

## International

### Klaus Schwab, founder of World Economic Forum, steps down from WEF.

World Economic Forum founder and former Executive Chairman Klaus Schwab has decided to step down from the position of chair and as a member of the board of trustees. Schwab founded the World Economic Forum in 1971. The board unanimously appointed Vice Chairman Peter Brabeck-Letmathe as chairman ad interim. It also established a search committee for the selection of a future chair.

### 2025 Goldman Environmental Prize Honors Seven Outstanding Defenders of the Earth.

The Goldman Environmental Foundation announced seven recipients of the 2025 Goldman Environmental Prize, the world's foremost award for grassroots environmental activists. The 2025 prize winners are Semia Gharbi from Tunisia, Batmunkh Luvsandash from Mongolia, Besjana Guri and Olsi Nika from Albania, Carlos Mallo Molina from the Canary Islands, Laurene Allen from the United States and Mari Luz Canaquiri Murayari from Peru.

Awarded annually to environmental heroes from each of the world's six inhabited continental regions.

### China introduces 'gold recycling ATM'

China launched its first "gold recycling ATM," a high-tech innovative machine that allows users to exchange their gold jewellery for instant cash in a matter of minutes. Located at the Global Harbor shopping mall in Shanghai, the machine, developed by the Kinghood Group. The smart ATM operates by scanning, weighing, melting and testing the purity of gold items. Once the evaluation is complete, the equivalent cash amount is transferred directly to the user's bank account. To ensure accuracy and security, the machine only accepts items that weigh more than three grams and have a minimum gold purity of 50%.

### World Immunization Week 2025 begins with theme "Immunization for All is Humanly Possible"

The World Immunization Week 2025 by the World Health Organisation (WHO) has begun from April 24 across the globe. The week-long campaign will last till the 30th of this month. The World Immunization Week is celebrated in the last week of April to promote the life-saving

power of immunization. The theme for this year is "Immunization for All is Humanly Possible"

## National

### India suspends Indus Waters Treaty, shuts Attari border in strong response to Pahalgam attacks.

India has taken a series of strong measures following the Pahalgam terror attack, including suspending the Indus Waters Treaty, 1960, and closing the Integrated Check Post Attari with immediate effect. Pakistani nationals will not be permitted to travel to India under the SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme (SVES) visas. The overall strength of the High Commissions will be brought down to 30 from the present 55 through further reductions by 1st May

It is part of the five-pronged response that was decided upon after Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) in the aftermath of the terror strike in Pahalgam that left 26 dead.

### India to work with Saudi Arabia to enhance stability of global oil markets

India has agreed to work with Saudi Arabia to enhance the stability of global oil markets and to balance global energy market dynamics.

The statement came after the conclusion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Saudi Arabia which was cut short following the terror attack in Kashmir's Pahalgam.

### Piyush Goyal launches 'The Bharat Project' to empower 1 million entrepreneurs.

Union Minister Piyush Goyal has launched The Bharat Project, a national initiative by YourStory, aiming to empower 1 million entrepreneurs from Tier 2, Tier 3, and rural India. The initiative combines government, ecosystem enablers, creators, and communities to unlock grassroots potential and make access to entrepreneurial tools, education, and funding easier for everyone.

The Bharat Project will aid entrepreneurs through Co-Pilot for Entrepreneurs, an AI-powered mobile-first platform offering startup guidance, learning resources, mentorship access, and success stories in Hindi and English.

## **Business and Economy**

### **WB lowers India's FY26 growth forecast to 6.3%.**

The World Bank has lowered India's growth forecast for the current fiscal by 4 percentage points to 6.3% amid global economic weakness and policy uncertainty. The report emphasizes the need for India to enhance domestic revenue mobilization to bolster resilience against future economic shocks. It highlights that low tax revenue collection, stemming from a large informal economy and agriculture sector, contributes to fiscal fragility.

### **RBI announces amendments to liquidity coverage ratio framework.**

The Reserve Bank of India has announced amendments to the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) framework, directing banks to assign additional run-off rates of 2.5% to internet and mobile banking-enabled retail and small business customer deposits. It is estimated that the net impact of these measures will improve the LCR of banks, at the aggregate level, by around 6 percentage points as on that date.

To give the banks adequate time to transition their systems to the new standards for LCR computation, the revised instructions shall become applicable w.e.f. April 1, 2026.

### **Ather Energy announces ₹2,981-cr. IPO**

Electric two-wheeler maker Ather Energy had announced a ₹2,981-crore Initial Public Offering (IPO). The company has fixed a price band of ₹304 to ₹321 apiece, which will be offered in lots of 46 shares or multiples thereof.

### **NABARD picks up 10% stake in agri-fintech firm 24x7 Moneyworks.**

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) had acquired 10% equity stake in 24x7 Moneyworks Consulting Pvt. Ltd., an agri-fintech venture, for an unspecified amount. This is NABARD's first-ever investment in a bootstrapped start-up.

24x7 Moneyworks Consulting's flagship platform, eKisanCredit (eKCC), is a fully digital loan origination system which integrates seamlessly with land records, Aadhaar, eKYC, core banking systems enabling end-to-end automation of the rural credit lifecycle.

## **Sports**

### **Koneru Humpy wins Pune FIDE Women's Grand Prix.**

India's Koneru Humpy won the 2025 Pune FIDE Women's Grand Prix. Humpy won the final round with White pieces against Bulgarian International Master Nurgul Salimova by a score of 7/9 points. However, Chinese Grandmaster Zhu Jiner also won her final round game against Russian International Master Polina Shuvalova with the Black pieces, and scored 7/9 points. But she was placed 2nd as per tiebreaks.

### **India finish ISSF World Cup Peru leg in 3rd place with 7 medals.**

India finished their campaign of the Peru leg of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup in third place in the overall standings with a total of seven medals: two gold, four silver and one bronze. Simranpreet Kaur Brar won the silver medal in the women's 25m pistol event to end the country's campaign on a high.

China finished on top of the standings with four golds, three silvers and six bronze medals.

### **Indian Aerobic Gymnastics team depart for Suzuki Aerobics Gymnastics World Cup 2025.**

The six-member Indian Aerobic Gymnastics team has left for Tokyo to participate in the Suzuki Aerobics Gymnastics World Cup 2025, which will be held from April 25 to 27. The prestigious event is organised by the Federation Internationale de Gymnastics (FIG) and the International Aerobics Federation, Japan. Athletes from 19 countries will compete in the event, which is part of the FIG's annual international series.