

International

Andrej Babiš's ANO Party wins Czech Parliamentary elections.

Populist billionaire Andrej Babiš's ANO party has secured a decisive victory in the Czech parliamentary elections, winning 35.5% of the vote with nearly all ballots counted. The ruling Spolu coalition trailed at 22.5%, while the STAN movement secured about 11%. This marks a major political comeback for Babiš, who earlier served as the Prime Minister from 2017 to 2021. In the 2021 elections, ANO had narrowly lost to Spolu, which later formed a government under Petr Fiala.

Important Days

World Teachers' Day: 5th October

World Teachers' Day is observed annually on 5 October to honour teachers worldwide.

It marks the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, which lays down standards for teacher rights, responsibilities, recruitment, training, employment, and working conditions.

The 2025 theme, "Recasting teaching as a collaborative profession", emphasizes the transformative role of collaboration among teachers, schools, and education systems in enhancing learning outcomes and strengthening the teaching profession globally.

Obituary

Veteran actress and dancer Sandhya Shantaram passes away.

Veteran actress and renowned classical dancer Sandhya Shantaram passed away. She gained nationwide fame with V. Shantaram's iconic film Navrang, particularly for the popular song "Are Ja Re Hat Natkhat." Over her illustrious career, she delivered memorable performances in classics such as Jhanak

Jhanak Payal Baje, Do Aankhen Barah Haath, Jal Bin Machhli Nritya Bin Bijli, Amar Bhoopali, and Pinjara, leaving a lasting legacy in Indian cinema.

National

UIDAI waives Aadhaar biometric update charges for children aged 5–17 years.

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has waived biometric update charges for children aged 5 to 17 years for one year, effective October 1, 2025. As per rules, children undergo two mandatory biometric updates—first at age five and second at fifteen. These updates, involving fingerprints, iris scans, and photos, will now be free of cost. Earlier, the fee was ₹125 per update. Aadhaar enrollment for children below five years requires only demographic details without biometrics.

Govt revises National Highways fee rules; higher charges for vehicles without valid FASTag.

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has amended the National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Rules, 2008.

Vehicles entering toll plazas without a valid FASTag will now pay double the user fee if paid in cash, or 1.25 times the fee if paid via UPI.

The amendment aims to promote digital payments, improve transparency, and enhance efficiency in toll collection across National Highways.

BRO builds world's highest motorable road at 19,400 ft in Ladakh.

In a remarkable achievement, the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has constructed the world's highest motorable road at Mig La Pass, Ladakh, situated at 19,400 feet above sea level, surpassing its own 2021 record at Umling La.

Executed under Project Himank, the road, led by Brig Vishal Srivastava, forms part of the Likaru–Mig La–Fukche route, enhancing strategic connectivity and boosting tourism in the region with stunning Indus Valley views.

Indian Coast Guard commissions ship Akshar, strengthening maritime capabilities.

The Indian Coast Guard commissioned Ship Akshar, the second of eight Adamya-class Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs), at Karaikal, Puducherry. Built with over 60% indigenous content, the 51-meter vessel reflects the 'Make in India' initiative. Powered by two 3000 kW diesel engines, it can reach 27 knots. Equipped with advanced systems like IBS, IPMS, and APMS, Akshar enhances maritime security and operational efficiency. It will operate under the Coast Guard Region (East) command.

Indian Coast Guard to conduct 10th National Level Pollution Response Exercise off Chennai coast.

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) will host the 10th National Level Pollution Response Exercise (NATPOLREX-X) off the Chennai coast, Tamil Nadu. This two-day biennial exercise, held alongside the 27th National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOSDCP) meeting, aims to strengthen inter-agency coordination and operational readiness. It will also promote best practices, technological integration, and enhanced maritime environmental protection.

Ministry of Mines launches Rs 1,500 crore critical mineral recycling incentive scheme.

The Ministry of Mines has released guidelines for a Rs 1,500 crore incentive scheme to promote critical mineral recycling in India. The scheme focuses on enhancing recycling capacity for minerals from secondary sources such as e-waste,

spent lithium-ion batteries, and scrap materials. It provides support for large and small recyclers, including start-ups, to set up new facilities or expand existing ones. The guidelines detail application procedures, incentive allocation, and performance review mechanisms. The application window will remain open for six months, until 1st April 2026.

Business and Economy

HDFC bank reports 12.1% growth in deposits, 9.9% rise in advances in Q2.

HDFC Bank posted a 12.1% year-on-year growth in deposits and a 9.9% increase in gross advances for the second quarter ending September 30, 2025.

As per provisional figures, deposits reached ₹28,01,500 crore compared to ₹25,00,100 crore in September 2024, while gross advances stood at ₹27,69,000 crore, up from ₹25,19,000 crore a year ago. The growth reflects the bank's strong operational performance and steady balance sheet expansion in the private banking sector.

IDBI bank reports 12% growth in total business in Q2.

IDBI Bank's total business (deposits plus advances) rose 12% year-on-year to ₹5,33,839 crore in Q2FY26, up from ₹4,78,547 crore in the same quarter last year, according to provisional figures. Total deposits increased 9%, while net advances grew 15%. However, the CASA ratio declined to 45.81% of total deposits at September-end 2025 from 48.14% a year ago, indicating a slight reduction in low-cost deposits. The bank's performance reflects balanced growth across lending and deposit mobilization.

Sports

India crush West Indies by an innings and 140 runs in Ahmedabad Test.

India registered a comprehensive victory over the West Indies by an innings and 140

runs in the first Test at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad, taking a 1-0 lead in the two-match series.

After bowling out the visitors for 162, India declared at 448, with centuries from KL Rahul, Ravindra Jadeja, and debutant Dhruv Jurel.

The West Indies collapsed again for 146, as Mohammed Siraj and Jadeja led India's dominant bowling attack to seal the win on Day 3.

India achieves historic 18-medal tally at World Para Athletics Championships 2025.

India recorded its best-ever performance at the World Para Athletics Championships 2025 in New Delhi, securing 18 medals – six gold, seven silver, and five bronze. On the penultimate day, Ekta Bhyan (Women's Club Throw F51) and Soman Rana (Men's Shot Put F57) clinched silver,

while Praveen Kumar earned bronze in the Men's High Jump T64. This surpasses India's previous tally of 17 medals in Kobe, Japan. Ekta and Soman delivered personal-best efforts, highlighting India's growing strength in para athletics.

Shubman Gill appointed as India's New ODI Captain for Australia tour.

Shubman Gill has been named India's new ODI captain, replacing Rohit Sharma for the upcoming three-match series against Australia. This will be Gill's first ODI series as captain, after previously leading India in Tests and T20Is. Shreyas Iyer has been appointed as the Vice-Captain. The decision reflects the selectors' focus on grooming young leaders for the future, with Gill's consistent form and maturity making him a natural choice to lead the side Down Under.