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#### **International**

## Thailand PM Paetongtarn Shinawatra dismissed by court.

Thailand's Constitutional court had dismissed Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra from office for an ethics violation after only a year in power. In its verdict, the court said, Paetongtarn violated ethics in a leaked June telephone call. With this ruling, Paetongtarn Shinawatra is the fifth Prime Minister to have been removed from office by Thai courts since 2008.

# France, Germany & UK trigger 30-day process to reimpose UN sanctions on Iran.

France, Germany, and the United Kingdom, known as the E3, have triggered a 30-day process to reimpose UN sanctions on Iran over its nuclear program. The move starts a countdown at the UN Security Council. If no resolution is passed granting Iran sanctions relief, a snapback of previous sanctions will be automatically enforced.

The E3 acted ahead of an October deadline, after which they would lose the ability to restore sanctions lifted under the 2015 nuclear deal.

# **Europe witnesses record-breaking** wildfire season in 2025.

Europe is witnessing a record-breaking wildfire season in 2025, with experts attributing the intensity to climate change. Higher temperatures and lower rainfall are aggravating forest fires across the continent. More than one million hectares have been destroyed by wildfires in the European Union so far this year. This is over four times the land burned in 2024. In total, the EU has recorded more than 1800 forest fires, emitting over 38 million tonnes of CO2.

# Trump administration approves sale of 3,350 ERAM missiles to Ukraine.

The Donald Trump administration has approved the sale of 3,350 Extended Range Attack Munitions (ERAM) missiles to Ukraine, providing a potentially powerful tool to Kyiv as it continues to face a relentless assault by Russia. The announcement of the proposed 825 million sale comes as diplomatic efforts to end the war have yet to yield a result, following a

deadly night of Russian strikes on the Ukrainian capital. The ERAM missiles, which have a range of 150-280 miles, could be delivered later this year.

#### **National**

## <u>Indian Naval ships Tamal & Surat arrive</u> at Jeddah port for naval exchanges.

Indian Naval Ships Tamal, a newly commissioned multi-role frigate, and Surat, a guided missile destroyer, have arrived at Jeddah Islamic Port on August 27-28, 2025, as part of ongoing naval exchanges between India and Saudi Arabia. INS Tamal, commissioned recently in Russia and en route to India, is the last warship to be imported by the Indian Navy. The two navies have conducted joint maritime exercises Al Mohed Al Hindi in 2021 and 2023, and earlier this year held the first round of Navy-to-Navy Staff Talks.

# Pixxel, Dhruva Space launch satellites on SpaceX Falcon-9 from California.

Two Indian Space start-ups Pixxel Space and Dhruva Space have launched satellites successfully onboard SpaceX's Falcon-9 rocket from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California.

The launch of three Firefly satellites of Pixxel marked the completion of the first phase of the start-up's constellation of six hyperspectral satellites that would have a closer and clearer look at the Earth.

Hyderabad-based Dhruva Space is also launching its first commercial LEAP-01 satellite carrying payloads from Australia-based Akula Tech and Esper Satellites. LEAP-01 is the first hosted payload mission carried out by DhruvaSpace for two Australian firms.

## Satish Kumar gets one-year extension as Railway Board Chairman, CEO.

The Union government has reappointed Satish Kumar, the incumbent Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Railway Board, to the position for another year, marking the first extension for the top office in five years. Kumar took charge of the national transporter's highest office in September 2024, becoming the first Dalit — from the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes to hold the post.



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# Startup Policy Forum Launches IndiaAI in Action podcast in partnership with IndiaAI Mission.

The Startup Policy Forum (SPF), in partnership with the IndiaAI Mission, has announced the launch of "IndiaAI in Action," a podcast series dedicated to showcasing how India's leading startups are applying Artificial Intelligence (AI) to solve industry challenges and drive real-world business and social outcomes.

"IndiaAI in Action" captures the journeys of founders leveraging AI to scale innovation, increase competitiveness, and deliver transformative solutions across sectors.

Season One features industry leaders: Harshil Mathur, Co-founder of Razorpay; Vivek Raghavan, Co-founder of Sarvam AI; Sanket Shah and Anshul Khandelwal, Co-founders of Invideo; and Aloke Bajpai and Rajnish Kumar, Co-founders of Ixigo.

### HCLTech, Pearson India and MeitY Startup Hub join forces to launch ARISE FOR YOU<sup>TM</sup>

HCLTech in collaboration with Pearson India and under the strategic advisory of MeitY Startup Hub, have announced the launch of ARISE FOR YOU<sup>TM</sup>, a transformative national initiative aimed at igniting the entrepreneurial spirit among India's youth.

It is a pan-India innovation and entrepreneurship challenge designed to discover, nurture and elevate the next generation of student entrepreneurs.

The initiative is supported by MeitY Startup Hub, which brings its innovation ecosystem and 62+ hubs to mentor and counsel participants. Pearson India provides the Entrepreneurship and Small Business (ESB) certification and learning content, while Thought Pencil leads the marketing and outreach efforts.

# Mumbai, Kohima safest For women: NARI 2025.

According to the National Annual Report & Index on Women's Safety (NARI) 2025, Kohima, Visakhapatnam, Bhubaneswar, Aizawl, Gangtok, Itanagar and Mumbai have emerged as the safest cities in the country for women, while Patna, Jaipur, Faridabad, Delhi, Kolkata, Srinagar and Ranchi were ranked the lowest.

Kohima and other top-ranked cities were associated with stronger gender equity, civic

participation, policing and women-friendly infrastructure.

The nationwide index is based on a survey of 12,770 women across 31 cities, placed the national safety score at 65 per cent, categorising cities as "much above", "above", "below" or "much below" this benchmark.

# National Sports Day being celebrated on Aug. 29.

National Sports Day is celebrated annually on August 29th, to emphasise the importance of sports and physical activities and serves to honour greatest field hockey player Major Dhyan Chand's legacy in Indian hockey.

The Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry, in a statement, said that the three-day nationwide sports and fitness movement is being observed under the theme of "Ek Ghanta, Khel ke Maidan Main".

#### **Business and Economy**

## India's GDP growth in Q1 quickens to five-quarter high of 7.8%.

According to data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO), India's economic growth rate in the first quarter (April-June) of the current financial year quickened to a five-quarter high of 7.8%, driven by strong performances by sectors such as manufacturing, construction, and services.

Real GDP or GDP at Constant Prices in Q1 of FY 2025-26 is estimated at Rs 47.89 lakh crore, against Rs 44.42 lakh crore in Q1 of FY 2024-25, registering a growth rate of 7.8%. Nominal GDP or GDP at Current Prices in Q1 of FY 2025-26 is estimated at Rs 86.05 lakh crore, against Rs 79.08 lakh crore in Q1 of FY 2024-25, showing a growth rate of 8.8%.

# Reliance Industries forms new subsidiary Reliance Intelligence.

During the Annual General Meeting August 29, 2025, Reliance Industries had announced the formation of a new wholly-owned subsidiary called 'Reliance Intelligence' to focus in AI and deep tech. This new company is conceived with four clear missions to house India's next-generation AI infrastructure. Reliance Intelligence will build gigawatt-scale, AI-ready data centres, powered by green energy and engineered for training and inference at national scale.



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### Tamil Nadu, Karnataka among top performers in annual survey of industries

According to the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) 2023-24, two southern states -- Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have ranked in the top five in the industry sector. The survey was carried out to ascertain growth achieved by states in total number of factories, fixed capital, total persons employed, output and gross value added (GVA) categories. While Tamil Nadu excelled in all the above mentioned areas, Karnataka ranked in the top five in fixed capital outlay, total persons employed and Gross Value Addition (GVA).

Out of 2,60,061 factories across India, Tamil Nadu topped the list, being home to 15.43% of them, followed by Gujarat (12.81%), Maharashtra (10.20%), Uttar Pradesh (8.51%) As per the survey, a total of 1,95,89,131 persons were engaged in factories across India, of which Tamil Nadu accounted for 15.24%.

# Air India Express becomes fourth Indian airline to join global body IATA.

Air India Express has joined the International Air Transport Association, IATA as a member, making it the fourth Indian carrier currently to be part of the global airlines' association. With a fleet of 115 aircraft-75 Boeing 737s and 40 Airbus A320s, the airline operates around 500 daily flights, connecting 38 domestic and 17 international airports across India, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia.

Now, there are four Indian airlines that are IATA members -- Tata Group-owned Air India and Air India Express, IndiGo and SpiceJet.

Jet Airways, which stopped flying in April 2019 and is now undergoing a liquidation process, was an IATA member.

The International Airport Transport Association (IATA) represents around 350 airlines that account for about 80 per cent of the global air traffic.

# Abu Dhabi signs agreement with IOC to provide one million tonnes of LNG per year.

Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) has signed a 15-year Sales and Purchase Agreement with Indian Oil Corporation to supply one million tonnes per annum of liquefied natural gas from its lower-carbon

Ruwais LNG project. Under the agreement, LNG will be delivered to ports across India, supporting the country's growing energy demand and enhancing its energy security. By 2029, Indian Oil will become ADNOC's largest LNG customer, with a total offtake of

By 2029, Indian Oil will become ADNOC's largest LNG customer, with a total offtake of 2.2 million tonnes per annum, comprising 1.2 million tonnes from ADNOC's Das Island operations and 1 million tonnes from Ruwais.

# Former Reserve Bank of India Governor Urjit Patel appointed IMF Executive Director.

Former Reserve Bank of India Governor Urjit Patel has been appointed as Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund.

Mr. Patel has been appointed for a period of three years. Patel, who served as the governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from September 4, 2016 to December 11, 2018, will fill the position that has been lying vacant since April 30 following the removal of Krishnamurthy Subramanian, a former chief economic advisor to the finance ministry.

# <u>Unity Bank joins hands with BharatPe to roll out first EMI credit card.</u>

Unity Small Finance Bank (Unity Bank) and BharatPe have jointly launched a credit card that allows customers to either pay in full or convert their spends into equated monthly installments (EMIs). This is being introduced as India's first EMI-driven credit card on the RuPay network.

# <u>India considers halting shadow banks</u> from duplicating business.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is considering stricter rules for shadow lenders, aiming to curb overlapping business activities between parent companies and their subsidiaries. This move aligns with existing regulations proposed for banks and seeks to mitigate risks within the non-banking finance sector. Any fresh RBI directive could mainly hit large gold finance companies that have their micro-finance arms disbursing loans by taking the precious metal as collateral.

The proposed rules are also aimed at harmonizing regulations between banks and shadow lenders as the latter become more important. Their rapid growth in the last few



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years has boosted credit flows and helped financial inclusion, though the aggressive expansion has also drawn crackdowns from the regulator.

## <u>Jio Payments Bank to allow customers to</u> invest idle deposits in overnight MFs.

Jio Payments Bank plans to introduce 'Savings Pro,' an innovative savings account that auto-invests idle cash in overnight mutual funds for higher returns. The bank, serving over 25 lakh customers, aims to diversify revenue streams through various services and strategic tie-ups. The Jio Payments Bank was serving over 25 lakh customers and had a deposit base of over Rs 358 crore as of June this year. Payments banks are primarily aimed at offering payments and remittances to customers, and have restrictions including a Rs 2 lakh cap on the maximum permissible deposits.

# <u>Mastercard partners with Infosys to</u> scale cross-border payments.

Infosys has partnered with Mastercard to integrate Mastercard Move's cross-border payment capabilities into Infosys Finacle. This collaboration aims to provide financial institutions with faster and more secure access to global money movement, reaching over 200 countries and 150+ currencies.

# Rakesh Gangwal's family trust sells 1.3% stake in IndiGo for ₹2,933 crore.

IndiGo promoter Rakesh Gangwal's family trust sold a 1.3% stake in the country's largest airline for ₹2,933 crore through open market transactions, cumulatively offloading shares worth ₹14,497 crore so far this year.

With the latest sale, the cumulative divestment by Rakesh Gangwal, along with his wife Shobha Gangwal and their family trust—the Chinkerpoo Family Trust—stood at ₹39,532.79 crore, translating to around \$4.51 billion.

#### Sports

### World Para Athletics Championships: <u>Dharambir</u>, Preeti named India's flag bearers.

Dharambir and Preeti Pal were named India's flag bearers for the upcoming World Para Athletics Championships. The championships, to be held in New Delhi from September 27 to October 5, will see a 73-member Indian contingent in action on home soil.

Dharambir won gold in the men's club throw F51 event at the Paris 2024 Paralympics, and Preeti clinched two bronze medals.

# India wins 2025 SAFF U17 Women's Championship Title.

India have clinched the 2025 SAFF Under-17 Women's Championship Football title in dominant fashion, overpowering Nepal 5-0 at the Changlimithang Stadium in Thimphu. With this win, the team gained 15 points from five matches, securing an unassailable lead at the top of the table.

# Gurpreet Singh leads India to team Gold in 25m Centre Fire at Asian Shooting Championships.

Indian pistol shooter Gurpreet Singh came up with a commanding performance for the second day in a row to help the country win the team gold in the 25 meters centre fire event of the Asian Shooting Championships at Skymkent in Kazakhstan.

In the indivdual event, he also secured the gold medal with Amanpreet Singh winning the silver

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