

International

India joins UN honour roll by paying 2026 dues early.

India has joined the United Nations Honour Roll after promptly paying its 2026 dues of USD 35.187 million within 30 days,

UN spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said. India contributed 1.016 per cent of the UN's regular budget of USD 3.45 billion, covering operations excluding peacekeeping.

The timely payment comes amid a UN financial crisis following delays by some major contributors.

India's total assessed contribution stands at USD 38.223 million, with adjustments for staff income taxes.

Dubai to launch high-speed underground 'Dubai Loop' transport system.

Dubai will become the second city after Las Vegas to introduce the Dubai Loop, an underground transport system developed by The Boring Company. Announced at the World Government Summit, the project's first phase will link DIFC and Dubai Mall. Spanning 22.2 km with 19 stations, the \$681 million electric system will enable direct, non-stop travel at speeds up to 160 kmph and serve up to 30,000 passengers daily once fully operational.

Devnimori Buddha relics exposition inaugurated in Colombo.

Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake inaugurated the first-ever international exposition of the sacred Devnimori Relics of Lord Buddha at Colombo's Gangaramaya Temple. Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya thanked India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for enabling the historic event.

Brought from Gujarat by a special Indian Air Force aircraft, the relics will remain on public display till February 10, highlighting the deep spiritual and civilizational ties between India and Sri Lanka.

India joins the BRICS Centre for Industrial Competencies.

India has joined the BRICS Centre for Industrial Competencies to provide integrated support to manufacturing firms and MSMEs across BRICS nations.

The National Productivity Council has been designated as the India Centre for BCIC and will lead capacity building, productivity enhancement, and adoption of advanced manufacturing practices.

Launched in partnership with UNIDO, the BCIC aims to promote industrial innovation, modernization, and international cooperation among BRICS economies.

Important Days

World Cancer Day: 4th February.

World Cancer Day is observed annually on February 4 to raise awareness about cancer and promote its prevention, early detection, and treatment.

Led by the Union for International Cancer Control, the 2026 theme "United by Unique" emphasizes people-centred cancer care, recognizing that every patient's experience is different. Established in 2000 following the signing of the Paris Charter Against Cancer, the day highlights global unity, equity in care, and collective action against one of the world's most serious health challenges.

National

PLASTINDIA 2026 begins in New Delhi.

PLASTINDIA 2026, one of the world's leading plastics exhibitions, begins in New Delhi.

Over 2,000 international exhibitors will showcase innovations in machinery, raw materials, and circular economy solutions. The event, themed BHARAT NEXT, aligns with the vision of Viksit and Atmanirbhar Bharat and is being held as a Zero Waste exhibition for the first time.

Amit Shah launches India's first cooperative ride-hailing platform 'Bharat Taxi'

Union Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah launched Bharat Taxi, India's first cooperative-based ride-hailing platform, in New Delhi.

The initiative aims to strengthen the cooperative sector and offer inclusive mobility solutions by placing drivers, called Sarathis, at the centre of ownership and operations.

Operating on a zero-commission, surge-free model, Bharat Taxi ensures direct profit sharing and provides social security benefits, including insurance and retirement savings, with special initiatives such as Bike Didi promoting women's participation.

Yumnam Khemchand Singh sworn in as Chief Minister of Manipur.

President's Rule in Manipur has been revoked, and BJP MLA Yumnam Khemchand Singh was sworn in as the new Chief Minister.

The swearing-in ceremony was held at Lok Bhavan in Imphal, where Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla administered the oath.

Nemcha Kipgen and Losii Dikho took oath as Deputy Chief Ministers, while other ministers were also inducted.

Business and Economy

Vinay Tonse to take over as Yes Bank MD & CEO.

Vinay Muralidhar Tonse, will assume charge as the Managing Director and CEO of Yes Bank, succeeding Prashant Kumar.

A former SBI banker, Tonse retired in November 2025 as SBI MD overseeing retail operations.

His appointment comes at a crucial phase as Yes Bank looks to accelerate growth amid subdued retail expansion, following Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation's acquisition of a 25 per cent stake in the lender.

SEBI eases Order-to-Trade Ratio Norms for Algo Trading.

Market regulator SEBI has relaxed the order-to-trade ratio framework for algorithmic trading by widening exemption limits for equity options and excluding certain market-making activities from penalty calculations.

Under the revised norms, algo orders within ± 40 per cent of the last traded price or ₹20, whichever is higher, will be exempt from OTR penalties.

SEBI has also excluded market-making orders from OTR computation, aiming to support liquidity while curbing excessive non-economic trades.

World Bank flags uneven impact of State Fiscal Rules in India.

India's state-level fiscal rules have helped improve headline deficits, but progress remains fragile and uneven, a World Bank report submitted to the 16th Finance Commission said.

Despite nearly two decades of Fiscal Responsibility Laws, debt levels have not converged.

Highly indebted states such as Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal continue to face elevated debt and persistent revenue gaps, while only a few states like Gujarat have significantly reduced their debt burdens.

Sports

India storm into U-19 World Cup Final, Beat Afghanistan.

India entered the final of the Under-19 ODI Cricket World Cup after defeating Afghanistan by seven wickets in the second semifinal at Harare. Chasing 311, India reached the target in 41.1 overs, led by Aaron George's 115, with support from Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and skipper Ayush Mhatre. Afghanistan had earlier scored 310 for four. India will face England in the final, remaining unbeaten in the tournament.

Esha Singh wins Gold at Asian Rifle and Pistol Championship.

Olympian Esha Singh clinched the gold medal in the women's individual 10m air pistol event on the opening day of the Asian Rifle and Pistol Championship in Delhi. The 21-year-old scored 239.8 in the final to claim her second senior Asian title. Esha also teamed up with Manu Bhaker and Suruchi Singh to win team gold. In the men's 10m air pistol, world champion Samrat Rana secured bronze.