

International

US carries out strikes on three nuclear sites in Iran.

The United States has successfully conducted strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities at Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan in Iran.

The conflict between Iran and Israel is intensifying, drawing growing concern from regional powers and international observers.

Diplomatic efforts to resolve the crisis have proven unsuccessful, with Iranian officials stating they would not engage in discussions with the United States while Israel's bombing campaign continues.

Japan, U.S., and Philippines conduct joint coast guard drills in South China Sea.

Japan, the United States, and the Philippines have conducted joint coast guard exercises in the South China Sea, highlighting their commitment to regional maritime security and cooperation.

The drills focused on enhancing interoperability, search and rescue operations, and law enforcement coordination among the three nations.

This collaboration comes amid growing tensions in the region, particularly concerning China's expanding maritime claims.

The joint effort underscores the participating countries' shared interest in maintaining freedom of navigation and upholding international maritime law.

Important Days

World Rainforest Day: 22nd June.

World Rainforest Day is observed annually on June 22nd to raise awareness about the critical importance of rainforests and the urgent need for their protection.

These diverse ecosystems play a vital role in regulating the climate, supporting biodiversity, and providing essential resources.

World Music Day: 21st June

World Music Day, was celebrated on June 21, 2025, across the globe to honor the universal language of music.

Originating in France in 1982, the day encourages both amateur and professional musicians to perform freely in public spaces.

National

Govt launches start-up challenge to boost rooftop solar and renewable innovations.

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has launched innovative projects start-up challenge to accelerate rooftop solar and distributed renewable energy innovations. This unique national innovation challenge aims to identify and support breakthrough solutions for India's rooftop solar and distributed energy ecosystem.

The selected innovators will compete for a total prize pool of 2.3 crore rupees, including 1 crore rupees for the 1st prize, 50 lakh rupees for the 2nd prize, 30 lakh rupees for the 3rd prize, and 10 consolation prizes of 5 lakh rupees each.

India to link rare-blood donor registry with e-Rakt Kosh for better emergency response.

India is set to integrate its rare-blood donor registry with the e-Rakt Kosh portal, aiming to streamline access to rare blood types during emergencies.

This move will enhance the efficiency of blood transfusion services by creating a centralized digital platform that connects patients, hospitals, and rare-blood donors. The integration will help in timely identification and mobilization of suitable donors, especially for those with uncommon blood groups like Bombay blood group. It marks a significant step towards improving healthcare accessibility and emergency preparedness across the country.

Under Operation Sindhu, 1117 Indian nationals evacuated from Iran so far

Under Operation Sindhu, launched by India's Ministry of External Affairs, a total of 1,117 Indian nationals have been safely evacuated from Iran so far.

This large-scale evacuation, coordinated through diplomatic channels and emergency Embassy support, reflects India's urgent commitment to safeguarding its nationals amid escalating regional tensions.

Nepal and Sri Lanka have expressed gratitude to India for assisting in evacuating their citizens under Operation Sindhu from conflict-hit Iran.

Business and Economy

Gross direct tax collections rise by 4.86% in the current financial year, so far.

The country's gross direct tax collections for the financial year 2025-26 rose by 4.86 per cent to about 5.45 lakh crore rupees compared to about 5.19 lakh crore rupees in the same period last year.

However, net direct tax collections saw a marginal decline of 1.39 per cent, dropping to over 4.58 lakh crore rupees. The fall is primarily attributed to a sharp 58 per cent jump in refunds issued, reflecting faster processing and improved taxpayer services.

Shri Sivasubramanian Ramann takes charge as Chairperson of PFRDA.

Shri Sivasubramanian Ramann formally assumed charge as the Chairperson of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA). He will serve a five-year term or until he turns 65, whichever comes first.

A 1991-batch IA&AS officer, Ramann brings extensive leadership experience from roles such as Deputy C&AG and

CTO of the CAG's office, Chairman & MD of SIDBI, MD & CEO of NeSL, and Executive Director at SEBI.

EPFO records impressive April growth with 19.14 Lakh net member additions.

According to the Labour Ministry's payroll data in April 2025, the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) added a remarkable 19.14 lakh net members up 31.31% from March and 1.17% year-over-year.

The 18–25 age group led the surge with 4.89 lakh new entrants (57.7%), while female membership rose to 2.45 lakh, signaling increased gender inclusivity. Additionally, 15.77 lakh returning members opted to transfer their funds, reflecting job-market mobility.

Sports

India scripts historic finish at U23 Asian Wrestling Championships with double team titles.

India's young wrestlers delivered a stellar performance on the final day of the Under-23 Asian Wrestling Championships in Vung Tau, Vietnam, winning six medals in men's freestyle. Five wrestlers, Nikhil, Sujeet, Jaideep, Chander Mohan, and Sachin, clinched gold. India also topped the team rankings in men's freestyle and won the women's freestyle team title, marking a historic finish at the continental event.

Indian women wrestlers won the team title at the Under-23 Asian Championship by winning a medal in each of the 10 categories, including four gold and five silver in Vung Tau, Vietnam. Priyanshi Prajapat in 50kg category, Reena in 55kg category, Shrishti in 68kg and Priya in 76kg category sealed the top podium places.

India's Maaya Rajeshwaran clinches women's single ITF J200 Gladbeck title in Germany.

In Tennis, India's Maaya Rajeshwaran has clinched the women's singles ITF J200 Gladbeck title in Germany. The 16-year-old defeated Switzerland's Noelia Manta

6-2, 6-4 in the final. This triumph marks Maaya's maiden ITF Junior title on European clay.

It is Maaya's seventh ITF Junior title overall. Her earlier titles include victories at J100 and J300 events.