

International

India elected as Chairman of the AIBD Executive Board.

India has been elected as the Chairman of the Executive Board of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) with the highest number of votes during the 23rd AIBD General Conference, held from 19–21 August 2025 in Phuket, Thailand. This marks a significant milestone, as India last held the position of AIBD Executive Council Chairman in 2016. With this development, India's leadership role within AIBD has been further strengthened, even as its current tenure as President of the AIBD General Conference continues until August 2025.

Founded in 1977 under the auspices of UNESCO, the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) is a unique regional inter-governmental organization. It currently has more than 92 member organizations from 45 countries.

Nepal officially joins the India-led International Big Cat Alliance.

Nepal has officially joined the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), an India-led global initiative to protect seven species of big cats.

The IBCA is a multi-country, multi-agency coalition of over 90 big cat range countries and non-range countries with an interest in big cat conservation.

SpaceX to launch Starship on one-hour test flight.

SpaceX plans to launch its powerful Starship rocket tonight for a test flight lasting about an hour. A live webcast is expected to begin 30 minutes before liftoff, though launch timing may change. This is the fourth Starship flight of 2025. The last three tests all ended in failure.

NASA plans to use Starship to land astronauts on the moon in 2027. SpaceX also wants to send humans to Mars.

National

Fiji PM Rabuka begins 3-day visit to India.

Prime Minister of Fiji, Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka, has kick-started his three-day visit to India aimed at shoring up bilateral ties in areas

such as trade and investment. It is Mr. Rabuka's first trip to India in his capacity as the Prime Minister of the South Pacific nation.

DRDO successfully tests multi-layered air defence system.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted the maiden flight tests of the Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS) off the coast of Odisha.

IADWS is a multi-layered air defence system comprising all indigenous Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missiles (QRSAM), Advanced Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missiles, and a high-power laser-based Directed Energy Weapon (DEW).

Anish Dayal Singh appointed deputy NSA.

Former CRPF and ITBP director general Anish Dayal Singh has been appointed the new deputy National Security Advisor (NSA), with a mandate to handle internal affairs.

Mr. Singh, a 1988-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer from the Manipur cadre, retired from service in December 2024.

ISRO completes first Integrated Air Drop Test for safe crew recovery in Gaganyaan mission.

ISRO has successfully accomplished the first Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-01) for the end-to-end demonstration of a parachute-based deceleration system for the Gaganyaan missions. It was a critical exercise to validate the parachute system that will bring back astronauts safely under the mission, from its spaceport. This test is a joint effort of ISRO, Indian Air Force, DRDO, Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard.

The Test was designed to evaluate the full suite of parachutes that will slow down and stabilise the crew module during re-entry and splashdown of the actual human spaceflight mission.

Rajit Punhani appointed FSSAI chief.

In a major bureaucratic reshuffle, senior bureaucrat Rajit Punhani has been appointed the Chief Executive Officer, Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

Punhani, a 1991-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Bihar cadre, is currently the Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Secretary.

CPI veteran Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy passed away.

Veteran Communist Party of India (CPI) leader and former Member of Parliament, Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy, died at the age of 83. Mr Reddy was a two-time Member of Parliament, representing the Nalgonda constituency in the 12th (1998-1999) and 14th (2004-2009) Lok Sabha. During his time in Parliament, he was a vocal advocate for workers' rights, social justice, and the well-being of farmers and marginalised communities.

From 2012 to 2019, he served as the General Secretary of the Communist Party of India, a position he held for three terms.

Business and Economy

CBI files ₹2,929-crore bank loan fraud case against Rcom.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has conducted searches at two locations in Mumbai after registering a case against Reliance Communications Limited (RCom), its then director Anil D. Ambani, and others, on the charge of causing a wrongful loss of ₹2,929.05 crore to the State Bank of India (SBI).

SEBI mulls revising block deal framework.

Markets regulator SEBI has proposed raising the minimum order size for execution of trades in the block deal windows to ₹25 crore from the current ₹10 crore. The existing threshold had been in place since 2017.

A block deal is a large trade of shares that takes place between a buyer and a seller through a single transaction on the stock exchange.

The Centre will set up a mineral trading exchange.

Union Coal Mines Minister G Kishan Reddy has said the Centre will set up a mineral trading exchange similar to the London Metal Exchange. He stated that the mineral exchange will be established in accordance with SEBI's norms.

The proposed mineral exchange is expected to facilitate better price discovery for industries, traders and other stakeholders.

Seafood exports remain flat in 2024-25 at \$7.45 billion.

India's seafood exports remained flat at \$7.45 billion during 2024-25, the Commerce Ministry said. The shipments in volume terms, however, dipped to 16,98,170 tonne last fiscal year. Among the seafoods, frozen shrimp remained the major exported item in terms of quantity and value, while the U.S. and China turned out to be the major importers of India's seafood.

After SBI, Bank of India tags Reliance Communications, Anil Ambani as 'fraud'.

After the State Bank of India, Bank of India has classified the loan account of insolvent Reliance Communications as fraudulent and named its former director, Anil Ambani, citing alleged fund diversion in 2016.

Bank of India granted a ₹700 crore loan in August 2016 to Reliance Communications for its ongoing capital and operational expenditure and repayment of existing liabilities. Half of the sanctioned amount disbursed in October 2016 was invested in a fixed deposit, which was not permitted as per the sanction letter.

Sports

2025 World Youth Archery Championship: Sharvari Somnath Shende wins a gold medal.

India's Sharvari Somnath Shende has won the U18 women's individual recurve gold medal at the 2025 World Youth Archery Championships in Winnipeg, Canada. She defeated South Korea's Kim Yewon 6-5 in a tense final. Shende led 4-1 after the first three sets, but Kim came back strong to tie the match and force a shoot-off.

61st Rubinstein Memorial: Nodirbek Yakubboev wins title.

Uzbekistan's GM Nodirbek Yakkuboev has won the 61st Rubinstein Memorial chess tournament as he bagged 6.5 points, while Poland's Radoslaw Wojtaszek was second with 6 points. Indian GM Aravindh Chithambaram finished joint-fifth after a win in the ninth and final round.

**Asian Shooting Championship:
Aishwary Tomar wins gold.**

Indian Shooter Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar has won a gold medal in the 50-meter rifle three-position event at the 16th Asian Shooting Championship in Shymkent, Kazakhstan. He scored 462.5 points to finish on top.

Earlier, the Indian men's team of Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, Chain Singh and Akhil Sheoran bagged a silver medal in the 50-metre rifle three positions team event.

**Archery: Chikitha Taniparthi wins
India's maiden individual gold medal in
the Compound U-21 women's category.**

India's Chikitha Taniparthi has created history by becoming the first Indian female compound archer to secure the Individual Junior World title at the World Youth Championships in Canada.

She defeated Korea's Yerin Park by 142-136 in the compound Under 21 women's gold medal match.