

International

Japan to deploy missile systems on island near Taiwan by 2031.

Japan's Government plans to deploy surface-to-air missiles on one of its remote western islands near Taiwan by March 2031, the country's Defence Minister said. It is the first time Japan has specified the timing of the deployment. The Ministry announced the plan in 2022 to ramp up its air defences on the island, which already hosts a Japanese military base.

Bangladesh: President summons first session of 13th Parliament on 12 March.

President Mohammad Shahabuddin has summoned the first session of the 13th Parliament for 12th March, nearly a month after the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) formed the government following its victory. The President has convened the session under Article 72(1) of the Constitution. The maiden sitting will begin at 11 AM, with the BNP holding a two-thirds majority and Jamaat-e-Islami serving as the main opposition.

The Long Riders' actor, Robert Carradine, passes away.

Robert Carradine, known for his roles in The Long Riders, Revenge of the Nerds and the television series Lizzie McGuire, has died at the age of 71. He was the youngest son of the late American actor John Carradine and the brother of actors David Carradine and Keith Carradine.

National

Centre to roll out free HPV vaccine drive for 14-year-old girls nationwide.

The central government is set to launch a nationwide immunisation drive against Human Papillomavirus (HPV), a landmark step towards eradicating cervical cancer, which claims thousands of lives annually.

Vaccinations will be free, voluntary and target girls aged 14, according to the Union Health Ministry.

Cervical cancer is the second-most common cancer among women in India, with nearly 80,000 new cases and over 42,000 deaths reported annually.

Badhna Hai Toh Yahan Judna Hai' campaign launched to accelerate India's digital skilling movement.

Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Jayant Chaudhary has launched a nationwide campaign titled 'Badhna Hai Toh Yahan Judna Hai' to accelerate India's digital skilling movement through Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH). The campaign aims to expand access to SIDH, India's integrated digital platform for skilling, employment, and lifelong learning. As part of its nationwide outreach, the campaign brings on board legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan.

Built as a mobile-first, AI-enabled platform, SIDH integrates multiple government skilling initiatives, offers industry-aligned and future-ready courses, and provides personalized recommendations based on learner interests and career goals.

Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates, lays foundation for port projects worth approximately Rs 1500 Cr.

Union Minister for Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal has inaugurated and laid the foundation for various port projects worth approximately 1500 crore rupees at Tuticorin port, in Tamil Nadu. This includes VOC Maritime heritage museum, laying of the foundation stone for 8 MW Wind farm and 5 MWh of Battery Energy storage System and the launching of corporate social responsibility projects at the Port.

UP, AP & Rajasthan top performers in EV adoption, green hydrogen: IEEFA-Ember Study.

To increase the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) and green hydrogen, States like Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan undertook regulatory initiatives such as adoption of green tariffs, green open access mechanism, and made progress on solar-hour-aligned time-of-day (ToD) tariffs.

The States' Electricity Transition (SET) report, a joint study by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) and Ember, analysed 21 States, which represent 95 per cent of India's power demand.

5 stations under Northeast Frontier Railway awarded 'Eat Right Station' certification.

In a significant achievement towards ensuring safe and hygienic food for passengers, five stations under the Northeast Frontier Railway have been awarded the prestigious 'Eat Right Station' certification by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). These include Dimapur Railway Station, Alipurduar Railway Station, Kokrajhar Railway Station, Golakganj Railway Station and New Mal Junction Railway Station.

The 'Eat Right Station' initiative is part of FSSAI's nationwide movement to promote safe, healthy and sustainable food practices under the 'Eat Right India' campaign.

Business and Economy

India's economy likely grew 8.1% in Q3: State Bank of India report.

India's economy is estimated to have grown by 8.1% in the third quarter of the current financial year. This has been stated in a research report released by State Bank of India. The report said rural consumption continues to remain robust, backed by encouraging trends in both farm and non-farm sectors. It also observed that urban

consumption has recorded a steady uptick since the last festive season, supported by fiscal stimulus.

The assessment comes at a time when India is set to revise its GDP base year from 2011-12 to 2022-23.

LTIMindtree wins \$100 million deal with European medtech firm.

Indian IT services company LTIMindtree has won a \$100 million deal with a medical technology company in Europe. Under the agreement, LTIMindtree will develop and support the client's main hearing aid brands and private-label products, including core wearable devices, and a mobile app for users.

IDFC First Bank pays ₹583 crore to Haryana government departments to settle bank fraud.

IDFC First Bank has transferred Rs 583 crore to the Haryana government after a fraud was found at its Chandigarh branch. The bank said it has paid 100% of the principal and interest to the concerned government departments, even as the investigation is still going on.

The bank has disclosed that some of its employees working at its Chandigarh branch had colluded with outsiders to perpetuate a traditional brand fraud amounting to ₹590 crore involving accounts of a Haryana Government department.

Haryana sets up high-level panel to probe unauthorised fund transfers from IDFC First Bank, AU Small Finance Bank.

The Haryana government has constituted a high-level committee to examine the unauthorised transfer of funds from IDFC First Bank and AU Small Finance Bank and to review the state's banking policy, according to an official order issued by the Personnel Department.

According to the order, the committee has been tasked with examining issues relating

to non-reconciliation by government departments, as well as identifying any lapses, procedural deficiencies, or systemic failures in connection with the fund transfers.

Amazon inaugurates second-largest office in Asia in Bengaluru.

Amazon has inaugurated its new office in North Bengaluru, which is also its second largest in Asia as the company reiterated its commitment to invest in India.

The campus, located about 15 km from Kempegowda International Airport, spans 1.1 million square feet across 12 floors on a five-acre site. It can accommodate over 7,000 employees and will bring together teams from technology, ecommerce, operations, payments, seller service, and leadership functions.

Suzlon appoints former Ambuja Cements MD Ajay Kapur as Group CEO

Wind turbine maker Suzlon Energy Ltd has announced a major leadership restructuring as part of its 'Suzlon 2.0' transformation strategy, appointing former Ambuja Cements Limited Managing Director Ajay Kapur as Group Chief Executive Officer and forming a new Group Executive Council (GEC) to steer long-term growth.

Top 100 private cos clock valuation of ₹28.5 lakh crore.

According to the JM Financial Hurun India Unlisted Gems report, the top-100 unlisted companies in India command a valuation of ₹28.5 lakh crore, which is more than the GDP of Finland.

India's private firms together generated ₹8.9 lakh crore in revenue in 2025 against ₹6.7 lakh crore in 2023, a CAGR of 15 per cent in two years

Reliance Retail emerged as the country's largest unlisted company, with revenue of ₹2.7 lakh crore. The other companies that lead from the front include Flipkart and jewellery retailer Malabar Gold and Diamonds with revenue of ₹83,105 crore and ₹66,872 crore.

FM asks banks to focus on core business, stop mis-selling.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has asked commercial banks to focus on their core business of lending and deposit mobilisation and stop mis-selling of insurance products which has reached alarming proportions. The FM asked banks to return to traditional banking functions rather than mis-selling insurance and non-core products. She said that has inconvenienced bank customers to a large extent.

Sports

England beat Pakistan by two wickets to enter T20 World Cup semifinals.

In the ICC Men's T20 Cricket World Cup, England defeated Pakistan by 2 wickets in a Group Two Super 8 match at the Pallekele International Cricket Stadium in Sri Lanka. England reached the target of 165 runs losing 8 wickets and 5 balls to spare.

Earlier, electing to bat first, Pakistan scored 164 for loss of 9 wickets in stipulated 20 overs