

International

Argentina's President Javier Milei Secures Landslide Win in Midterms

Argentina's President Javier Milei has led his party to a landslide victory in midterm elections, after defining the first two years of his presidency with radical spending cuts and free-market reforms. His party, La Libertad Avanza, won nearly 41 per cent of the vote, taking 13 of 24 Senate seats and 64 of the 127 lower-house seats that were contested.

Before these elections, his party had just seven Senate seats and 37 seats in the lower house.

PM Modi Calls for Early Review of ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement to Unlock Full Economic Potential

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and ASEAN leaders have jointly reviewed progress in ASEAN-India relations and discussed initiatives for strengthening the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. In his address, the Prime Minister reiterated India's support for ASEAN unity, ASEAN centrality, and the ASEAN outlook on the Indo-Pacific. He complimented ASEAN on the adoption of the ASEAN Community Vision 2045.

During his address, the Prime Minister announced extended support for the implementation of the ASEAN-India Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (2026-2030).

He also proposed to organise the Second ASEAN-India Defence Ministers' Meeting and the Second ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise for a secure maritime environment.

8th International Solar Alliance Assembly Begins in New Delhi

The 8th Session of the 4-day International Solar Alliance Assembly started at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. A total of 124 countries will participate in the 4-day event, and over 40 ministers from across the globe will attend the session. The event will bring the global community together to deepen cooperation and accelerate solar adoption for a brighter and sustainable future. The member countries will review progress, address challenges, and align actions toward one vision – affordable solar energy for all.

National

EC to Conduct Special Intensive Revision in 12 States, UTs

The Election Commission has announced that the second phase of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls will be conducted in 12 states and Union Territories. The states and union territories are the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. This revision is aimed at making electoral rolls more transparent and error-free. Phase two of SIR will cover 51 crore voters.

Andhra Pradesh and Odisha on High Alert Ahead of Cyclone Montha Landfall

Andhra Pradesh and Odisha are bracing for cyclone Montha's landfall on October 28. It is likely to make landfall on Andhra's coast between Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam near Kakinada. At least five Andhra districts of Kakinada, East Godavari, Konaseema, Eluru and West Godavari were on their toes with a slew of contingency measures. In Odisha, authorities mapped eight districts as red zones. These districts include Malkangiri, Koraput, Nabarangpur, Rayagada, Gajapati, Ganjam, Kandhamal and Kalahandi.

Indian Navy to Commission Indigenous Survey Vessel Ikshak in Kochi

Indian Navy will commission its indigenously built Survey Vessel Ikshak at Naval Base Kochi on the 6th of next month. Defence Ministry said that Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi will preside over the ceremony. Built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) Ltd, Kolkata, the vessel will serve as a humanitarian assistance and disaster relief platform, and as a hospital ship during emergencies. The Ikshak Vessel is also the first survey (large) level ship with dedicated accommodation for women.

Vigilance Awareness Week 2025 Begins Nationwide With Theme "Vigilance – Our Shared Responsibility"

The Vigilance Awareness Week 2025 is being observed across the country from October 27 to promote probity in public life and achieve a corruption-free society. The theme of the week is "Vigilance – Our Shared Responsibility".

The observance of the week commenced with pledge-taking by public servants in the ministries, departments, PSUs, banks and all other organisations.

Indian Army Celebrates 79th Infantry Day Honouring 1947 Kashmir Operation

The Indian Army celebrated the 79th Infantry Day on 27th October. The day is observed as a remembrance of the first military event of independent India, when the Indian Army repelled the first attack on Indian soil on 27th October 1947, in the Kashmir Valley.

Govt Approves ₹5,532 Crore Investment for 7 Electronics Component Plants Under ECMS

The Union government has approved the first tranche of seven applications under the Electronic Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS). The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology said that all these applications entailed a total investment of 5,532 crore rupees. These projects will lead to the production of components worth 36,559 crore rupees. These projects are expected to generate over five thousand direct jobs.

The approved projects span multi-layer PCBs, HDI PCBs, Camera Module Sub-Assemblies, Laminates, and Polypropylene Film, reinforcing India's growing self-reliance in core electronic components.

These plants will be established across Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh, further strengthening India's regional manufacturing depth and balanced industrial growth.

Dr Mathangi, An Eminent Plastic Surgeon in Tamil Nadu, Passes Away

Dr K Mathangi Ramakrishnan, an eminent plastic surgeon and pioneer in burn care, passed away in Chennai due to age-related ailments. She was 91. Dr Mathangi established the plastic surgery department and the burns unit at the Government Kilpauk Medical College (KMC) Hospital. She was credited with developing collagen membranes — tissue protein strips now widely used in burn treatment.

She received numerous honours, including the Padma Shri, Dr BC Roy Award, and the Avvaiyar Award.

Maha MedTech Mission Launched to Drive Indigenous Medical Innovation

Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Gates Foundation, has launched the Mission for Advancement in High-Impact Areas (MAHA) — Medical Technology, or Maha MedTech.

The mission aims to fast-track the development of indigenous medical technologies, reduce reliance on costly imports, and make advanced healthcare solutions affordable and accessible across India.

It is designed to encourage innovation by providing milestone-based financial assistance to a broad range of participants — from academic and R&D institutions to startups, MSMEs, and established MedTech companies.

Business and Economy

Kyrgyzstan Launches National Stablecoin in Partnership With Binance

Kyrgyzstan has launched a national stablecoin and a central bank digital currency in partnership with cryptocurrency exchange Binance. The new national stablecoin has been launched on the BNB Chain, and a digital version of Kyrgyzstan's currency, the som, is now ready for use in government payments. Kyrgyzstan has, in recent years, positioned itself as a cryptocurrency leader in Central Asia.

SoftBank Approves Remaining \$22.5 Billion of OpenAI Investment

Japan's SoftBank has approved a second instalment of \$22.5 billion to complete its \$30 billion investment in OpenAI. The Japanese investment group's board has approved the instalment as long as the artificial intelligence startup completes a corporate restructuring that would pave the way for an eventual public offering.

Large Cross-Border Deals in India's Financial Sector This Year

India's financial sector has seen a number of large deals in 2025, including two rare transactions involving foreign banks buying significant stakes in Indian lenders.

Between January and September 2025, mergers and acquisitions worth \$8 billion have

concluded across the financial sector, a 127% increase over the same period last year, according to data by Grant Thornton.

EMIRATES NBD - RBL BANK

The Dubai-based bank Emirates NBD will buy a 60% stake in the Indian private lender RBL Bank in a deal valued at \$3 billion, the largest overseas acquisition in the Indian financial sector so far.

SMBC - YES BANK

In May, Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) agreed to acquire a 20% stake in Yes Bank for \$1.6 billion.

Blackstone-Federal Bank

Private equity firm Blackstone, through a Singapore-based affiliate, in October agreed to invest 61.97 billion rupees (\$705.05 million) in India's Federal Bank, for a 9.9% stake via preferential equity shares.

IHC - SAMMAAN CAPITAL

Earlier this month, Abu Dhabi's International Holding Company (IHC) agreed to invest close to \$1 billion to buy a 43.5% stake in Sammaan Capital, a non-bank lender focused on housing loans.

In April, Warburg Pincus and Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) agreed to invest \$877 million in IDFC FIRST Bank through convertible preference shares.

In March, Bain Capital agreed to acquire an 18% stake in Manappuram Finance for \$508 million.

SBI to Hire 3,500 Officers in the Next 5 Months to Drive Business Growth

State Bank of India (SBI) plans to hire around 3,500 officers to bolster its operations and enhance service delivery nationwide. The bank has recruited 505 Probationary Officers (POs) in June, and the process to fill a similar number of vacancies is on.

Reliance, Meta Announce AI Joint Venture in India, to Invest ₹855 Crore

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has announced the incorporation of a new joint venture company, Reliance Enterprise Intelligence Limited (REIL), in partnership

with Facebook Overseas Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Meta Platforms, Inc., to develop, market, and distribute enterprise artificial intelligence (AI) services in India.

The new company, REIL, will operate as a wholly owned subsidiary of Reliance Intelligence, which will later become the joint venture entity with Facebook under an amended joint venture agreement.

Under the joint venture agreement, Reliance Intelligence will hold a 70 per cent stake, while Facebook will hold the remaining 30 per cent in REIL.

Ramco Systems Partners With ePlane Company to Power India's First Electric Air Taxi Fleet

Ramco Systems has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with ePlane Company, a startup aiming to revolutionise urban mobility through its flagship product, the ePlane e200X. The MOU lays the foundation for ePlane to use Ramco Aviation Software for the full lifecycle management of its e200X air taxi, air ambulance, and air cargo fleet.

Ramco and ePlane will work together to implement Ramco Aviation Software in phases, aligning with the e200X's journey towards manufacturing and commercial service.

Sports

Badminton: Anders Antonsen Beats Popov to Win the French Open

Anders Antonsen has won the French Open by beating local favorite Christo Popov in the final 21-12, 21-19. Antonsen fought fiercely and took down the French home court hero, No. 8 in the world, winning 21-12, 21-19.

Meanwhile, An Se Young collected her third French Open title, defeating Wang Zhi Yi 21-13, 21-7 in 42 minutes at the YONEX French Open 2025.

India Edges Past Argentina 10-9 to Win KogniVera International Polo Cup

Hosts India edged past Argentina 10-9 in the KogniVera International Polo Cup at the iconic Jaipur Polo Ground in New Delhi. India was led by Sawai Padmanabh Singh of Jaipur. From precision strikes to strategic plays, the match embodied the very essence of international polo with passion, power, and partnership.