

International

Philippines, Japan, US Conduct Joint Maritime Exercise Amid Rising Tensions

The Philippines, Japan, and the US conducted a multilateral Maritime Cooperative Activity (MCA) within the Philippines' Exclusive Economic Zone. The move comes amid looming threats and the growing assertiveness of China in the region.

Increase in Measles Cases in US

The United States is grappling with a significant increase in measles cases. U.S. health authorities have said that the number of infections in early 2025 has already exceeded the total for all of 2024. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported 483 confirmed measles cases.

Texas is experiencing the most severe outbreak, with 400 cases identified since late January.

India Launches 'Operation Brahma' For Quake-Hit Myanmar

As Myanmar grapples with the devastation caused by a massive earthquake, India delivered 15 tonnes of relief material and dispatched additional supplies by air and sea as part of the emergency mission 'Operation Brahma.'

India swiftly mobilized its disaster relief efforts, with a C-130 aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) taking off from Hindon Airbase and landing in Yangon, carrying essential supplies to support the affected communities.

Awards

Renowned Historian MyNaa Swamy to Receive Ugadi Award

The Andhra Pradesh Government has announced that esteemed historian and archaeologist MyNaa Swamy will be honored with the prestigious Ugadi Award for his exceptional contributions to historical research and social service.

MyNaa Swamy has made remarkable contributions to epigraphic studies, particularly on the Vijayanagara Empire and the Lepakshi Veerabhadra temple complex.

His research has uncovered and deciphered over 100 previously unknown inscriptions in Telugu, Kannada, and Sanskrit, bringing valuable historical insights to light.

National

IAF to Participate in Multinational Air Exercise INIOCHOS-25 in Greece

The Indian Air Force (IAF) will participate in the multinational air exercise INIOCHOS-25, beginning in Greece.

The 12-day exercise, hosted by Greece's Hellenic Air Force, will take place at the Andravida Air Base in the historic region of Elis.

The IAF contingent will include Su-30 MKI fighters, along with combat-enabling IL-78 and C-17 aircraft.

The exercise will enhance international cooperation, synergy and interoperability among participating Air Forces.

Ahmedabad's Saudagari Block Print Receives GI Tag

Ahmedabad's renowned Saudagari block print, crafted by artisans in Jamalpur, has been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for its distinctive craftsmanship. This traditional art form, which has been practiced for nearly 300 years, involves intricate hand-printed designs on fabric using natural dyes and age-old techniques.

President of India Inaugurates the National Conference on 'Environment – 2025'

President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the National Conference on 'Environment – 2025' in New Delhi, stressing the importance of continuous environmental protection and the moral responsibility of preserving nature for future generations.

She reaffirmed India's commitment to green initiatives and acknowledged the role of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in environmental governance. The President also called upon individuals and institutions to actively participate in conservation efforts, ensuring a sustainable balance between development and ecology.

Business and Economy

Thomas John Muthoot Elects CII South Chairman

The Chairman of Muthoot Pappachan Group, Thomas John Muthoot, has been elected as the Chairman of Confederation of the Indian Industry (CII), Southern Region for the year 2025-26.

The President of Danfoss India Region, Ravichandran Purushothaman, has been elected Vice Chairman.

Waaree Energies Unveils India's Largest Solar Cell Facility in Gujarat

Waaree Energies Ltd., a leading clean energy company, has launched a 5.4-gigawatt (GW) solar cell facility in Chikhli, Gujarat. Spread across 150 acres, the facility features a built-up area of 101 acres.

Headquartered in Mumbai, Waaree Energies is one of India's top renewable energy firms. It operates manufacturing facilities with a total installed capacity of 15 GW for solar PV modules globally, including 1.3 GW from Indosolar and 1.6 GW in Texas, USA.

India's Coal Dependence Rose to 79% in FY24

The share of coal in India's total energy generation rose to 79% in 2023-24, reaching 16,906 petajoules (PJ), marking a two-percentage-point increase from the previous year, according to MoSPI's Energy Statistics in India 2025.

Since 2014-15, coal has consistently accounted for over 70% of the country's total energy production. In 2023-24, coal production grew

by 12%, following a decadal-high growth rate of 15% in the previous year, making it one of the fastest-growing energy sources in the past decade.

Meanwhile, crude oil's share in energy generation declined to 6% in 2023-24, down from 11% in 2014-15. Similarly, natural gas contributed 7% of total energy production, a drop from 9% in 2014-15.

Sports

Nihal Sarin Clinches 2025 Tashkent Open Agzamov Memorial Title

India's Nihal Sarin has clinched the 2025 Tashkent Open Agzamov Memorial title in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The 20-year-old Indian Grandmaster secured the title with an unbeaten score of 8 out of 10, outperforming a strong field that included eight players rated above 2600.

Manav Thakkar Becomes First Indian to Reach Final Eight of WTT Star Contender

In table tennis, India's Manav Thakkar created history by becoming the first Indian to qualify for the final eight of a WTT Star Contender event. He defeated Andre Bertelsmeier of Germany 3-2 in the men's singles pre-quarterfinal at the WTT Star Contender in Chennai.

In women's singles, India's Krittwika Roy was defeated 0-3 by three-time World Championship medalist Miyu Nagasaki of Japan in the pre-quarterfinals. The loss marked the end of India's challenge in the women's singles event.