

International

Kyrgyzstan Begins Early Parliamentary Elections to Elect 90 Deputies

In Kyrgyzstan, early parliamentary elections have begun to elect 90 deputies to the country's unicameral legislature. A total of 460 candidates are contesting on 2,492 polling stations across the country, along with 27 remote voting stations and 100 polling stations abroad. On September 25, Kyrgyzstan's parliament voted to dissolve itself, citing concerns over the close timing of the upcoming Presidential and Parliamentary elections.

Kyrgyzstan's unicameral parliament, Jogorku Kenesh, consists of 90 members elected for five-year terms.

India Delivers 53 Tons of Relief to Cyclone-Hit Sri Lanka

India has handed over 53 tons of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief materials so far to cyclone-hit Sri Lanka as part of Operation Sagar Bandhu. In coordination with the Sri Lankan authorities, two Indian Navy ships handed over 9.5 tons of emergency rations in Colombo following Cyclone Ditwah. While three Indian Air Force aircraft have also been deployed to airlift another 31.5 tons of relief materials, including tents, tarpaulins, blankets, hygiene kits, ready-to-eat food items, medicines, and surgical equipment. An additional 12 tons of relief supplies have been dispatched on board the Indian Navy Ship Sukanya.

India Finishes Strong at World Skills Asia Competition 2025, Secures 8th Rank in First-Ever Participation

India marked a significant milestone on the global skills stage by securing an 8th rank in its first-ever participation at the World Skills Asia Competition 2025 held in Taipei, Taiwan, competing against 29 nations. In the competition, India won one silver, two bronze medals and three Medallions for Excellence in both traditional and tech-driven skill categories.

Over 500 competitors have participated across 44 skill categories in the third edition of the continental competition.

National

14th Edition of India-Maldives Bilateral Exercise EKUVERIN to be held in Kerala

The 14th edition of the annual India-Maldives bilateral exercise EKUVERIN is set to take place from December 2–15th of this month in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The exercise will be conducted between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Forces. The Exercise aims to enhance interoperability while carrying out counterinsurgency and Counter Terrorism operations in semi-urban, jungle and coastal terrain.

EKUVERIN is one of the three major joint exercises between India and the Maldives.

The other two exercises are “Ekatha” and trilateral—“Dosti”, which includes Sri Lanka.

Indira Gandhi International Airport Becomes the First in India to Achieve “Water Positive” Status

Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) has become the first airport to achieve ‘water positive’ status in the country, with a capacity of more than 40 million passengers per annum. A water-positive facility is one that replenishes more water than it consumes—a distinction IGIA earned through a combination of innovative infrastructure and water management practices. The airport now boasts 625 rainwater harvesting structures, two newly constructed underground reservoirs with a total capacity of 9 million litres, and a 16.6 million litre per day (MLD) zero-liquid-discharge sewage treatment plant.

ITBP DG Praveen Kumar Given Additional Charge of BSF

The Director General of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Praveen Kumar, took on the additional charge of the Border Security Force (BSF) Director General on November 30, following the retirement of the incumbent Daljit Singh Chawdhary.

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has issued an order assigning the additional charge of BSF Director General to Kumar till the appointment of a regular incumbent or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

BSF Raising Day Observed on December 1

BSF Raising Day is observed every year on December 1 to mark the establishment of the force in 1965. This year is the 61st Raising Day. The BSF was established in 1965, following attacks by Pakistan on Sardar Post, Chhar Bet, and Beria Bet in the Kutch region. Before its formation, border security was handled by State Armed Police battalions.

Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan Inaugurates Saras Ajeevika Food Festival 2025

Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has formally inaugurated the Saras Ajeevika Food Festival 2025 in New Delhi. Organised by the Ministry of Rural Development, this food festival will continue till December 9. This edition of the Food Festival will offer visitors the chance to savour more than 500 dishes.

Around 300 Lakhpati Didis and women from self-help groups from across the country are participating in the food extravaganza.

Business and Economy

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra Unveils National Strategy for Financial Inclusion 2025-30

The Reserve Bank of India Governor Sanjay Malhotra has formally released the national strategy for financial inclusion (NSFI) 2025-30 at the 32nd meeting of the sub-committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC-SC). The NSFI 2025-30 aims to deepen the financial inclusion ecosystem, and the new strategy shifts the focus from access to effective usage of financial services, ensuring resilience, security, and well-being.

The strategy of NSFI 2025-30 is anchored in five objectives, termed Panch-Jyoti: Expanding equitable and affordable services, promoting women-led inclusion, linking finance with livelihoods, leveraging financial education, and strengthening customer protection.

The strategy will be implemented through 47 action points distributed across regulators — RBI, SEBI, IRDAI and PFRDA — and institutions like NABARD, NSDC, and NCFE.

AU Small Finance Bank Ropes In Ranbir, Rashmika as Brand Ambassadors

AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB), which recently received the RBI's in-principle approval to transition into a universal bank, has roped in film actors Ranbir Kapoor and Rashmika Mandanna as its brand ambassadors. This partnership strengthens AU SFB's effort to build a preferred national banking brand with strong consideration across urban, metro, and deeper Bharat markets.

RBI Promotes Usha Janakiraman as Executive Director

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Usha Janakiraman as Executive Director (ED), with effect from December 1, 2025.

Prior to being promoted as the executive director of RBI, Janakiraman was serving as Chief General Manager-in-Charge, Department of Regulation, Central Office, Mumbai. With an experience of over three decades at the central bank, she has worked in the areas of regulation, external investment and operations, banking supervision, public debt management, currency management and other areas in the bank.

India's Industrial Production Growth Rises 0.4% in October

According to the data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, India's industrial production growth, as measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), rose 0.4 per cent in October, easing sharply from 4.6 per cent in September.

Among the three major components of IIP, electricity declined 6.9 per cent, while both mining and manufacturing dipped 1.8 per cent each.

Bank of India and SBI Sign MoU to Establish Centre of Excellence

Public sector banks Bank of India (BoI) and State Bank of India (SBI) have entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to jointly drive a Centre of Excellence in Strategic Partnership. The initiative aims to strengthen leadership and expertise in project financing across India, fostering collaboration and innovation in the banking sector.

This partnership is being seen as a strategic step in addressing India's growing demand for structured project financing, especially in sectors such as infrastructure, energy, and industrial development.

NIRDC Unveils InDApp to Boost MSME Reach Nationwide

The National Industries Research and Development Council (NIRDC), an autonomous institution operating under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, has announced the development of InDApp, an indigenous digital platform designed to enhance MSME engagement and visibility across India. Backed by eight ministries, InDApp has been created specifically for MSME entrepreneurs and offers an extensive range of services—from access to government schemes and capital, to enhanced business visibility, training and capacity building. The platform significantly boosts digital access for small businesses through a simple mobile interface.

Foreign Direct Investments Rise 18% to \$35.18 Billion in April-September

Foreign direct investment (FDI) in India rose 18% to \$35.18 billion during April-September of this fiscal year, while the inflow from the U.S. more than doubled to \$6.62 billion during the period, according to the latest government data.

Total FDI, which includes equity inflows, reinvested earnings and other capital, increased to about \$50 billion during the first six months of this financial year as against \$42.3 billion in the same period of 2024-25. Singapore was the largest source of FDI during the period, contributing \$11.94 billion.

Sector-wise, inflows during April-September this fiscal in computer software and hardware rose to \$9 billion, services (\$5 billion), and trading (\$2.78 billion).

Among states, Maharashtra received the highest inflow of \$10.57 billion during the period.

Vivek Chaturvedi Appointed as New CBIC Chairman

The appointment committee of the cabinet has approved the appointment of Vivek Chaturvedi, a 1990 batch officer of the Indian Revenue

Services (C&IT), as the new Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC). His appointment follows the superannuation of Sanjay Kumar Agarwal, who superannuated.

Vivek Chaturvedi is currently serving as a member of, CBIC board (tax policy and legal), joining the board after superannuation of Vivek Ranjan in August this year.

Sports

Armand Duplantis, McLaughlin-Levrone Named World Athletics' Athletes of the Year

Sweden's pole vault star Armand Duplantis and American sprinter Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone were named the World Athletes of the Year at the 2025 World Athletics awards ceremony.

In 2025, Duplantis broke the men's pole vault world record four times and was unbeaten in all 16 of his competitions, including sweeping both the indoor and outdoor world titles.

American McLaughlin-Levrone won the women's 400 metre title in Tokyo with a time of 47.78 seconds, breaking a 42-year-old World Championships record.

Winners at 2025 World Athletics Awards - Full list

- Women's World Athlete of the Year: Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone (USA)
- Men's World Athlete of the Year: Mondo Duplantis (SWE)
- Women's Track: Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone (USA)
- Men's Track: Emmanuel Wanyonyi (KEN)
- Women's Field: Nicola Olyslagers (AUS)
- Men's Field: Mondo Duplantis (SWE)
- Women's Out of Stadium: María Pérez (ESP)
- Men's Out of Stadium: Sebastian Sawe (KEN)
- Women's Rising Star: Zhang Jiale (CHN)
- Men's Rising Star: Edmund Serem (KEN)
- Fair Play Award: Tim Van de Velde (BEL)
- President's Award: Bruce McAvaney (Australian sports commentator)
- Woman of the Year: Ruth Jepchumba Bundotich (KEN)

- Coaching Achievement Award: Michael O'Connor (IRL)
- Photograph of the Year: Vegard Grott
- Member Federation Award: People's Republic of China

Divyanshi Wins Bronze in the U-15 Category at the Table Tennis World Youth Championships

Indian paddler Divyanshi Bhowmick became the second Indian to secure a singles medal in the Under-15 girls category of the ongoing ITTF World Youth Championships at the BT Arena Cluj Napoca, Romania. In the semifinals, Divyanshi went down fighting against China's Zhu Qihui 4-1 (12-10, 10-12, 6-11, 4-11, 8-11).

Max Verstappen Wins Qatar Grand Prix 2025

Red Bull's Max Verstappen has won the Qatar Grand Prix 2025 to set up a final race title showdown with McLaren duo Lando Norris and Oscar Piastri. Verstappen's remarkable late-season surge has lifted him past Piastri and

into second in the championship. The Dutchman now goes into the season-closer next weekend only 12 points behind Norris, with Piastri 16 points behind his teammate.

Archery Premier League Wins 'Emerging Professional Sports Event of the Year' at India Sports Awards 2025

The Archery Premier League (APL) has been awarded the prestigious Emerging Professional Sports Event of the Year at the India Sports Awards 2025, held during the FICCI TURF 2025 15th Global Sports Summit at the FICCI Federation House, New Delhi. The honour caps a landmark debut year for the league, which has been widely praised for bringing fast-paced style archery with unprecedented scale, professionalism, and fan engagement.

Organised by the Archery Association of India (AAI), APL is the world's first professional archery league. Its inaugural season was held at the Yamuna Sports Complex, New Delhi, from October 2 to 12, 2025.