

International

India and Israel sign MoU to expand scope of bilateral defence ties.

India and Israel signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to expand the scope of bilateral defence ties between the two nations. The MoU was exchanged at the 17th meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting on defence cooperation between India and Israel, which was held in Tel Aviv.

Peru ends diplomatic ties with Mexico over asylum row.

Peru has severed diplomatic ties with Mexico after Mexico granted asylum to former Peruvian Prime Minister Betssy Chávez, who faces charges linked to the 2022 coup attempt by ex-President Pedro Castillo. Peru's Foreign Minister called the move an interference in domestic affairs, worsening already tense relations since Castillo's ouster. Chávez has denied the allegations, while Peru earlier expelled Mexico's ambassador for granting asylum to Castillo's family, deepening the diplomatic fallout between the two countries.

Democrat Zohran Mamdani defeats Andrew Cuomo, set to assume NYC Mayorship.

Zohran Mamdani, a Democrat candidate, has secured victory in New York City's mayoral race. He defeated independent candidate Andrew Cuomo. With this win, Mamdani has become the city's first Muslim and youngest mayor in generations.

He will take charge as New York City Mayor on 1st January 2026.

India-US conduct 22nd Military Cooperation Group meeting in Hawaii.

The 22nd India-US Military Cooperation Group (MCG) meeting was held over two days in Hawaii, co-chaired by Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit and Lt. Gen. Joshua Rudd.

Senior defence leaders discussed boosting bilateral defence ties, improving interoperability, and supporting a free and secure Indo-Pacific.

The MCG is a key platform for strategic coordination between the two militaries. Last year's meeting took place in New Delhi, and both nations continue joint exercises, including Yudh Abhyas, Malabar, and Vajra Prahar.

Obituary

Gopichand Hinduja, Chairman of Hinduja group, passes away at 85.

Gopichand P. Hinduja, head of Britain's richest Hinduja family and key figure behind the revival of Ashok Leyland, died in London at the age of 85. Born in 1940, he expanded the group into a global business empire across automotive, energy, and finance.

A Jai Hind College graduate, he led major acquisitions such as Gulf Oil and Ashok Leyland, marking a milestone in NRI investments.

Former US Vice President Dick Cheney Passes Away at 84.

Former US Vice President Dick Cheney has died at 84.

A Republican leader with a long political career, he previously served as defence secretary during the 1991 Gulf War and later as Vice President under George W. Bush from 2001 to 2009. Cheney played a major role in shaping US foreign policy, especially advocating the 2003 Iraq invasion over claims of weapons of mass destruction, which were later disproved.

National

IFFCO and Amul Ranked among world's top cooperatives.

Indian cooperative leaders IFFCO and Amul have been recognized among the world's top cooperatives in the ICA World Cooperative Monitor 2025 rankings, announced in Doha.

The ranking highlights their strong performance in GDP per capita. Amul's vast dairy cooperative network has greatly supported rural livelihoods and strengthened India's food security.

IFFCO continues to empower farmers with sustainable fertilizer production, digital services and community-focused initiatives, reinforcing India's cooperative success on a global scale.

CBSE holds first International Sahodaya Conference in Dubai.

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) inaugurated its first International and 31st Annual Sahodaya School Complexes Conference in Dubai, bringing together over 1,000 educators from CBSE schools worldwide.

Focused on the theme "Rooted in Wisdom, Rising with Vision," the event highlights NEP 2020-driven reforms, innovation in teaching, and global collaboration.

The conference also celebrates the strong presence of CBSE schools across the Gulf region.

IIT Delhi tops Indian institutions in QS World Rankings 2026.

In the QS World University Rankings 2026, IIT Delhi has emerged as India's highest-ranked institution at the 123rd place globally.

India recorded its best-ever performance with 54 institutions featured, making it the fourth most represented country.

IIT Bombay ranked 129th, followed by IIT Madras (180th) and IIT Kharagpur (215th). IISc Bengaluru secured the 219th spot, while IIT Kanpur stood at 222nd, and the University of Delhi also ranked within the top 350 globally.

Telangana launches AI Innovation Hub to drive tech growth.

The Telangana government has launched the Telangana Artificial Intelligence Innovation Hub (TAIH) in Hyderabad to strengthen AI research, innovation, and

industry collaboration. The initiative aims to position Telangana among the world's top 20 AI hubs by 2035.

TAIH will act as a central platform for developing AI solutions across multiple sectors.

The state has also partnered with leading institutions like IIIT, BITS Pilani, IIT Hyderabad, and global tech giants including Google, Microsoft, Infosys, and Amazon.

ECI launches International Election Visitors' Program 2025.

The Election Commission of India has launched the International Election Visitors' Program 2025 in New Delhi to promote global cooperation in election management.

The programme includes visits to EVM dispatch centres and demonstrations on electoral rolls and polling processes. Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and Election Commissioner Dr Vivek Joshi interacted with the participants.

The initiative strengthens collaboration with global election bodies and institutions.

Business and Economy

SBI reports 10% rise in Q2 profit to ₹20,160 crore.

State Bank of India recorded a 10% year-on-year increase in net profit to ₹20,160 crore for the quarter ending September 30, driven by improved asset quality and gains from the sale of its 13.18% stake in Yes Bank, which contributed ₹4,593 crore.

The bank's net interest income grew 3.28% YoY, though its domestic NIM slipped to 3.09% from 3.27%. Advances rose 12.73% and deposits increased 9.27% YoY.

Gross NPAs improved to 1.73%, while net NPAs declined to 0.42%.

SEBI plans stronger oversight of market intermediaries.

SEBI is set to tighten regulation of market intermediaries by overhauling its Stock

Broker Regulations, following recent technical disruptions at MCX. SEBI Chairperson Tuhin Kanta Pandey said the reforms will focus on improved risk management, stricter data protection, better compliance, and faster resolution of investor grievances to ensure market stability.

Referring to the recent four-hour trading halt at MCX, he noted that a detailed investigation is underway and stressed the need to prevent such incidents in future.

Sports

Three Indians named in ICC Women's World Cup Team of the Tournament.

The ICC has included Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues, and Deepti Sharma in the Women's World Cup Team of the Tournament following India's title victory over South Africa. Mandhana scored 434 runs with a century against New Zealand,

while Jemimah contributed 292 runs, including an unbeaten 127 in the semifinal. Deepti, the Player of the Tournament, led with 22 wickets and added 215 runs, playing a key role in India's historic campaign.

Jemimah Rodrigues & Deepti Sharma Climb Up ICC Women's ODI Rankings.

India's World Cup heroes Jemimah Rodrigues and Deepti Sharma have achieved significant ranking boosts in the latest ICC Women's ODI standings. Jemimah entered the top 10 batters for the first time after her semifinal century, while Deepti rose to the 4th spot among all-rounders following her Player of the Tournament performance, which included seven wickets and key runs. Smriti Mandhana moved to number 2 as Laura Wolvaardt took the top position, and young bowler Shree Charani jumped to 23rd in the rankings.