

International

US, Ukraine sign deal granting Washington access to minerals.

The United States has signed an economic partnership agreement with Ukraine that will allow Washington access to Kyiv's rare earth minerals in exchange for a joint fund to invest in Ukraine's reconstruction. Both nations have been engaged in intense negotiations for a couple of months to reach an agreement to provide the United States with access to Ukraine's natural resources.

The two countries have mutually agreed to form a Reconstruction Investment Fund, which would receive 50 per cent of profits and royalties accruing to the Ukrainian state from new natural resources permits. The draft states that the US does get preferential access to Ukraine's natural resources.

President Trump nominates Mike Waltz as the next US Ambassador to UN

US President Donald Trump has nominated Mike Waltz as the next US Ambassador to the United Nations. Waltz, a former soldier, congressman, and Trump's current National Security Advisor, is expected to bring his experience to the new role. In the meantime, Secretary of State Marco Rubio will also serve as National Security Advisor, taking on both roles temporarily.

International Labour Day being celebrated globally.

International Labour Day is being celebrated across the globe on May 1. The day is observed to honour the contributions of the working class and promote their rights. It pays tribute to the sacrifices of workers in securing economic and social rights around the world. The day is also known as Global Workers Day or May Day. This day originated as a union movement in the US around the 19th century.

National

India to host WAVES 2025 in Mumbai from May 1.

The first World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES) 2025 has begun on May 1 at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai. The 4-day event will provide a global platform for discussions on the future of the audio-visual and entertainment industry. The four-day event will bring together the world's top media CEOs, leading entertainment icons, and creative minds from around the globe.

Centre and UNDP partner to empower waste pickers on Labour Day

On the occasion of Labour Day, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment signed a Letter of Agreement with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to recognise and strengthen the contribution of waste pickers in waste collection, recovery, and recycling. This initiative will provide them with improved access to finance and relevant technologies, along with a safe and sustainable work environment. The UNDP has stepped forward to provide crucial financial support for the establishment of State Project Management Units across various states under the National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem scheme.

MP first state to launch AI-based real-time forest alert system

Madhya Pradesh has become the first state to implement an AI-based real-time alert system on a pilot basis for active forest management using satellite images, mobile feedback, and machine learning. The Artificial Intelligence system will enable the forest department to detect land encroachment, land use change, and forest degradation.

Maharashtra is India's top-performing large state: CareEdge Ratings

Maharashtra is India's top-performing large State, followed by Gujarat and Karnataka, per CareEdge Ratings' composite state ranking for 2025. Western (Maharashtra and Gujarat) and Southern (Karnataka, Telangana and Tamil Nadu) states dominate the top five rankings. Bihar (ranked 17th), Jharkhand (16th) and Madhya Pradesh (15th) bring up the bottom three rankings for large States.

Goa topped the rankings in Group B (comprising 11 North-East, Hilly & Small States)

The ranking is based on seven key pillars — economic, fiscal, infrastructure, financial development, social, governance and environment, covering 50 indicators.

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit takes charge as Chief of Integrated Defence Staff

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit has assumed charge as the Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC) at the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff in New Delhi. He succeeds Lt Gen JP Mathew, who retired on April 30 after nearly four decades of distinguished service.

Business and Economy

GST revenue hits record high of ₹2.37 lakh crore in April

Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection rose 12.6% Y-o-Y to an all-time high of about ₹2.37 lakh crore in April, reflecting strong economic

activity and March-end reconciliation of books by businesses.

The GST mop-up was ₹2.10 lakh crore in April 2024 — the second highest collection ever since GST was rolled out on July 1, 2017. In March 2025, the collection was ₹1.96 lakh crore.

Top 10 largest economies in the world (2025): IMF

In the recently released IMF World Economic Outlook April 2025, the Top 10 largest economies in the world by GDP (Current Prices) in 2025 are

Rank	Country	GDP (USD)	2025 Projected Real GDP (% Change)	<u>GDP Per Capita (Current Prices) (USD)</u>
1	United States of America	\$30.34 trillion	2.70%	<u>30.51 thousand</u>
2	China	\$19.53 trillion	4.60%	<u>19.23 thousand</u>
3	Germany	\$4.92 trillion	0.80%	<u>4.74 thousand</u>
4	India	\$4.39 trillion	1.10%	<u>4.19 thousand</u>
5	Japan	\$4.27 trillion	6.50%	<u>4.19 thousand</u>
6	United Kingdom	\$3.73 trillion	1.60%	<u>3.84 thousand</u>
7	France	\$3.28 trillion	0.80%	<u>3.21 thousand</u>
8	Italy	\$2.46 trillion	0.70%	<u>2.42 thousand</u>
9	Canada	\$2.33 trillion	2.00%	<u>2.23 thousand</u>
10	Brazil	\$2.31 trillion	2.20%	<u>2.13 thousand</u>

SEBI warns investors against 'Opinion Trading' platforms.

SEBI alerts the public about unregulated 'opinion trading platforms' that mimic investment services but fall outside securities laws, offering no investor protection.

SEBI further noticed that in some cases, opinion trading platforms are designed in a manner so as

to resemble an investment platform as they use terminologies such as profits, stop loss, trading, etc., terms closely associated with trades in securities.

Investors as well as participants should be aware that no investor protection mechanism under the securities market purview shall be available for such investment/participation, said SEBI.

Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam issues India's first certified Green Municipal Bonds

Under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban, Ghaziabad has issued India's first Certified Green Municipal Bond, raising ₹150 crore for the development of a cutting-edge Tertiary Sewage Treatment Plant (TSTP). The funds have been directed towards the development of an advanced TSTP, a state-of-the-art facility designed to treat and reuse wastewater on an unprecedented scale.

The Green Municipal Bond marked a new chapter in India's financial landscape, providing a sustainable model for funding urban infrastructure.

RBI launches 3 key surveys for monetary policy input.

The RBI launched three key surveys namely IESH, UCCS and RCCS, to gather useful inputs for monetary policy decisions.

The May round of the Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH) aims at capturing subjective assessments on price movements and inflation, based on their individual consumption baskets, across 19 cities.

The Urban Consumer Confidence Survey (UCCS) seeks qualitative responses from households, regarding their sentiments on the general economic situation, employment scenario, price level, and households' income and spending.

The Rural Consumer Confidence Survey (RCCS) will collect current perceptions and one-year-ahead expectations of households on general economic situation, employment scenario, overall

price situation, own income and spending from the households residing in the rural and semi-urban areas across 31 states/ Union Territories.

Sports

Chirag Shetty & Satwiksairaj Rankireddy receive Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2023.

Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has felicitated and presented the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2023 to badminton champions Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy in New Delhi.

The badminton pair of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, who reached the No. 1 rank in the Badminton World Federation (BWF) rankings in 2023 and clinched the Asian Games gold medal in Hangzhou, were shortlisted for the Khel Ratna award in 2023. However, they were unable to receive it due to tournament commitments at the time.

Asian U-15 & U-17 Boxing Championships: India concludes with 43 medals.

India concluded its campaign with a strong performance at the inaugural Asian U-15 and U-17 Boxing Championships in Amman, Jordan, winning a total of 43 Medals, including 15 gold, 6 silver, and 22 bronze medals. The country finished second overall, just behind Kazakhstan.

On the final day, the U-17 girls won four gold medals.