

## International

### UNSC grants travel ban exemption for Afghan FM Muttqi to visit India.

The United Nations Security Council has granted a travel ban exemption to Afghanistan's Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttqi, allowing him to visit India from October 9 to 16. Certain Taliban-linked individuals remain under UN travel restrictions, but exemptions can be approved for official duties or medical reasons. This will mark the first high-level visit by a Taliban leader to New Delhi since the group regained power in 2021, underscoring the evolving diplomatic dynamics in the region.

### Dame Sarah Mullally named as new Archbishop of Canterbury.

Dame Sarah Mullally has been named the Archbishop of Canterbury designate, becoming the first woman to be chosen for the role. The 63-year-old former NHS chief nurse became a priest in 2006 and was appointed the first female Bishop of London in 2018, the third-highest clergy position in the Church of England. Women were first ordained as priests in 1994, and the first female bishops were appointed in 2014.

## Important Days

### World Animal Day 2025: October 4.

World Animal Day 2025, observed on October 4, marks the 100th anniversary of the global movement advocating animal rights, welfare, and compassion. The theme this year, "Save Animals, Save the Planet!", highlights the vital link between animal protection and environmental sustainability.

First celebrated in 1925 by German writer Heinrich Zimmermann in Berlin, the day was shifted to October 4 in 1929 to coincide with the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals.

## Obituary

### Former Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Girraj Prasad Tiwari Passes Away.

Former Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Girraj Prasad Tiwari passed away in Bharatpur at the age of 105. Born in 1920 at Bidyari village, Bharatpur district, he served as the Assembly Speaker from January 31, 1986, to March 11, 1990, and was elected MLA twice. Earlier, he was the Deputy Speaker from March 29, 1985, to January 31, 1986. Mr Tiwari began his career as a lawyer before entering politics, serving as Panchayat Samiti Pradhan and Zila Pramukh.

## National

### Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan achieves historic milestone.

The Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan has reached a historic milestone by screening 6.5 crore women across the country. Nearly 18 lakh health camps were organized during the two-week campaign, which was launched on the 17th of last month by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and concluded on the 2nd of this month. The Abhiyaan reflects India's collective resolve to prioritize women's health, recognizing it as the foundation of strong families and thriving communities.

### TRAI releases recommendations on Digital Radio Broadcast Policy.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released recommendations on formulating a Digital Radio Broadcast Policy for private broadcasters.

It proposed reserve prices for launching services in four A+ cities—Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai—and nine A cities, including Hyderabad, Bengaluru, and Ahmedabad.

TRAI suggested starting digital services in simulcast mode, with voluntary migration allowed for existing FM broadcasters.

The authorization period will be 15 years, with Prasar Bharati sharing infrastructure at concessional rates. TRAI also recommended frequency planning in a single technology scenario for A+ and A cities.

### **Centre issues advisory on use of cough syrups for children.**

The Union Health Ministry has issued an advisory to all States and UTs on the rational use of cough syrups in children. It has cautioned that cough and cold medicines should not be given to children below two years and are generally not recommended below five years. Usage above this age must follow clinical evaluation, close supervision, and proper dosing. The advisory stresses that most acute cough illnesses in children are self-limiting and resolve without medication. This comes in the backdrop of recent child deaths in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, allegedly linked to cough syrups, though subsequent tests confirmed the absence of harmful contaminants like Diethylene Glycol (DEG) and Ethylene Glycol (EG).

### **National Conference on Land Administration and Disaster Management begins in Gandhinagar.**

The two-day National Conference on Land Administration and Disaster Management started today at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar.

The event featured the inauguration of new revenue offices, the launch of the Revenue Diary and Integrated Land Administration System, and the distribution of SVAMITVA cards to the members of nomadic tribes.

Organized by the Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development, the conference will host thematic panel discussions covering various aspects of land administration and disaster management.

### **Business and Economy**

#### **NITI Aayog launches tax policy working paper to boost foreign investment.**

NITI Aayog has released the first paper under its Tax Policy Working Paper Series, aimed at enhancing tax certainty and attracting foreign investment. The paper proposes an Optional Presumptive Taxation Scheme, allowing foreign firms to pay tax based on a fixed percentage of revenue instead of detailed audits. This move is expected to reduce litigation, cut compliance costs, and simplify business operations. It also recommends clearer domestic laws, stronger dispute resolution, and better-trained tax officials to align India's tax regime with global standards and support initiatives like Make in India.

#### **Maruti Suzuki's distinction**

Maruti Suzuki India Limited has become the country's first automobile manufacturer to transport vehicles to the Kashmir Valley using Indian Railways. The company announced the arrival of its inaugural rail shipment at the new Anantnag terminal on Friday (October 3, 2025).

The first consignment, which departed from the firm's recently inaugurated Manesar in-plant railway siding, covered more than 850 kilometres; the train's route to Anantnag included a crossing over the world's highest railway arch bridge built over the Chenab River.

#### **Zomato and HDFC Pension to introduce 'NPS Platform Workers Model' for delivery partners.**

Zomato and HDFC Pension have collaborated to introduce 'NPS Platform Workers Model' for delivery partners of the food delivery platform, in a bid to provide them access to formal retirement benefits.

The model was formally launched by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman at an event organised by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) on October 1.

### Sports

#### Nishad Kumar wins maiden Gold in Men's High Jump T47 at World Para Athletics Championships.

Indian para-athlete Nishad Kumar clinched his maiden gold medal in the men's high jump T47 event at the World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi.

In the women's 100m T12 sprint, Simran Sharma delivered a historic performance, clocking a personal best of 11.95 seconds to win gold.

Pardeep Kumar bagged bronze in men's discus throw F64, and Preethi Pal clinched bronze in women's 200m T35.

India now stands fourth with six gold, five silver, and four bronze medals.