

## International

### DR Congo authorities suspend former president Kabila's political party.

The Democratic Republic of Congo has suspended former President Joseph Kabila's political party, People's Party for Reconstruction and Democracy (PPRD), and ordered the seizure of his assets. The government accused Kabila and his party of supporting the M23 rebels, who are backed by Rwanda and have recently captured two cities in the country's east. Kabila ruled from 2001 to 2019 after taking power following his father's assassination. He stayed in office past the end of his term in 2016, sparking protests.

### Famed climber to scale Mt. Everest for 31st time, break own record.

Kami Rita, one of the greatest mountain guides will attempt to scale the world's highest peak for the 31st time — and possibly the 32nd time as well and break his own record.

Kami Rita (55) flew to Mount Everest from Kathmandu to lead a group of climbers who will try to reach the 8,849-metre (29,032-foot) summit during the spring climbing season.

## National

### US VP JD Vance arrives in India for four-day visit .

United States Vice President JD Vance has arrived in India for a four-day visit as New Delhi looks to avoid US tariffs, negotiate a bilateral trade deal with Washington and strengthen ties with the administration of President Donald Trump. Over the visit, the two leaders were set to discuss plans for strengthened bilateral ties outlined in February when Modi met Trump at the White House in Washington, DC.

The US is India's largest trading partner, and the two countries have been holding negotiations aimed at sealing a new trade agreement this year

### Indian navy completes refit of Maldivian ship Huravee under 'MAHASAGAR' vision

The Indian Navy has successfully completed a major refit of the Maldivian Coast Guard Ship MNDF Huravee at the Naval Dockyard, Mumbai, highlighting strong diplomatic and military cooperation between the two countries. The refit was done as part of India's commitment to regional maritime security under the vision of 'Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth for All in the Region (MAHASAGAR)' and its 'Neighbourhood First' policy.

The ship set sail for the Maldives upon completing her maiden normal refit at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.

### Kailash Mansarovar Yatra to resume via Uttarakhand route from June 30.

The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra is set to resume on 30th June after a four-year suspension following the COVID-19 pandemic. This pilgrimage will take place via the Uttarakhand route. The yatra will be organised under the joint supervision of the Government of Uttarakhand and the Ministry of External Affairs.

The journey will commence from Delhi and proceed through the Lipulekh Pass in Pithoragarh district to enter China. A total of 250 pilgrims will undertake this spiritually significant and physically demanding 22-day journey.

### India's largest cruise terminal opens in Mumbai

The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW), Sarbananda Sonowal, flagged off cruise operations from the Mumbai International Cruise Terminal (MICT), India's largest cruise terminal.

The MICT, developed as per Cruise Bharat Mission, was developed as per the latest global standards and is expected to take a pioneering role in developing cruise tourism in India. Spread over a built-up area of more than 4,15,000 Square Feet, the MICT is developed at Ballard Pier.

### C-DOT and Sterlite Technologies Ltd. (STL) achieve India's First Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) over Multi-Core Fibre.

In a landmark achievement, C-DOT, jointly with Sterlite Technologies Limited (STL), has successfully tested India's first Quantum Key Distribution, QKD transmission over a 4-core Multi-Core Fibre (MCF) — marking a major milestone in the nation's journey towards quantum-secured communication networks.

Multi-Core Fibre (MCF) technology provides a powerful solution by enabling data transmission across multiple cores within a single fibre, significantly saving physical space and infrastructure costs.

## **Business and Economy**

### **IMF projects India's GDP growth above 6% despite global trade tension.**

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its April 2025 World Economic Outlook (WEO) report has projected India's GDP growth to remain above 6 per cent, despite all the odds amid rising global trade tensions.

It pegged the Indian economy to grow at 6.2 per cent in Fiscal Year 2025-26 and 6.3 per cent in 2026-27. The IMF expects global growth to decrease to 2.8 per cent this year and 3 per cent next year, indicating a cumulative downgrade of around 0.8 percentage points, following US President Donald Trump's announcement of reciprocal tariff on major trading partners and critical sectors earlier this month.

### **Govt. re-appoints Rabi Sankar as RBI Deputy Governor.**

The Centre has re-appointed T. Rabi Sankar as the Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), for a period of one year with effect from May 3, 2025, or until further orders, whichever is earlier. This is his second extension. Mr. Sankar is in charge of foreign exchange, currency management and government accounts department in the RBI. He was appointed as the Deputy Governor in May 2021.

### **RBI asks banks to migrate to .bank.in by Oct. 31**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has asked all banks to commence the migration of their existing domains to the '.bank.in' domain and complete the process at the earliest and in any case, not later than October 31.

Announced as a Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies on February 7, 2025, on "Enhancing Trust in the Financial Sector through 'bank.in' and 'fin.in' domains", this initiative is aimed at strengthening the cybersecurity framework and enhancing public confidence in digital banking and payment systems.

### **Gold prices reach Rs 1 lakh/10gm**

Gold prices have reached a historic milestone on April 22 as the rate of 24-carat gold touched 1,00,000 rupees per 10 grams for the first time ever ahead of Akshaya Tritiya. This surge in

gold prices is fuelled by heightened demand for the safe-haven asset amid rising geopolitical tensions and ongoing global economic uncertainties.

In the international gold market, gold prices briefly broke above 3,500 dollars per ounce to an all-time high, after U.S. President Donald Trump intensified his attacks against Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell, rattling investors and increasing demand for the safe-haven asset.

### **Air India CEO steps down as Board Chairman of LCC-arm.**

In a significant leadership shuffle, Air India CEO Campbell Wilson announced his decision to step down as the Chairman of the Board of Air India Express, the Tata Group's low-cost carrier.

He will be succeeded by Nipun Aggarwal, Tata Sons appointee and Air India's Chief Commercial Officer, who is already a member of the Air India Express Board.

## **Sports**

### **Simone Biles, Mondo Duplantis win big at 25th Anniversary Laureus World Sports Awards.**

Paris 2024 Olympic champions Armand Duplantis, Simone Biles, and Rebeca Andrade were among the top winners at the 2025 Laureus World Sports Awards held in Madrid, Spain.

### **Complete list of winners at the Laureus World Sports Awards**

- Sportsman of the Year Award: Mondo Duplantis
- Sportswoman of the Year Award: Simone Biles
- Team of the Year Award: Real Madrid
- Breakthrough of the Year Award: Lamine Yamal
- Comeback of the Year Award: Rebeca Andrade
- Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability Award: Jiang Yuyan
- Action Sportsperson of the Year Award: Tom Pidcock
- Sport for Good Award: Kick4Life
- Sporting Icon Award: Rafael Nadal
- Lifetime Achievement Award: Kelly Slater

## **Humpy Koneru takes lead at Women's Grand Prix in Pune**

Indian Grandmaster Humpy Koneru seized the lead at the Women's Grand Prix in Pune with a crucial victory over Chinese Grandmaster Zhu Jiner in the seventh round. Meanwhile, Divya Deshmukh kept herself in contention for the top spot with a dominant win over Mongolian International Master Batkhuyag Munguntuul. The Pune Grand Prix 2025, the fifth leg of the FIDE Women's Grand Prix Series, plays a crucial role in the qualification process for the 2026 Women's Candidates Tournament.

## **ITTF World Cup 2025: Calderano bags historic first-ever title for Brazil, Sun Yingsha defends women's crown Screengrab.**

Hugo Calderano bagged a historic first-ever men's singles title for Brazil while Sun Yingsha continued China's dominance in women's singles at the ITTF World Cup in Macao, China. Calderano completed with a 4-1 (6-11, 11-7, 11-9, 11-4, 11-5) win over World No. 1 Lin Shidong of China in the final. In women's final, World No. 1 Sun defended her title easily with a 4-0 (11-9, 11-6, 11-9, 11-6) victory over compatriot and World No. 7 Kuai Man.