

International

Democratic Republic of Congo and Republic of Rwanda agree to draft a peace agreement.

The Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Rwanda have agreed to draft a peace agreement by May 2 and to end their support for armed groups.

Congo's Foreign Minister, Thérèse Kayikwamba Wagner, and her Rwandan counterpart, Olivier Nduhungirehe, signed the Declaration of Principles in Washington.

Important Days

World Intellectual Property Day: 26th April.

World Intellectual Property Day is observed annually on April 26 to emphasize the importance of intellectual property (IP) rights in promoting innovation and creativity.

In 2025, the theme "IP and Music: Feel the Beat of IP" underscores the vital role IP plays in empowering artists and supporting the global music industry.

World Design Day: 27th April

World Design Day is celebrated every year on April 27 to recognize the impact of design in shaping a better world. Established by the International Council of Design (ico-D), the day highlights the value of design in fostering innovation, sustainability, and positive change in society.

Science and Technology

ISRO successfully conducts short-duration hot test of semicryogenic engine

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully carried out a short-duration hot test of its semicryogenic engine. This engine, which uses refined kerosene (RP-1) and liquid oxygen (LOX) as propellants, is a crucial development for India's future heavy-lift launch vehicles. The successful test marks a significant step forward in enhancing ISRO's propulsion capabilities and achieving greater self-reliance in advanced space technologies.

Obituary

Historian M.G.S. Narayanan passes away.

Renowned historian M.G.S. Narayanan has passed away. A distinguished scholar of Indian history, especially of Kerala's early and medieval periods, he was known for his deep research and critical analysis of South Indian political and cultural history. Narayanan

served as the Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) and made significant contributions to historical scholarship through his writings and academic leadership.

National

India lifts over 17.1 crore people out of extreme poverty in a decade: World Bank report

India has successfully lifted over 17.1 crore people out of extreme poverty in the last ten years.

According to the World Bank's Spring 2025 Poverty and Equity report, five states- Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, West Bengal, and Madhya Pradesh- accounted for two-thirds of the overall decline in extreme poverty.

In rural areas, extreme poverty fell from 18.4% in 2011-12 to 2.8% in 2022-23.

In urban areas, poverty reduced from 10.7% to 1.1% over the same period.

Army Hospital introduces 3D microscope for minimally invasive glaucoma surgery.

The Department of Ophthalmology in Army Hospital-Research and Referral, in New Delhi, has achieved a milestone by introducing a 3D microscope for minimally invasive glaucoma surgery. This advanced technology provides three-dimensional visualisation, enabling surgeons to perform complex eye surgeries more precisely.

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launches Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme Guidelines & online portal.

Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has launched the Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme Guidelines along with an online portal. Recently, the Union Cabinet approved the scheme with a financial outlay of ₹22,919 crore to strengthen India's self-reliance (Atmanirbharta) in the electronics supply chain.

Applications for the scheme will be accepted through the online portal starting from May 1st.

Business and Economy

IWAI reports record cargo movement of 145.5 MT in FY 2024-25.

Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) reported a record cargo movement of 145.5 million tonnes in the fiscal year 2024-25.

According to the Ministry of Port, Shipping and Waterways, the number of national waterways increased from 5 to 111, with the

operational length growing from 2 thousand 716 km to 4 thousand 894 km.

The government's new Jalvahak Scheme provides a 35 per cent operating cost incentive for cargo owners and scheduled services on major routes including NW-1, NW-2 and NW-16.

Sarvam AI becomes the first firm to receive government aid to build AI model.

Sarvam AI has become the first company to receive government support for developing an indigenous artificial intelligence (AI) model.

This milestone reflects India's push towards self-reliance in advanced AI technologies and aims to strengthen the country's AI innovation ecosystem.

Sports

Barcelona clinch 32nd Copa del Rey title with 3-2 win over Real Madrid

In football, Barcelona beat Real Madrid 3-2 to win the Copa del Rey final at the Estadio de

La Cartuja in Seville, Spain. The victory gave Barcelona a record-extending 32nd Spanish Cup title.

Jules Kounde's late strike in extra time secured Barcelona's second trophy of the season, having earlier won the Spanish Super Cup, also by defeating Real Madrid.

Manush Shah, Diya Chitale clinch mixed doubles title at WTT Contender Tunis 2025.

In Table Tennis, the Indian pair of Manush Shah and Diya Chitale have clinched the mixed doubles title at the WTT Contender Tunis 2025, held in Tunis.

The Indian duo secured the summit clash with a thrilling 3-2 win over the second-seeded Japanese pair of Sora Matsushima and Miwa Harimoto.