

International

UN Chief calls for global action against racism.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has called for unity and collective action to combat racism, describing it as a persistent global issue rooted in colonialism, inequality and discrimination.

In his message on the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, he warned about the spread of hate speech through digital platforms.

He urged governments, institutions and communities to work together to uphold equality, justice and human rights worldwide.

US unveils national AI framework.

The United States has introduced a new national framework on artificial intelligence, signalling a shift towards boosting innovation and strengthening global leadership in AI.

The policy focuses on areas such as child safety, economic growth, intellectual property, free speech, and workforce development.

The framework is expected to influence global tech ecosystems, including India's IT sector and talent pool.

The White House has said it will work with Congress to enact the necessary legislation.

Important Days

World Water Day:22nd March.

World Water Day is observed on March 22 to highlight the importance of freshwater and promote sustainable water management.

The 2026 theme, "Water and Gender," focuses on how water scarcity disproportionately affects women and girls, limiting their access to education and opportunities.

The United Nations calls for inclusive solutions by empowering women in water governance.

The day also stresses the need to address challenges like climate change, water scarcity and pollution, while achieving SDG 6 ensuring safe and accessible water for all.

Bihar celebrates 114th Foundation Day.

Bihar is celebrating its 114th Foundation Day (Bihar Divas), marking its formation in 1912 after separation from Bengal.

The theme this year is "Unnat Bihar, Ujjwal Bihar."

A three-day celebration is being held at Gandhi Maidan, Patna.

National

Government increases commercial LPG allocation to 50%.

The Government has raised commercial LPG allocation to 50%, including an additional 20% to support sectors like restaurants, hotels, and canteens.

The move prioritises essential services and promotes PNG adoption in urban areas. Consumers must register with Oil Marketing Companies to avail supplies. The government assured that there is no shortage of fuel and has directed states to act against hoarding and black marketing, while increasing domestic LPG production.

Arasavalli temple to be developed under PRASAD scheme.

Civil Aviation Minister K. Ram Mohan Naidu announced a comprehensive plan to develop the Arasavalli Sri Surya Narayana Swamy Temple in Srikakulam under the PRASAD scheme.

The project includes modern amenities such as a kitchen, dining halls, accommodation and improved connectivity, with an estimated cost of ₹58 crore.

He also laid the foundation for modernising the temple tank and inaugurated the Kargil Victory Park, honouring soldiers from the district.

MY Bharat to organise nationwide padayatra on Shaheed Diwas.

Mera Yuva (MY) Bharat will organise a nationwide Padyatra on Shaheed Diwas under the theme "MY Bharat, My Responsibility."

The initiative will honour freedom fighters Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Sukhdev and promote responsible citizenship among youth. The Padyatra will be held across 763 districts, with a major event in Faridabad involving over 10,000 participants.

India advances Carbon Market Framework.

Union Power Minister Manohar Lal said India is successfully balancing climate responsibility with economic growth while inaugurating the Prakriti 2026 Conference and the Indian Carbon Market Portal in New Delhi. He highlighted that India has established a transparent Carbon Credit Trading Scheme with multiple methodologies and registered projects in sectors like biogas, hydrogen and forestry, strengthening its climate commitments.

Road Safety Conclave 2026 held in New Delhi.

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways organised the Road Safety Conclave 2026 in New Delhi to promote awareness and responsible mobility. The event brought together policymakers, students and civil society, with participation from around 4,000 students and 500 teachers. Minister of State Harsh Malhotra highlighted India's expanding highway network of about 1.46 lakh km, stressing the integration of safety with infrastructure development.

3rd North-East India Film Festival begins in Imphal.

The 3rd North-East India Film Festival (NEIFF) 2026 has begun at TanthaPolis Cinema in Imphal. The two-day event features nine films from the region, including Manipuri, Assamese and Khasi films. The festival aims to promote a vibrant and inclusive film industry while encouraging appreciation of cinema as an art form.

RRU, SSB sign MoU to strengthen security training.

Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) and the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) Academy have signed an MoU to enhance national security training and accreditation.

The partnership will integrate academic research with practical training needs, with RRU providing accreditation and advanced training support.

It also includes resource sharing, faculty exchange and technology-driven training to modernise border security and internal security capabilities.

Biopharma SHAKTI initiative to boost pharma sector.

The Government has proposed the Biopharma SHAKTI initiative in the Union Budget 2026–27 with an outlay of ₹10,000 crore over five years.

The scheme aims to position India as a global hub for biologics and biosimilars manufacturing.

India's pharma sector, ranked 3rd globally by volume, continues to grow strongly, with exports rising steadily and contributing significantly to the global supply of generic medicines.

Expert committee formed on invasive alien species.

The National Biodiversity Authority has constituted an expert committee on invasive alien species to address threats to biodiversity, agriculture and ecosystems. The panel will prepare a national list of such species, prioritise high-risk ones, and recommend management and control strategies.

The two-year committee aims to strengthen conservation efforts, improve ecosystem resilience and support India's biodiversity commitments.

Business and Economy

Government revises credit guarantee scheme for MSMEs.

The Government has modified the Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme to improve credit access for MSMEs, especially manufacturing and export units. Under the scheme, up to 60% guarantee cover is provided for loans up to ₹100 crore.

Key changes include refundable upfront contribution, expanded eligibility to service sector MSMEs, and reduced project cost requirements.

The reforms aim to boost credit availability, manufacturing growth and exports.

Sports

Fanny Utagushimaninde becomes youngest T20I centurion.

Rwanda's Fanny Utagushimaninde has become the youngest centurion in Women's T20I history.

The 15-year-old scored an unbeaten 111 off 65 balls against Ghana in the Nigeria Invitational Tournament.

She broke the previous record held by Uganda's Prosscovia Alako and also registered the highest score on Women's T20I debut.

Her innings helped Rwanda post 210/3 and secure a 122-run victory over Ghana.

Anahat Singh, Abhay Singh reach finals at Indian Open Squash.

Top seed Anahat Singh defeated Tanvi Khanna 3-1 to enter the women's final of the Indian Open PSA Squash Tour event in Mumbai. She will face Egypt's Hana Moataz in the final. In the men's category, Abhay Singh advanced to the final after beating Malaysia's Amishenraj Chandran 3-1.

Nozomi Okuhara ends Tanvi Sharma's run at Orleans Masters.

Top seed Nozomi Okuhara defeated India's Tanvi Sharma 21-9, 21-16 in the women's singles semifinal of the Orleans Masters in France. The former world champion dominated with superior court coverage, ending Sharma's impressive run. Okuhara will face the winner of the other semifinal between Pitchamon Opatniputh and Isharani Baruah in the final.

Manav Thakkar, Yashaswini Ghorpade win National TT Titles.

Petroleum Sports Promotion Board paddlers Manav Thakkar and Yashaswini Ghorpade clinched their maiden singles titles at the Senior National Table Tennis Championships in Indore. Manav defeated Jeet Chandra 4-1 in the men's final, while Yashaswini edged past Syndrela Das 4-3 in a thrilling women's final. In mixed doubles, Ankur Bhattacharjee and Suhana Saini won the title.