

International

Dengue death toll in Bangladesh crosses 200.

In Bangladesh, the dengue situation has taken a grave turn, with the death toll crossing 200 since the beginning of this year. Health authorities report that hospitals across Dhaka and other major cities are struggling to cope with the steady rise in patients. Tens of thousands of dengue cases have been recorded nationwide, with the majority reported from the capital, Dhaka. Doctors say overcrowded hospitals and shortages of beds are compounding the challenge, as more patients arrive daily with severe symptoms.

Death toll rises to 72 in Cebu earthquake, Philippines.

The death toll from the magnitude 6.9 earthquake that struck Cebu province in the central Philippines has risen to 72. The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) reported that at least 294 people were injured in the quake that hit Cebu province.

National

Ashwini Vaishnaw launches NIELIT Digital University.

Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw has inaugurated the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) Digital University (NDU) Platform in New Delhi. The platform is designed to democratize access to high-quality digital education. The platform will offer industry-focused programs in niche technologies such as AI, Cybersecurity, Data Science, Semiconductors, and allied fields. It will provide flexible digital learning modes and virtual labs to equip youth with future-ready skills.

The Minister also virtually inaugurated five other NIELIT Centres at Muzaffarpur in Bihar, Balasore in Odisha, Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh, Lunglei in Mizoram and Daman.

NIELIT will work towards providing education that is needed for the students digitally, as per industry needs.

Special Gram Sabha in 1 lakh tribal villages adopts Tribal Village Vision 2030 Declaration.

A Special Gram Sabha was held on October 2 across 1 lakh tribal-dominated villages and Tolas, where communities formally adopted the Tribal Village Vision 2030 Declaration. This move is part of the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan, launched by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan marks the world's largest tribal grassroots leadership programme, covering 11 crore citizens in 30 States and UTs. The Central government has declared the period from 15th November last year to 15th November this year as Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had officially launched the Adi Karmayogi Abhiyan and Adi Sewa Parv on the 17th of last month, focusing on responsive governance, community participation, and youth leadership through the Adi Sewa Parv program.

India and China agree to resume direct air services by late October.

India and China have agreed to resume direct air services connecting designated points in both countries by late October. The External Affairs Ministry said in a statement that the civil aviation authorities of the two countries have been engaged in technical-level discussions on resuming direct air services and on a revised Air Services Agreement. This has been done since earlier this year as part of the Government's approach towards gradual normalization of relations between India and China.

Padma Vibhushan vocalist Pandit Chhannulal Mishra dies.

Padma Vibhushan vocalist and a towering figure in Hindustani classical music, Pandit Chhannulal Mishra died in Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh after a prolonged illness. He was 89. Mishra grew up to be a doyen of Hindustani classical music, contributing immensely to such styles of the form as Khayal, Thumri, Dadra, Chaiti, Kajri, and Bhajan. He was conferred with Padma Vibhushan in 2020 and Padma Bhushan in 2010.

Veteran socialist and freedom fighter G.G. Parikh passes away.

Veteran Gandhian, socialist and freedom fighter G.G. Parikh passed away in Mumbai at the age of 100. Parikh was imprisoned twice in his lifetime, first during the Quit India movement in 1942 and later during the Emergency. Despite these hardships, his dedication to social causes never wavered. He began his public life as a student activist, actively participating in movements in Saurashtra and Mumbai from the early 1940s. He also served as the president of the Bombay unit of the Students' Congress.

Ministry of Ayush confers the National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2025.

The Ministry of Ayush has conferred the National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2025 on Prof. Banwari Lal Gaur, Vaidya Neelakandhan Mooss E.T., and Vaidya Bhavana Prasher, recognising their outstanding contributions to the field of Ayurveda across academic, traditional, and scientific domains. The Ministry of Ayush said that these awards celebrate individuals who have made impactful contributions to the promotion, preservation, and advancement of Ayurveda.

Business and Economy

RBI Monetary Policy: repo rate remains unchanged at 5.50 per cent.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released its Monetary Policy Report (October 2025) following the 57th meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee held from September 29 to October 1, 2025. It has kept the repo rate unchanged at 5.50% with a neutral stance.

Bank Rate remained unchanged at 5.75%.

Marginal standing facility (MSF) rate remained unchanged at 5.75%.

Standing deposit facility (SDF) rate remained unchanged at 5.25%.

Liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) remained unchanged at 5.25%.

Current Account Deficit moderated to 0.2% of GDP this year.

It revised India's GDP growth forecast for FY 2025-26 upwards to 6.8% from the earlier estimate of 6.5%.

It has lowered its CPI inflation forecast for FY 2025-26 to 2.6%, down from 3.1%.

Centre releases ₹1,01,603 crore as advance tax devolution to States.

The Central Government has released tax devolution of one lakh one thousand 603 crore rupees to State Governments, as an advance instalment of tax devolution. The Finance Ministry said in a statement that this has been done in view of the upcoming festive season and to enable States to accelerate capital spending and finance their development and welfare-related expenditure.

RBI launches one-year scheme to facilitate payout of inoperative accounts and unclaimed deposits.

The Reserve Bank of India has announced a scheme for "Facilitating Accelerated Payout – Inoperative Accounts and Unclaimed Deposits". The one-year tenure scheme is starting on October 1 and will end on September 30, 2026. This has encouraged the public to activate their inactive accounts and claim their unclaimed deposits from the banks.

Similarly, through this scheme, the RBI has decided to encourage the banks to actively pursue customers/ depositors for reactivation of their inoperative accounts and return of their unclaimed amounts lying with the Depositor Education and Awareness Fund. The Scheme aims to reduce both the stock of existing unclaimed deposits and the fresh accretion of flows to the DEA Fund.

RBI's Digital Payments Intelligence Platform to flag risky transactions.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is preparing to operationalise a Digital Payments Intelligence Platform (DPIP) that will leverage artificial intelligence (AI) to flag risky transactions and curb fraud. The system will analyze data from multiple sources to issue pre-transaction alerts, helping banks and customers decide whether to proceed.

DPIP aims to strengthen fraud risk management by enabling real-time intelligence sharing across the ecosystem. By collecting and analysing data from diverse sources, the platform will identify potential threats and prevent scams before they materialise.

In FY25, banks reported 13,516 cases of card and internet fraud amounting to Rs 520 crore. Most fraud occurred through digital channels

such as cards and internet banking. While private sector banks saw the bulk of these digital frauds, public sector banks reported most frauds linked to their loan books.

Amazon Pay launches 'Payments ka A to Z'.

Amazon Pay has introduced a new unified payment interface, “Payments ka A to Z,” bringing together multiple payment modes—UPI, credit and debit cards, Amazon Pay Balance, and Amazon Pay Later—into a single platform. The update aims to simplify payments, bill management, and rewards tracking for Indian users.

The upgraded interface includes a unified dashboard for bills, subscriptions, and insurance payments, with features such as auto-pay and reminders. Users can now manage all their saved payment instruments from one place, eliminating the need to switch between apps or payment methods.

SIDBI launches new scheme to strengthen MSME clusters.

The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has rolled out the Development of Industry Associations (DIA) scheme to create stronger and financially sustainable industry associations for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

Mukesh Ambani beats Gautam Adani to regain title of India's richest.

Mukesh Ambani was named India's richest as he regained the top spot in the M3M Hurun India Rich List 2025. The Ambani family maintained the top spot with a net worth of ₹9.55 lakh crore, while Gautam Adani and his family came second with a net worth of ₹8.15 lakh crore. Roshni Nadar Malhotra, Chairperson of HCL Technologies, was named India's richest woman as she entered the Top 3 for the first time with a wealth of ₹2.84 lakh crore.

The total number of billionaires in the country has crossed 350, a sixfold increase since the list debuted 13 years ago. Notably, the combined wealth of all listers stands at ₹167 lakh crore, equal to nearly half of India's GDP.

Thirty-one-year-old Aravind Srinivas, founder of Perplexity, was named India's youngest billionaire with a net worth of ₹21,900 crore. Mumbai, home to 451 of the wealthiest individuals, still leads the list of cities with the most billionaires. This was followed by New Delhi with 223 and Bengaluru with 116.

RBI allows local lenders to bankroll mergers & acquisitions.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed a comprehensive framework that would allow banks to finance acquisitions by Indian corporates. This was a long-standing demand by domestic banks. The central bank also announced plans to increase lending limits against shares, and proposed to ease risk weights on loans extended by banks to non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) for operational infrastructure projects.

RBI proposes a basic savings bank deposit account as a standard service.

The Reserve Bank of India announced that Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account (BSBDA) holders will now gain access to digital banking services, including mobile and internet banking. According to the RBI circular, for a BSBD account, the bank should provide unlimited deposits through cash, electronic channels, and ATMs/cash deposit machines, and provide free ATM facilities or debit cards, a cheque book of at least 25 leaves yearly, internet and mobile banking, and a passbook or monthly statement at no extra cost. Additionally, BSBD account holders will get at least four free withdrawals (including transfers and ATM use) per month. Digital transactions like Unified Payments Interface, National Electronic Fund Transfer, Real-time Gross Settlement, Immediate Payment Service, and Point of Sale are unlimited.

Further, the RBI has stated that banks may provide additional services, with or without charges, in a non-discretionary and non-discriminatory manner, with disclosures to the customer.

Meanwhile, the RBI has said that the holder of a BSBD account will not be eligible for opening another such account in any bank.

Sports

Mirabai Chanu wins silver in women's 48kg category at World Championships in Norway.

Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu won silver in the women's 48kg category at the World Championships in Førde, Norway. Chanu lifted

a total of 199kg, including 84kg snatch + 115kg clean and jerk to secure the second place overall. This marked Chanu's first World Championship since 2022 and her second competition since finishing fourth at the Paris 2024 Olympics.