

## International

### Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah sworn in as Namibia's First Woman President.

72-year-old Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah was sworn in as the first woman President of the southern African nation of Namibia.

Nandi-Ndaitwah's SWAPO party, which ruled the country for over three decades, won both the Presidential and Parliamentary elections in November.

She previously served as the Vice President and won 58 percent of the vote.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Indian Film Festival begins in US

The 1st Indian Film Festival commenced in Seattle, United States, marking the beginning of a three-day celebration of Indian cinema.

The event, held at the Museum of Pop Culture, featured excerpts from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's podcast with Lex Fridman, highlighting the Prime Minister's vision of the "Idea of India".

### India sends humanitarian aid to Botswana & Kiribati.

India has sent humanitarian assistance to Botswana in the wake of floods in the country. The first tranche of around 10 tonnes of assistance comprising essential medicines, surgical supplies, mosquito nets, and water purifiers was dispatched for Botswana.

Meanwhile, humanitarian assistance has also been sent to Kiribati to help strengthen the healthcare system of the country. A consignment of a 6-bed container-based dialysis unit departed from Mundra Port for Tarawa, Kiribati

## Obituary

### Boxing legend George Foreman passes away.

The former boxing heavyweight champion George Foreman died at the age of 76.

He won global acclaim at the Olympic Games in Mexico in 1968, where he fought his way to the super-heavyweight gold at just 19.

Foreman took part in the iconic "Rumble in the Jungle" match against Muhammad Ali in 1974. Although he lost that fight, he was a two-time heavyweight champion as well as an Olympic gold medalist.

## Important Days

### World Water Day: 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

World Water Day is observed on March 22, to highlight the importance of freshwater and the need for its sustainable management.

This year's theme, "Glacier Preservation," emphasizes the critical role of glaciers in water security, climate regulation, and sustaining life on Earth.

## Awards

### Hindi writer Vinod Kumar Shukla wins Jnanpith Award.

A famous Hindi poet and writer from Chhattisgarh, Vinod Kumar Shukla, has been selected for the Jnanpith award. This award is considered the country's highest literary honour. His first collection of poems, "Lagbhag Jai Hind", was published in the year 1971. His novels, "Naukar ki Kameez", "Khilega to dekhenge" and "Deewar mein ek khidki", are considered to be the best Hindi novels.

## National

### Centre withdraws 20% duty on onion exports from April 1.

The Centre has withdrawn 20 per cent duty on onion export, effective from the 1st of April.

This will ensure remunerative prices to farmers while maintaining the affordability of onion to the consumers at a crucial juncture.

The export duty of 20 per cent was in place from 13th September last year to ensure domestic availability.

### Union Minister C.R. Patil launches Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain-2025 in Haryana.

Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil launched the country-wide Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain – 2025 from Tau Devi Lal Stadium of Panchkula in Haryana.

The campaign was launched in collaboration with the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Government of Haryana. The campaign underlines the importance of water conservation, rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge in the wake of climate change and increasing water challenges. The initiative is focusing on 148 districts across the country.

## **Business and Economy**

### **India's GDP doubles in a decade, set to overtake Japan: IMF.**

India has doubled its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the last 10 years at a growth of 105 percent, from 2.1 trillion dollars in 2015 to 4.3 trillion dollars in 2025.

According to the data released by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), India is now the fifth-largest country in terms of GDP in the world after the US, China, Germany and Japan.

It added that India is set to outpace Japan soon, as the latter's GDP grew nil in the past decade. In comparison, the United States and China's GDP grew by 66 per cent and 44 per cent, respectively, during the same period.

## **Sports**

### **Gymnastics: Pranati Nayak wins bronze in Women's Vault at FIG World Cup.**

In gymnastics, India's Pranati Nayak bagged the bronze medal in the Women's Vault final at the Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG) World Cup in Antalya, Turkey. The two-time Asian Championship medallist Pranati scored an average of 13.417 to secure her maiden World Cup podium finish. Jayla Hang of the United States claimed the gold with a score of 13.667, while her compatriot Clare Pease took silver with a score of 13.567.

### **Miami Open: Yuki Bhambri & Nuno Borges enter men's doubles pre-quarterfinals.**

In Tennis, India's Yuki Bhambri and his Portuguese partner Nuno Borges have entered the Men's Doubles pre-quarterfinals of the Miami Open in Florida, United States.

Bhambri and Borges defeated India's veteran tennis player Rohan Bopanna and Ivan Dodig of Croatia, 6-4, 3-6, 10-7, in the round of 32.

The Indian-Portuguese duo will next take on Adam Pavlásek of Czechia and Jamie Murray of the United Kingdom in the pre-quarterfinal.

### **Swiss Open Badminton: Treesa-Gayatri Exit in Women's Doubles Semifinals.**

In the Swiss Open Badminton, India's women's doubles pair, Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, bowed out of the Swiss Open after a hard-fought semifinal loss to world number 1 Liu Sheng Shu and Tan Ning of China.

With this defeat, India's campaign at the tournament came to an end. Earlier, Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian, the last remaining Indian in men's singles, lost in the quarterfinals to world No. 31 Christo Popov of France. All other Indian players exited in the pre-quarterfinals.

### **Lewis Hamilton wins first Sprint Race of 2025 F1 Season at Chinese Grand Prix.**

Lewis Hamilton won the first sprint race of the 2025 Formula-One season at the Chinese Grand Prix sprint in Shanghai. Meanwhile, Oscar Piastri finished second and Max Verstappen finished third at the Shanghai International Circuit.