

International

Slovenia introduces fuel rationing amid regional energy disruptions.

Slovenia has become the first European Union nation to implement fuel rationing due to disruptions linked to the U.S.–Israel conflict with Iran and rising energy prices. Private drivers are restricted to 50 litres per day, while businesses and farmers can purchase up to 200 litres.

The policy also addresses increased fuel tourism, especially from Austria.

Prime Minister Robert Golob assured that fuel supplies remain adequate, though public opinion is divided over the impact of foreign buyers.

Kim Jong-unre-elected as Head of North Korea’s State Affairs Commission.

North Korea’s Supreme People’s Assembly has re-elected Kim Jong-un as President of the State Affairs Commission, the country’s highest governing body.

The announcement was made by state media KCNA, describing it as the unanimous will of the people.

Kim, the third-generation leader, has ruled since 2011.

Important Days

World Tuberculosis Day:24th March.

World Tuberculosis Day is observed annually on March 24 to raise awareness about the serious health, social, and economic impact of TB.

The day marks Dr. Robert Koch’s discovery of the TB bacteria in 1882.

This year’s theme, “Yes! We Can End TB,” reinforces global commitment to eradicate the disease.

International Day for the Right to Truth observed on March 24.

The International Day for the Right to Truth is observed on March 24 to promote justice, transparency, and human dignity. Established by the United Nations in 2010,

it honors victims of serious human rights violations and their right to know the truth. The day also commemorates Archbishop Óscar Romero of El Salvador, assassinated in 1980.

The “right to truth” ensures access to information about violations like torture and disappearances, supporting justice and societal healing.

National

India hosts 12th Steering Committee Meeting of the Global Operational Network.

India hosted the 12th Steering Committee Meeting of the GlobE Network in New Delhi, focusing on strengthening global anti-corruption cooperation.

ED Director Rahul Navin emphasized asset recovery as a key measure under UNCAC, noting recovery of about \$5.6 billion under PMLA.

The GlobE Network, launched during Saudi Arabia’s G20 Presidency, promotes cooperation among member nations.

Government launches My WAVES and Built-in TV Tuner Initiative.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the National AI Skilling Initiative “My WAVES” along with built-in TV tuners and an advanced Electronic Program Guide (EPG) in New Delhi.

The My WAVES platform and Creators’ Corner aim to promote Indian culture, tourism, and regional content while supporting creators in monetising their work.

He highlighted that integrating set-top box features into TVs, under the Free Dish initiative with Prasar Bharati and Doordarshan, has improved accessibility and reduced costs.

Odisha to auction gold-bearing mineral blocks for first time.

Odisha will auction three gold-bearing mineral blocks for the first time as part of 34 mineral blocks identified for FY 2026–27, including major and critical minerals. The blocks are spread across 12 districts such as Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, and Sundargarh.

Gold deposits in India have also been identified by the Geological Survey of India in states like Bihar, Rajasthan, and Karnataka, with Bihar holding the largest share, according to the Indian Minerals Yearbook 2022.

Corporate Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026 referred to JPC.

The Government introduced the Corporate Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026 in the Lok Sabha, which was referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) for detailed examination.

The Bill proposes changes to the Companies Act, 2013 and LLP Act, 2008 to improve ease of doing business by decriminalising minor offences and rationalising penalties.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman clarified that CSR provisions remain intact, while Opposition members raised concerns over possible dilution.

Business and Economy

NRI deposit inflows decline by 25.86% in FY 2025-26.

According to RBI data, inflows into NRI deposit schemes fell by 25.86% to \$10.61 billion during April–January 2026, compared to \$14.31 billion in the same period last year.

FCNR (B) deposits saw a sharp decline, while NRE and NRO deposits recorded moderate growth.

Total outstanding NRI deposits stood at \$165.78 billion in January 2026.

These schemes FCNR, NRE, and NRO remain key channels for overseas Indians to park funds in India despite global uncertainties.

Net FDI remains negative for fifth consecutive month.

According to RBI data, India's net foreign direct investment (FDI) remained negative for the fifth straight month in January 2026, standing at -\$1.39 billion compared to -\$492 million in December 2025.

Although gross FDI inflows were stable at \$5.67 billion, high repatriation and disinvestment of \$4.92 billion limited net inflows. Direct investment also declined sharply to \$750 million, reflecting continued pressure from outbound investments and profit repatriation.

SEBI approves revamp of conflict of interest and disclosure norms.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved a major overhaul of its rules on conflict of interest, disclosures, and code of conduct for senior officials, including the chairman and whole-time members.

The reforms include public disclosure of immovable assets, a digital system for tracking conflicts, and a formal recusal framework.

Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey stated that SEBI will implement these measures voluntarily before formal approval, aiming to enhance transparency and accountability in the regulator.

Government restores RoDTEP rates to support exporters.

The Government has restored rates and value caps under the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) Scheme for all eligible exports, reversing the earlier 50% restriction.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry stated that the move aims to support exporters affected by rising freight costs and disruptions in West Asia trade routes.

The restored rates are effective from those notified on February 22 this year, ensuring stability and helping maintain India's export competitiveness amid global uncertainties.

Sports

National Para Athletics Championships: Kipa Mero of Arunachal Pradesh wins gold in women's javelin F12.

Arunachal Pradesh's para-athlete Kipa Mero won the gold medal in the Women's Javelin Throw (F12 category) at the 24th National Para Athletics Championships 2026 held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

She also broke her own national record, highlighting her exceptional determination and performance.

Adding to the state's success, Techhi Meta secured a silver medal in the Women's 400 metres (T13 category), marking an impressive achievement for Arunachal's para-sports contingent.

Arundhati Reddy and Sahibzada Farhan win ICC Player of the Month awards.

India's Arundhati Reddy won the ICC Women's Player of the Month award for February following her impressive performances in the T20I series in Australia.

Pakistan opener Sahibzada Farhan secured the men's award for his outstanding and record-breaking display in the T20 World Cup, highlighting his crucial role in his team's success.

Marco Bezzecchi wins Brazil MotoGP Grand Prix.

Italy's Marco Bezzecchi of Aprilia clinched victory at the Brazil MotoGP Grand Prix, marking his second win of the season after triumphing in Thailand earlier. He finished ahead of his Spanish teammate Jorge Martin, while Italy's Fabio Di Giannantonio of Ducati secured the third place. The win reinforces Bezzecchi's strong start to the MotoGP season.