

International

Denmark's election results show indecisive outcome.

Denmark's election ended in an inconclusive result that left the Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen's future unclear. Official results showed that Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen's center-left Social Democrats lost ground compared with the last election in 2022.

Neither left-leaning nor right-leaning blocs won a majority in the Parliament. That left experienced Foreign Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen, a former prime minister, in the role of kingmaker.

US army launches digital marketplace to accelerate drone purchases.

The U.S. Army launched a new digital Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Marketplace to radically accelerate the procurement of drone technology. The platform will allow Army units, government partners, and allied nations to compare and buy vetted drone systems.

The marketplace was developed with Amazon Web Services and the Army Enterprise Cloud Management Agency. It includes tools for comparing systems, collecting feedback, and placing orders.

National

Cabinet approves India's commitment to reduce emissions intensity of its GDP by 47% by 2035.

The Union Cabinet has approved India's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for the period 2031 to 2035, enhancing the country's ambition under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement while reinforcing its commitment to sustainable development and climate justice. India is committed to reducing the emissions intensity of its GDP by 47% by 2035 from 2005 levels. The country has achieved 52.57% non-fossil fuel capacity as of February 2026,

successfully meeting the target five years ahead of schedule.

The ambition has been further raised to 60% share of non-fossil fuel-based energy resources in installed electric power capacity to be achieved by 2035.

Parliament passes Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026.

The Parliament has passed the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026, with the Rajya Sabha approving it. Earlier, the bill was passed by the Lok Sabha. The bill aims to provide protection to only those who face discrimination due to biological issues.

The bill seeks to redefine the category of transgender, removes the provision of self-perceived gender identity and excludes several socio-cultural identities as well as transmasculine individuals from its ambit.

SC grants full pension to women SSC officers denied Permanent Commission.

The Supreme Court has ruled that women Short Service Commission (SSC) officers in the Army, Navy, and Air Force who were denied Permanent Commission (PC) due to arbitrary evaluation processes will now be entitled to full pension benefits. A bench led by Chief Justice Surya Kant, along with Justices Ujjal Bhuyan and N. Kotiswar Singh, held that these officers would be treated as having completed the required 20 years of service for pension eligibility, even if they were released earlier.

Cabinet approves modified UDAN with ₹28,840 crore outlay.

The Union Cabinet approved the launch and implementation of the Regional Connectivity Scheme – Modified UDAN for a period of ten years from 2026-27 to 2035-36 with a total outlay of 28,840 crore rupees. Under the scheme, 100 airports will be developed from unserved airstrips to boost regional connectivity. This will give a boost to economic growth, trade and

tourism in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities and support affordable air travel for common citizens.

Gujarat becomes second state to pass law on Uniform Civil Code.

The Gujarat Assembly has passed the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill with a majority, making the state the second in the country to implement the bill after Uttarakhand. The Bill aims to mandate registration of marriages, registration of live-in relationships, uniform rules for divorce, equal inheritance rights for daughters and sons, and strict implementation with penalties.

One of the key provisions is that couples would have to register their marriage within 60 days, and the failure to comply would attract a penalty of up to Rs 10,000. Cases of forced, coerced, or fraudulent marriages may attract punishment of up to 7 years, and similar punishment applies for multiple marriages.

Agnikul test-fires first-of-its-kind 3D-printed booster engine.

Space startup Agnikul Cosmos successfully completed a critical booster engine test of its engine – Agnite. The tested engine is a full meter long- the largest Inconel rocket engine ever built as a single piece and the first of its scale to be tested with electric motor-driven pumps.

Unlike traditional engines that take several months to manufacture, Agnikul's engines can be fully 3D-printed in just seven days. This reduces production complexity and turnaround time.

Business and Economy

India's growth to remain resilient at 7.1% in FY27: S&P Global.

India's economic growth is expected to remain resilient at 7.1 percent in the financial year 2026-27, despite ongoing geopolitical tensions, according to a report by S&P Global. In its latest economic

outlook report, it states that India will continue to be among the fastest-growing major economies, supported by strong domestic demand, steady exports, and a gradual recovery in private investment.

HDFC Bank appoints law firms to probe Atanu Chakraborty's allegations.

HDFC Bank has appointed law firms, Trilegal and Wadia Ghandy & Co and an international law firm to investigate and submit a report on the reasons cited by its former part-time Chairman, Atanu Chakraborty, in his resignation letter last week. HDFC Bank said that Atanu Chakraborty did not mention any happenings and practices which were not in congruence with his personal values and ethics.

Temasek-backed Manipal Health files DRHP with SEBI to raise ₹8,000-cr. via IPO

Manipal Health Enterprise Ltd, a Bengaluru-based multi-specialty firm backed by Temasek, Singaporean state-owned investment company, has filed Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) with SEBI to raise ₹8,000 crore through an IPO.

The IPO, with a face value of ₹2, with fresh issue of ₹8,000 crore and offer-for-sale of upto 43,227,668 equity shares by promoters: Imperius Healthcare Investments, Manipal Education and Medial Group India and existing investors including TPG and Novo Holdings.

Kotak Mahindra Bank to absorb lending subsidiary KMIL from April 1.

Kotak Mahindra Bank will fold the business activities of its wholly owned subsidiary Kotak Mahindra Investments Limited (KMIL) into the bank's own operations from April 1, 2026. The decision is driven by the need to comply with the Reserve Bank of India's (Commercial Banks — Undertaking of Financial Services) Directions, 2025, and is also

aimed at simplifying the group structure and driving operational synergies.

The move is in line with RBI's stipulation that if a bank undertakes a particular form of business through more than one entity within its group, it must do so with a clearly documented rationale such as business segmentation or specialisation — duly approved by the bank's board.

Svatantra Microfin acquires Chaitanya India Fin, becomes 2nd largest NBFC-MFI

Svatantra Microfin Pvt Ltd. has completed its merger with Chaitanya India Fin Credit Pvt Ltd (CIFCPL) and Svatantra Holding Pvt Ltd following NCLT approval. The approval for the amalgamation was granted by the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Mumbai Bench.

The amalgamation solidifies Svatantra's position as the second-largest NBFC-MFI in India.

With this amalgamation, the company now manages a consolidated Assets Under Management (AUM) of about Rs 22,000 crore (including Housing finance business) with a network of 2,200 branches across 20 states, a team of 25,000 employees, and Rs 70,000 crore in disbursements since inception.

Svatantra Microfin Pvt Ltd is founded by Ananya Birla.

Meesho bets on AI voice assistant 'Vaani' to onboard next 500 million users.

Bengaluru-based firm Meesho is positioning its newly launched AI-powered voice shopping assistant, Vaani, as a key driver to bring India's digitally hesitant consumers onto e-commerce platforms, as the company sharpens its focus on the next phase of user growth. The company said the assistant has already seen early traction, with 1.5 million users within a month of launch and a 22 percent increase in conversion rates among those who engaged with it.

OpenAI drops AI video tool Sora.

OpenAI is shutting down its social media app Sora, which went viral towards the end of last year as a place to share short-form videos generated by artificial intelligence but also raised alarms in Hollywood and elsewhere. OpenAI released Sora in September as an attempt to capture the attention, and potentially advertising dollars, that follow short-form videos on TikTok, YouTube or Meta-owned Instagram and Facebook.

Sports

Indian archers won two bronze medals in Asia Cup World Ranking Tournament.

Indian archers won two bronze medals in the first stage of the Asia Cup World Ranking Tournament in Bangkok. In the Women's recurve event, the trio of Ruma Biswas, Kirti and Riddhi Phor defeated Malaysia 5-1 to win the bronze medal.

In the Men's compound category, Rajat Chauhan, Rishabh Yadav, and Uday Kamboj defeated Bhutan with a score of 234 to 232 in the bronze medal match.

Rajasthan Royals sold to consortium of US-based investors for US \$1.635 billion.

A record sum of about US \$1.635 billion (INR 15,290 crore approx.) has been successfully bid by a high-profile group of US-based sports investors to buy Rajasthan Royals (RR). The consortium, which is led by Arizona-based tech entrepreneur Kal Somani, also includes owners of two franchises in US-based NFL - Rob Walton (Denver Broncos) and Michael Hamp, son of Sheila Ford Hamp, who owns Detroit Lions.

In addition to RR in IPL, the Somani-led consortium will also have ownership of all of Royals' branded teams: Paarl Royals in SA20, and Barbados Royals in the CPL.