

International

UK considers social media ban for under-16s.

The United Kingdom has launched public consultations on a proposal to ban social media use for children under 16.

Parents, guardians and young people have been invited to share their views before a final decision is made.

The move follows similar actions in several countries, including Australia and France, as governments seek to protect teenagers from online risks associated with platforms like TikTok, Instagram and X.

US plans insurance and naval escort for ships in gulf region.

US President Donald Trump announced plans to provide government-backed insurance and financial security guarantees for maritime trade, particularly energy shipments, passing through the Gulf region amid rising tensions in West Asia.

He directed the US International Development Finance Corporation to offer political risk insurance to oil tankers and commercial ships.

Trump also said the US Navy may escort vessels through the Strait of Hormuz, which has been disrupted by recent Iranian attacks on ships.

Melania Trump chairs UN Security Council meeting on education in conflict.

US First Lady Melania Trump presided over a United Nations Security Council meeting on children and education in conflict in New York, marking the first time a world leader's spouse has chaired the 15-member council session.

She led the meeting as the US holds the rotating presidency this month. Emphasizing the role of education in peacebuilding, she said lasting peace can be achieved when societies value knowledge and understanding.

Important Days

National Safety Day:4th March.

India observed National Safety Day on March 4, reaffirming its commitment to workplace safety, occupational health and accident prevention.

The 2026 theme, “Engage, Educate & Empower People to Enhance Safety,” highlights the importance of awareness, skill development and individual responsibility in maintaining safety standards.

The campaign aims to strengthen a proactive safety culture and reduce workplace accidents across sectors.

World Obesity Day:4th March.

World Obesity Day 2026 is observed on March 4 to raise awareness about the growing global obesity crisis.

The theme for this year, “8 Billion Reasons to Act on Obesity,” highlights the need for urgent collective action to address obesity across all age groups. The day emphasizes promoting healthy lifestyles, improving healthcare systems and creating supportive environments to prevent obesity and related health risks worldwide.

National

NIFTEM-K signs MoU with University of Saskatchewan for food science collaboration.

The National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management–Kundli (NIFTEM-K) signed a five-year MoU with the University of Saskatchewan, Canada, to strengthen academic and research collaboration in food sciences.

The agreement will promote joint teaching programmes, training in food technology and food systems economics, and faculty-student exchange initiatives. The partnership aims to enhance innovation and bilateral cooperation between India and Canada in the agri-food sector.

DGFT forms inter-ministerial group to monitor export risks.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has set up an Inter-Ministerial Group to assess the impact of ongoing geopolitical developments on India's exports and supply chains.

The group will monitor global disruptions, evaluate sector-wise export and critical import vulnerabilities, and coordinate with ministries and Export Promotion Councils. An internal mechanism within DGFT has also been created to ensure real-time tracking of issues and better inter-agency coordination.

Janaushadhi Saptah 2026 promotes affordable generic medicines.

The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers is observing Janaushadhi Saptah 2026 to promote affordable and quality generic medicines across the country.

On the third day, 47 camps were organized, benefiting thousands of people.

The camps provided health check-ups, free consultations, diagnostic services, and distribution of Janaushadhi medicines, with special focus on women, senior citizens and children.

The nationwide campaign will continue until the 7th of this month.

Indian Army, Ladakh Govt sign MoU for Wildlife Conservation.

The Indian Army and Ladakh's Forest, Ecology and Environment Department signed an MoU to conserve the region's fragile ecosystem and protect key species such as the Snow Leopard, Himalayan Wolf, Bharal, Ibex, Marmot and Black-necked Crane.

The agreement aims to promote sustainable development and biodiversity protection.

A joint Snow Leopard Conservation Cell will also be established to monitor and strengthen conservation efforts in Ladakh.

Defence Ministry signs ₹5,083 crore deals for helicopters and missiles.

The Ministry of Defence signed contracts worth ₹5,083 crore for six Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH) Mk-III for the Indian Coast Guard and Surface-to-Air Vertical Launch Shtil missiles for the Indian Navy. The helicopter deal with HAL is valued at ₹2,901 crore, while the missile contract with Russia's Rosoboronexport is worth ₹2,182 crore. The acquisitions aim to strengthen maritime security and enhance air defence capabilities of frontline naval platforms.

Business and Economy

IRDAI proposes shift to Ind AS for insurance companies.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has released a consultation paper proposing the transition of insurers from the current Indian GAAP framework to Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) from April 1.

The move aims to align financial reporting with global IFRS standards, enhancing transparency and investor confidence.

IRDAI has suggested parallel reporting in the first year and invited stakeholder comments on the proposal by March 24.

Sports

Indian women's cricket team nominated for 2026 Laureus Award.

The Indian women's cricket team has been nominated for the 2026 Laureus World Team of the Year Award after winning their maiden ICC Women's World Cup title in 2025.

Led by Harmanpreet Kaur, the team achieved the highest successful run chase in women's ODI history during the semi-final against Australia.

They are the first women's cricket team to receive this nomination and join global teams like England women's football team, PSG and McLaren F1.

All-England Badminton Championships begin in Birmingham.

The All-England Badminton Championships began in Birmingham with Indian players making a strong start.

Mixed doubles pair Tanisha Crasto and Dhruv Kapila secured India's first win, defeating Malaysia's Hoo Pang Ron and Cheng Su Yin in straight games.

In men's singles, Lakshya Sen stunned world No. 1 and defending champion Shi

Yu Qi of China to advance. However, two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu missed the tournament after being stranded in Dubai due to West Asia tensions.

Gukesh returns to top 10 in FIDE rankings after rating correction.

Reigning world chess champion Gukesh Dommaraju has re-entered the top 10 of the March 2026 FIDE rankings after the International Chess Federation corrected an error in its rating calculations.

The correction removed an improperly approved Russian Chess Crown match from the rating list.

As a result, Russian grandmaster Sergey Karjakin has been marked inactive and removed from the active players' list.