

International

South Sudan Sshuts schools for two weeks amid extreme heatwave.

South Sudan has ordered all schools to close for two weeks due to an ongoing extreme heat wave that has caused some students to collapse. This is the second time the country has taken such action.

In March last year, schools were closed for a similar period as temperatures rose above 40 degrees Celsius. The majority of schools in South Sudan have makeshift structures made of iron sheets and do not have electricity for cooling systems.

US President Donald fires Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff Charles Q Brown

US President Donald fired the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Charles Q Brown, the highest-ranking officer in the country.

Trump also nominated Air Force Lieutenant General Dan "Razin" Caine as the next Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is the nation's top military officer and the primary military advisor to the President, the Secretary of Defense, and the National Security Council.

Important Days

World Thinking Day: 22nd February

World Thinking Day is observed every year on 22nd February by the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS).

It is a day dedicated to promoting global awareness, leadership, and empowerment of young women.

The date was chosen as it marks the joint birthday of Lord Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of the Scout and Guide movement, and his wife Olave Baden-Powell, the first World Chief Guide.

National

Indian Navy hands over Guldar ship to MTDC for underwater museum

In a landmark initiative, the Indian Navy has handed over decommissioned Landing Ship Tank INS Guldar to the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) for

conversion into India's first underwater museum and artificial reef.

The project to convert the ship into an underwater museum and artificial reef holds significant potential for showcasing marine conservation, creating livelihood opportunities for coastal communities and elevating India's stature in underwater tourism.

Former RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das Appointed Principal Secretary-2 to PM Modi.

Former RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has been appointed Principal Secretary-2 to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

His selection was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. Mr. Das is a former 1980-batch IAS officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre.

Business and Economy

Coal India and EDF's to form Renewable Energy Joint Venture

Coal India Ltd, a government-owned enterprise, has teamed up with France's EDF to develop renewable energy projects across South Asia.

The collaboration will primarily focus on pumped-storage hydropower and other sustainable energy solutions in India and nearby regions.

This initiative is a step forward in India's efforts to enhance its renewable energy capacity and reduce dependence on traditional fossil fuels.

India's machinery imports from Germany increased by 2.2% in 2024.

According to VDMA, an organization representing the machinery and equipment manufacturing industry in Germany and Europe, India's imports of machinery and equipment from Germany grew by 2.6% in 2024, reaching 4,298 million euros.

India accounts for 2.2% of Germany's total machinery and equipment exports.

Sports

Gulveer Singh makes history by becoming first Indian to break 13-minute barrier in Men's 5000 m Indoor Race

In athletics, the Hangzhou Asian Games bronze medallist Gulveer Singh has made history by becoming the first Indian to break the 13-minute barrier in the men's 5000 metre indoor race.

Competing at the BU Terrier DMR Challenge in Boston, Gulveer clocked an astonishing 12 minutes 59.77 seconds, a performance that not only sets a new National Record for India but also establishes a new Asian 5000m short track record.

India defeats Germany 1-0 in FIH Pro League

India secured 1-0 victory against Germany in the women's FIH Pro League match, with star drag-flicker scoring the decisive goal from a penalty corner in the 12th minute at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.

Deepika scored from a penalty corner to give India the lead with three minutes left in the first quarter.

Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan & Vijay Sundar Prasanth Win Pune ATP Challenger 100 Doubles Title

The top-seeded Indian duo, Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Vijay Sundar Prasanth have clinched the men's doubles title of the Pune ATP Challenger 100. They defeated the second-seeded Australian pair, Blake Bayldon and Matthew Romios.

This was Jeevan's third career title, while it was the second for the duo as a pair, following their Hangzhou Open triumph late last year.