junior Tennis Title

Kriish and Rethin Pranav clinched the doubles title, beating second seeds Jake Dembo and Try Host of Australia in the final.

Top seed Kriish Tyagi defeated fourth seed Connor Doig of South Africa 6-2, 4-6, 6-2 in the semifinals of the ITF Junior Tennis tournament in Kuala Lumpur.