

## International

### India backs UNGA vote extending UNRWA mandate for three more years.

India voted in favour of a UN General Assembly resolution renewing the mandate of the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine refugees for the next three years. The resolution received 151 votes, while 10 countries opposed and 14 abstained. UNRWA chief Philippe Lazzarini welcomed the support, calling it global solidarity toward humanitarian needs. Israel voted against the renewal, alleging the agency aids Hamas's military buildup.

### Nepal makes banking mandatory for transactions above five lakh to strengthen financial transparency.

Nepal has announced that all transactions exceeding five lakh rupees must be carried out through the banking system.

Government spokesperson and Information and Communications Minister Jagdish Kharel said the decision aligns Nepal with global anti-money laundering norms and aims to prevent the nation from being placed on the FATF grey list.

The move is expected to curb money laundering and improve financial transparency across the economy.

### India and US reaffirm joint stand against terrorism at 21st Counter-Terror Working Group meeting.

India and the United States strongly condemned terrorism in all forms during the 21st meeting of the Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism in New Delhi.

Both sides discussed enhancing cooperation through training, cybersecurity, information sharing and multilateral coordination, while reviewing threats such as terror financing, technology abuse and drone-based attacks.

They also called for additional UN 1267 sanctions against ISIS, al-Qaida, LeT and JeM. The talks were led by Vinod Bahade from India and Monica Jacobsen from the US.

### Quad nations unite against terrorism, condemn Red Fort attack at 3rd Counter-Terror Working Group meet.

India, Japan, Australia and the United States strongly condemned terrorism in all forms, including cross-border terrorism and expressed condolences for the Red Fort attack during the 3rd Quad Counter Terrorism Working Group meeting in New Delhi.

Members exchanged assessments on terror threats in the Indo-Pacific and reaffirmed cooperation through information sharing and multilateral action.

The meeting emphasized strengthening the Quad CTWG's operational role, closing with a tabletop exercise on urban counterterrorism operations.

### India and Russia target USD 100 billion trade by 2030.

India and Russia have pledged to boost bilateral trade to 100 billion dollars by 2030, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressing confidence that the goal will be achieved ahead of schedule. Addressing the India-Russia Business Forum with President Vladimir Putin in New Delhi, PM Modi highlighted simplified trade mechanisms, progress toward a Free Trade Agreement with the Eurasian Economic Union, and growing cooperation in innovation, tourism, EV manufacturing, and global sustainable solutions driven by mutual trust.

### IAEA confirms Chernobyl confinement shield severely damaged after drone strike.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has warned that the New Safe Confinement (NSC) structure at the Chernobyl nuclear site can no longer fully perform its function of containing radioactive material after being severely damaged in a drone strike. The blaze triggered by the attack damaged exterior panels of the steel enclosure built decades after the 1986 disaster to stabilize conditions.

While temporary roof repairs have been completed, the IAEA says comprehensive restoration is essential to prevent further degradation and ensure long-term nuclear safety.

## Important Days

### International Civil Aviation Day: 7<sup>th</sup> December.

International Civil Aviation Day 2025 was observed on December 7 to highlight the crucial role of civil aviation in global connectivity, economic progress and international cooperation. The day commemorates the establishment of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and emphasizes efforts to ensure safe, reliable and efficient air transport worldwide. This year's theme is "Safe Skies. Sustainable Future: Together for All."

### Armed Forces Flag Day: 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Armed Forces Flag Day, observed every year on 7 December, pays tribute to the bravery and sacrifice of personnel from the Army, Navy and Air Force, including veterans, war widows and dependents.

Citizens are encouraged to contribute to the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund, established in 1993 to support the welfare of soldiers and their families. First proposed in 1949, the day stands as a symbol of national gratitude and solidarity with India's defence forces.

## National

### 11th India International Science Festival opens in Panchkula.

The 11th India International Science Festival (IISF) began at Dussehra Ground in Panchkula, inaugurated by Union Science and Technology Minister Dr Jitendra Singh along with Haryana Minister Krishna Bedi.

Organized by the Ministry of Science and Technology, the festival aims to educate and motivate young minds while celebrating India's scientific progress.

## Business and Economy

### PFC and SIDBI to raise ₹11,500 crore via bonds as borrowing costs ease after RBI rate cut.

Corporate bond market activity is set to accelerate as Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and SIDBI prepare to raise ₹11,500 crore through bonds, supported by improved sentiment following the RBI's 25-basis-point repo rate cut.

Confidence has strengthened due to the central bank's liquidity measures, including OMOs worth ₹1 trillion and a USD/INR buy-sell swap.

Issuers now expect borrowing costs to ease after recent volatility in bond yields.

### India projects minimum 7% GDP growth in FY26 as momentum strengthens: FM Sitharaman.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said India's economic momentum remains strong and GDP growth is expected to be at least 7% in FY26.

The outlook improved after Q2 data showed over 8% expansion, prompting economists and Chief Economic Adviser Anantha Nageswaran to revise forecasts upward.

The RBI also cut the repo rate to 5.25%, lowered the inflation estimate and raised its growth projection to 7.3%, signaling continued economic resilience.

## Sports

### Rasmus Neergaard-Petersen clinches first major title with Australian Open Victory.

Denmark's Rasmus Neergaard-Petersen claimed his maiden major professional title by winning the Australian Open at Royal Melbourne.

The 26-year-old sealed victory by a single shot, edging past former British Open champion Cam Smith on the final hole to lift the trophy. South Korea's Kim Si-woo secured third place, followed by South Africa's Michael Hollick and former U.S. Masters champion Adam Scott.

## **Suruchi Singh wins Gold With Junior World Record at ISSF World Cup Final.**

India began the ISSF World Cup Final in Doha on a high as Suruchi Singh clinched gold in the women's 10m air pistol event, scoring 245.1 to set a new junior world record and surpass Manu Bhaker's previous mark.

Compatriot Sainyam secured silver with 243.3, giving India a dominant one-two finish.

In other events, Rudranksh Patil and Arjun Babuta missed podium spots, while Zorawar Singh Sandhu placed ninth in trap qualification.

## **India clinch ODI Series 2-1 after dominant nine-wicket win over South Africa in Visakhapatnam.**

India sealed the three-match ODI series 2-1 with a commanding nine-wicket victory over South Africa in Visakhapatnam.

Chasing 271, India reached the target in just 39.5 overs, powered by Yashaswi Jaiswal's unbeaten 116 and solid fifties from Rohit

Sharma and Virat Kohli. Earlier, South Africa posted 270, with Quinton de Kock scoring 106, while Kuldeep Yadav and Prasidh Krishna claimed four wickets each for India.

Rohit Sharma reached a historic milestone by surpassing 20,000 runs across Tests, ODIs, and T20Is.

## **India secures gold medal guarantee at Guwahati Masters 2025 as Sanskar and Mithun reach Men's Singles Final.**

India is assured of a gold medal in men's singles at the Guwahati Masters 2025 after Sanskar Saraswat and Mithun Manjunath entered the final with straight-game wins, setting up an all-Indian showdown.

In women's singles, Tanvi Sharma advanced to the title match after defeating Japan's Hina Akechi.

India also reached the men's doubles final, reinforcing a strong campaign at the BWF World Tour Super 100 event.