

(4<sup>th</sup> November 2025)

#### **International**

### <u>Samia Suluhu Hassan sworn in for second term as Tanzania's President.</u>

Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan was sworn in for a second term amid tight security, following an election marred by violent protests and opposition rejection. Samia was declared the winner on Saturday with 98 per cent of the vote, after several opposition leaders were either jailed or barred from contesting the election.

#### Mansukh Mandaviya to attend Second World Summit for Social Development.

Minister for Labour & Employment and Youth Affairs & Sports, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, arrived in Doha to participate in the Second World Summit for Social Development (WSSD-2), hosted by the State of Qatar from November 4 to 6, 2025. During his visit, Dr Mandaviya will attend the Opening Plenary Meeting, deliver India's National Statement, and join world leaders in adopting the Doha Political Declaration.

#### Sunil Kant Munjal conferred Chevalier de l'Ordre national du Mérite.

Sunil Kant Munjal, Chairman of Hero Enterprise and Founder of the Serendipity Arts Foundation, has been conferred the Chevalier de l'Ordre national du Merite (Knight of the National Order of Merit) by the Ambassador of France to India, H.E. Mr Thierry Mathou. One of France's most distinguished civilian honours, the award recognises Mr Munjal's outstanding contribution to India's civil society, his commitment to education and innovation, and his vision for making art and culture accessible to all.

#### **National**

## EC launches second phase of Special Intensive Revision across nine states and three UTs.

The Election Commission of India (EC) has launched the second round of its Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise covering nine states and three Union territories with a combined electorate of around 51 crores.

The large-scale revision of the electoral rolls will conclude with the publication of the final voter list on February 7, 2026. This marks the second phase of the SIR, following its implementation in Bihar, where the final electoral roll containing nearly 7.42 crore names was published on September 30.

The new phase will include the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal.

#### <u>India increases its tally of Ramsar sites to</u> 94 with Bihar's Gogabeel Lake.

Gogabeel Lake in Katihar district of Bihar has got a tag of international importance as a Ramsar site, bringing the total number of such protected sites in the country to 94. Bihar now has six Ramsar sites, standing in third position in the country after Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

India, meanwhile, continues to be at the top in Asia and third in the world after the UK (176) and Mexico (144) in terms of the total number of Ramsar sites under a global convention. Globally, there are 2,546 Ramsar sites.

### India to bring another batch of eight cheetahs from Botswana.

Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav said that eight cheetahs will be coming to India from Botswana next month under the Project Cheetah. The cheetahs will be kept in the Kuno National Park in quarantine.

#### Sanjay Garg took charge as Director General of the Bureau of Indian Standards.

Sanjay Garg, a senior civil servant of the IAS-1994 batch from the Kerala cadre, has assumed charge as the Director General (DG) of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), with effect from the 1st of this month. Prior to joining BIS as DG, he served as the Secretary of the Indian Council of Agriculture Research and additional Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Research and Education.



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## NITI Aayog launches "Reimagining Agriculture" roadmap in Gandhinagar to boost agri-tech innovation.

NITI Aayog's Frontier Tech Hub has unveiled a major roadmap titled "Reimagining Agriculture: A Roadmap for Frontier Technology Led Transformation" in Gandhinagar. The roadmap focuses on harnessing frontier technologies such as climate-resilient seeds, digital twins, precision agriculture, and Agentic AI. It offers tailored solutions by categorizing farmers into three groups: Aspiring, Transitioning, and Advanced.

The roadmap, developed in collaboration with partners like BCG, Google, and CII, aims to enhance agricultural resilience, inclusive rural prosperity, and India's global competitiveness in agri-tech innovation.

#### <u>Delhi government launches Pink Saheli</u> Smart Card:

The Delhi government has launched the 'Pink Saheli Smart Card', a special initiative that allows free travel for women and transgender individuals in all Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) and cluster buses. The scheme is designed to promote public transport, ensure safety, and make daily commuting more accessible for women and trans people across Delhi.

With this move, all daughters, sisters, and mothers above 12 years of age will now be able to travel free of cost on DTC and cluster buses.

#### **Business and Economy**

### India's bioeconomy sector to reach \$300 billion by 2030: NITI Aayog report.

India's rapidly advancing bioeconomy sector, encompassing agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and aquaculture, is projected to reach \$300 billion by 2030, according to a NITI Aayog report. The report noted that with the right interventions, India can unlock new levels of agricultural resilience, inclusive rural prosperity, and global competitiveness in agritech innovation.

According to the report, a robust agricultural system is central to a nation's sovereignty, ensuring the fundamental imperative of food security.

#### RBI launches 3 key surveys for monetary policy inputs.

The Reserve Bank of India has announced the launch of the next round of three key surveys, including one on inflation expectations, which provide useful inputs to the central bank's monetary policy.

The November 2025 round of 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) would seek qualitative responses from households regarding their sentiments on the general economic situation, employment scenario, price level, households' income and spending. The survey is conducted regularly in 19 cities.

The Rural Consumer Confidence Survey (RCCS) is aimed at collecting current perceptions and one-year-ahead expectations of households on the 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 and UTs.

The RBI said the results of the surveys provide useful inputs for monetary policy.

#### <u>Digital units of public banks to undergo</u> review.

The Union government will review the performance of digital banking units (DBUs) set up by state-run banks to further drive its financial inclusion schemes and enhance customer convenience, including services such as periodic customer verification (re-KYC). At present, there are 114 DBUs set up in 104 districts. They were launched in 2022, across 75 remote districts of India, commemorating India's 75th year of Independence.

A DBU is a specialised fixed-point business unit or hub, housing a certain minimum digital infrastructure for delivering digital banking products entirely through self-service, anytime.



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### Gold & renewable loans jump; NBFC, housing credit loses steam: RBI.

As per the RBI report, gold loans and loans to the renewable energy sector have more than doubled, while growth in bank credit to non-banking finance companies (NBFC) and housing finance companies (HFC) decelerated. Demand for loans by pledging gold jewellery continued its surge with the year-on-year growth touching 115% to Rs 3.16 lakh crore at the end of September 19. The growth print was recorded at 51% the same time last year.

This contrasts with decelerated growth in bank credit to NBFCs and HFCs, which saw modest increases of 3.9% and 0.2% respectively. Consumer durables and personal loans also experienced slower growth.

## ED provisionally attaches ₹7,500 crore assets allegedly linked to the Reliance Anil Ambani Group.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached assets worth about ₹7,500 crore allegedly linked to the Reliance Anil Ambani Group in connection with investigations under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The assets include more than 132 acres of land of the Dhirubhai Ambani Knowledge City in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, worth over ₹4,462 crore in the Reliance Communications Limited (RCOM) "bank fraud" case.

### OpenAI signs \$38 billion infrastructure deal with cloud giant AWS.

ChatGPT-maker OpenAI signed a \$38 billion deal with Amazon's AWS cloud computing arm, as the artificial intelligence company continues on a major partnership spree that has also included Oracle, Broadcom, AMD and chipmaking juggernaut Nvidia.

Under the seven-year agreement, OpenAI, which is partly owned by AWS's archrival Microsoft, will gain access to computing resources, including hundreds of thousands of state-of-the-art Nvidia GPUs, the crucial component of the generative artificial intelligence revolution.

#### **Sports**

#### **Tennis: Sinner wins Paris Masters.**

Jannik Sinner won the Paris Masters for the first time by defeating Felix Auger-Aliassime 6-4, 7-6[4] as the four-time Grand Slam champion reclaimed his position atop the world rankings. The Italian first claimed the number one ranking in June last year and held it for 65 weeks until he lost the US Open title match to Alcaraz in September.

### FIDE World Cup trophy named after Viswanathan Anand.

The new trophy of the 2025 FIDE World Cup, being held in Goa, was christened as the Viswanathan Anand trophy, in honour of the five-time World Champion Indian legend. The USD 2 million prize money tournament will feature 206 players from 80 countries in eight knockout rounds of classical games.

## Over 1,400 Hockey Tournaments to be held nationwide to mark 100 years of hockey.

Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has said that on the 7th of this month, more than 1 thousand 400 hockey tournaments will be organised in more than 550 districts across the country to celebrate 100 years of Indian hockey. Hockey India will launch its centenary celebrations – marking 100 years of Indian hockey – on November 7 at the Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi. The occasion also commemorates the founding of the Indian Hockey Federation on November 7, 1925.

# Harbhajan Singh, Saina Nehwal and Rohit Shetty honoured as 'Fit India Icons' at National Fitness & Wellness Conclave 2025.

India's sporting and entertainment giants have come together at the National Fitness & Wellness Conclave 2025 in Mumbai, where Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, felicitated World Cupwinning cricketer Harbhajan Singh, Olympic medallist Saina Nehwal, and Bollywood filmmaker Rohit Shetty with the Fit India Icon titles.



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### BCCI announces ₹51 crore reward for Indian Women's Cricket team

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has announced a cash reward of 51 crore rupees for the Indian women's cricket

team players, support staff and selection committee, in recognition of their momentous achievement of winning the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup for the first time in history.