

# GREEN EARTH TIMES

Go Green Stay Green Celebrate Green

₹ 25

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## HAPPY Maha Shivratri



## ALL THE BEST FOR EXAMS



### NATIONAL EVENTS



#### President Approves Ashok Chakra for Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla

January 26, 2026

Droupadi Murmu has approved gallantry awards for 70 Armed Forces personnel. Group Captain



Shubhanshu Shukla has been awarded the Ashok Chakra, India's highest peacetime gallantry award. He made history by becoming the first Indian to visit the International Space Station, marking a milestone in India's aerospace and defence-linked achievements. The award recognises exceptional courage, leadership, and contribution beyond the call of duty.

The Ashok Chakra is awarded for acts of valour, self-sacrifice, or devotion to duty away from the battlefield, underscoring the national importance of his achievement.

#### Kabak Yano from Arunachal Pradesh Conquers This Western Hemisphere's Highest Peak

February 3, 2026

Indian mountaineer Kabak Yano successfully summited



#### States that Ruled Republic Day 2026 Tableaux

January 29, 2026

The results of the Republic Day Parade 2026 awards have been officially announced, highlighting the most impactful tableaux displayed on Kartavya Path.

- In the States and Union Territories category, Maharashtra secured first place for its tableau titled "Ganeshotsav: A Symbol of Aatmanirbharta", highlighting cultural self-reliance.
- Jammu and Kashmir followed in second place with "Handicrafts and Folk Dances of J&K", showcasing regional heritage.
- Kerala ranked third for "Water Metro & 100% Digital Literacy", linking technology with inclusive growth. These tableaux were judged on theme relevance, visual impact and storytelling.
- The selections reflected how states creatively aligned local identity with national priorities like Aatmanirbhar Bharat and cultural preservation.



Mount Aconcagua in Argentina, the highest peak in South America and the Western Hemisphere. Towering at 22,831 feet, the climb marks a major milestone in her 7-Summit Mountaineering Expedition. Her achievement reflects determination, endurance, and courage, inspiring young athletes and adventure enthusiasts across the country.

#### What Makes the Bactrian Camels' Republic Day Appearance Historic?

January 27, 2026

In a unique and symbolic moment during the 77th Republic Day Parade, India showcased an extraordinary element of its natural and strategic heritage. For the first time ever, double-humped



Bactrian camels from Ladakh marched down Kartavya Path, drawing national attention. Named Galwan and Nubra, these camels represented not just tradition, but resilience, biodiversity, and India's evolving high-altitude defence preparedness.

#### Republic Day Parade 2026 Highlights 150 Years of 'Vande Mataram' Through Rare Artwork

January 26, 2026

The 77th Republic Day Parade in New Delhi became a unique blend of history, art, and patriotism as India celebrated 150 years of 'Vande Mataram'. Rare artworks, cultural symbols, and military displays along Kartavya Path paid



Continued on page 2...

#### LET'S REMEMBER REAL HEROES

Living a very comfortable life, we often forget that this life doesn't come to us for free. There are some men in uniform giving their sweat and blood  $24 \times 7$  for us to live that way. For their supreme acts of bravery, cold courage and devotion to duty, they were also decorated with the Param Vir Chakra, the highest Indian gallantry award.

#### Captain Vikram Batra

Captain Vikram Batra, 13 Jammu and Kashmir Rifles, and his Delta Company were given the task of recapturing Point 5140. He single-handedly killed three enemy soldiers in close combat which left him seriously injured. Unmindful of his injuries, he insisted on continuing with the task at hand. The brave soldier was tragically killed when he tried to rescue an injured officer during an enemy counter attack.



#### Subedar Joginder Singh Sahnan

Outnumbered by twenty to one in perilous weather conditions, Subedar Joginder Singh's platoon of 30 soldiers repelled two waves of enemies (200 in each) and despite being reduced to half, once again set themselves up. Lacking everything but spirit, Subedar Singh and his handful of men fixed bayonets on their rifles and wreaked havoc on Chinese with their war cry everywhere in air: 'Jo Bole So Nihal, Sat Sri Akal'. With obvious superiority in strength, the enemy finally managed to capture the nearly-dead hero of the Indian Army who took his last breath as a Chinese POW.



### Quiz - 19

#### CURRENT AFFAIRS

- Who has been appointed as the chief coach of the Indian women's hockey team?
- Mount Bur Ni Telong volcano, that was recently seen in news, is located in which country?
- Which city is the host of 72nd National Volleyball Tournament 2026?
- What is the IUCN conservation status of the Bactrian camel, that was recently seen in news?
- India has introduced an e-Production Investment Business Visa called e-B-4 Visa for which country?
- Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary is located in which state?
- Which organisation received the SKOCH Award-2025 for its Cell Broadcast Solution?
- Pandoh Dam, that was recently seen in news, is constructed on which river?
- Indian Air Force Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla received which gallantry award during the 77th Republic Day celebrations?
- Which state is the host of Para Archers National Championship 2026?

#### Quiz-18 Answers

- December 16
- Madhya Pradesh
- AIIMS Vijaypur
- Mizoram
- Bihar
- AIIMS, New Delhi
- Raveena Tandon
- Deepavali
- New Delhi
- New Zealand

Answers to Quiz-19 in the next issue.

### Our Publications

Mathematics 1 to 8 For CBSE & ICSE		Science 1 to 8 For CBSE & 3-5 ICSE		GK 1 to 8	Computer (Windows 10) 1 to 8 For CBSE & ICSE	
Moral Education 1 to 8	EVS 1 to 5	Hindi Pathmala 1 to 8	Computer (Windows 7) 1 to 8	English Reader 1 to 8 For CBSE & ICSE		
English Grammar 1 to 8	Hindi Vyakaran 1 to 8	Semester Series 1 to 5	Art & Craft A, B, C & 1 to 8	Art & Craft (With Material) A, B, C & 1 to 5		

#### Twinkling Stars

A series of 25 books for kindergarten

Alphabet Nursery, KG	Alphabet Cursive Nursery, KG	Hindi Akshar Gyan Nursery	Hindi Shabd Gyan KG	Alphabet Picture Book		

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# Science and Information Technology

## Historic Transition in Space: First Private Station Scheduled for 2027

February 4, 2026

After more than two decades of government dominance in low Earth orbit, space is preparing for a historic transition. The world's first private space station, Haven-1, developed by Vast Space, is now scheduled to launch in 2027 aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket. As the International Space Station approaches retirement, Haven-1 signals the dawn of a commercial space station era, led not by governments but by private enterprise.



## Scientists Discover Rare Mushroom in Uttarakhand's Oak Forests

January 28, 2026

Scientists have discovered a previously unknown species of mushroom named *Hemileccinum indicum* in the Himalayan forests of Uttarakhand. Found growing beneath oak trees at high altitude, the new species adds a fresh chapter to India's fungal diversity and marks the first official record of its genus in the country. The discovery, made during field studies in 2022-23, represents the first time the genus *Hemileccinum* has been recorded in India.



## NASA Astronaut Sunita Williams Retires

January 21, 2026

NASA astronaut Sunita Williams retired after 27 years of outstanding service to the United States space program. During her long career, she became one of the most respected astronauts in NASA history. Williams flew to space three times, lived aboard the International Space Station for many months, and set several records. Her dedication, courage, and leadership helped advance space science and inspired people around the world to dream of exploring beyond Earth.



## IIT Guwahati Creates Technique to Track Glacier Hazards in Eastern Himalayas

January 28, 2026

In a major scientific breakthrough, researchers from Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati have developed a new method to predict glacial hazards in the fragile Eastern Himalayan region. The study identifies hundreds of locations where glacial lakes may form in the future, raising concerns about floods, infrastructure safety, and climate resilience in high-mountain areas.



send astronauts around the Moon for the first time in over 50 years. The mission is also special because people from across the world can send their names to the Moon aboard the spacecraft, making the mission globally symbolic and inspiring.



## Giant 300-Year-Old Black Coral Discovered in New Zealand's Deep Sea

January 17, 2026

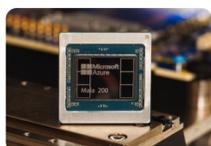
Marine scientists have made a rare and remarkable discovery in the deep waters off New Zealand. They have discovered the largest and one of the oldest black corals ever recorded in New Zealand, measuring over 13 feet tall and nearly 15 feet wide, during a deep-sea expedition in Fiordland. This giant black coral is estimated to be 300-400 years old. The find sheds new light on long-lived deep-sea ecosystems and reinforces the importance of protecting fragile marine habitats from human disturbance. The coral's age and size make it a globally significant marine discovery.



## Microsoft Reveals Maia 200 AI Chip, Challenges Nvidia's Dominance

January 28, 2026

In a major development in the global technology and artificial intelligence race, Microsoft has revealed the next generation of its in-house AI chip, Maia 200. The announcement signals Microsoft's intent to reduce dependence on external chipmakers and directly challenge Nvidia, which currently dominates the AI hardware and software ecosystem.



## First Medical Evacuation from the International Space Station

January 21, 2026

In a historic moment for spaceflight, NASA carried out the first-ever medical evacuation from the International Space Station (ISS). On 15 January 2026, the SpaceX Crew-11 mission was cut short after a non-critical medical issue affected one astronaut. The crew safely returned to Earth, marking a major milestone in space healthcare and astronaut safety.



## NASA Prepares Historic Artemis II Mission to Orbit the Moon

January 21, 2026

NASA is set to historic launch for human space exploration. The US space agency is preparing to launch Artemis II, a historic mission that will

## SCORP: India's First Legged Mobile Manipulator Marks a Robotics Breakthrough

January 12, 2026

India has entered a new era of advanced robotics with the launch of SCORP, the country's first legged mobile manipulator. Developed by xTerra Robotics, a deep-tech start up incubated at IIT Kanpur, SCORP represents a major leap in indigenous innovation. The robot combines agile legged movement with intelligent manipulation, enabling it to operate safely and efficiently in complex, unstructured environments.



## India Develops 3D-Printed Automatic Weather Stations, Delhi First to Get Them

January 5, 2026

Indian scientists have achieved a major technological milestone by developing Automatic Weather Stations using 3D-printing technology. These indigenously built stations aim to improve last-mile weather data collection, especially in cities. The first set of these advanced stations will be installed in Delhi from February, strengthening India's weather forecasting and climate monitoring capabilities.



at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras). The facility was inaugurated on January 3, 2026, by MeitY Secretary Shri S. Krishnan.



This centre hosts the PARAM RUDRA system, an indigenously built supercomputer developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).

## Hubble Discovers Starless Dark Matter Cloud Near Messier 94

January 9, 2026

In a ground breaking astronomical discovery, NASA's Hubble Space Telescope has identified a rare, starless cloud dominated by dark matter, nicknamed Cloud-9, near the spiral galaxy Messier 94. Located about 14 million light-years from Earth, this mysterious object is offering scientists an unprecedented glimpse into the early stages of galaxy formation. Remarkably, Cloud-9 contains vast amounts of gas and dark matter but has never formed a single star, making it a true cosmic relic.



## Hyderabad Start-ups Build Mini Satellite for ISRO's PSLV Launch

January 3, 2026

India's private space sector continues to grow as two Hyderabad-based start-ups successfully prepare a compact Earth observation satellite for launch. Built at a fraction of the usual cost and time, this mini-satellite reflects India's shift towards affordable, indigenous, and high-tech space solutions. The mission also highlights strong collaboration between start-ups, private aerospace facilities, and ISRO's launch ecosystem, strengthening India's commercial and strategic space capabilities.



...Contd. from page 1

tribute to the iconic national song that inspired generations during the freedom movement and continues to unite the nation. The Republic Day Parade 2026 showcased rare artwork illustrating 'Vande Mataram' to commemorate its sesquicentenary (150 years), making it the central theme of this year's national celebrations.

## Indian Army Major Swathi Shantha Kumar Wins UN Secretary-General's Award 2025

January 12, 2026

Indian Army Officer Major Swathi Shantha Kumar has brought international recognition to India by winning the UN Secretary-General's Award 2025 for gender-inclusive peacekeeping. Serving with the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, her work highlights how inclusive leadership can improve community trust, women's participation, and long-term peace in conflict-affected regions.



## Haryana to Launch India's First Hydrogen-Powered Train

January 7, 2026

India is preparing to take a major step towards green transportation with the launch of its first hydrogen-powered train in Haryana. The pilot project, led by Indian Railways will operate between Jind and Sonapat and is now in the final stages of commissioning. The initiative highlights India's growing focus on clean energy and sustainable mobility solutions.



## Paradip Port Authority Named Cleanest Port of the Year at Swachhata Pakhwada 2025

February 4, 2026

For India's cleanliness and sustainability drive, Paradip Port Authority has emerged as the cleanest-performing major port, winning the First Prize at the Swachhata Pakhwada Awards 2025. The award, instituted by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, recognizes outstanding efforts in sanitation, green initiatives and community participation. The achievement highlights how ports are no longer just trade gateways, but active partners in the Swachh Bharat Mission and inclusive development.



## C-DOT Wins SKOCH Award 2025 for Life-Saving Cell Broadcast Disaster Alert System

January 20, 2026

The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) has been honoured with the SKOCH Award 2025 for its innovative Cell Broadcast Solution, a technology designed to deliver real-time disaster alerts directly to mobile phones. The award recognizes C-DOT's role in strengthening India's emergency communication systems and using indigenous technology to save lives and reduce losses during disasters.



## India's First Sleeper Vande Bharat Train Launched

January 19, 2026

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched India's first sleeper Vande Bharat train, connecting Kolkata (Howrah) with Guwahati (Kamakhya). The train was flagged off on January 17, 2026, from Malda, West Bengal. This overnight semi-high-speed service marks a new phase in modern rail travel, improving long-distance connectivity between eastern and northeastern India.



## International Events

### Elon Musk Becomes the First Person with \$800 Billion Wealth

February 4, 2026

In February 2026, Elon Musk achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first individual on Earth to accumulate a net worth exceeding USD 800 billion. This extraordinary achievement reordered global wealth rankings and underscored the unprecedented financial power concentrated in the hands of a single entrepreneur in the modern era. The surge in Musk's wealth was catalyzed by a landmark corporate restructuring involving his flagship ventures—most notably the merger of SpaceX and xAI—that fundamentally reshaped his business empire and consolidated his financial position.



### Sun Unleashes Strongest Solar Radiation Storm in Over 20 Years

January 21, 2026

The Sun has released its most powerful solar radiation storm in over two decades, according to space weather experts. The intense event reached Earth on Monday, causing bright auroras across parts of Europe and temporary GPS disruptions. Scientists classified the storm as severe, highlighting renewed concerns about solar activity and its impact on satellites, aviation, and space missions.



### Abu Dhabi Ranked World's Safest City for 10th Consecutive Year

January 21, 2026

Global safety rankings once again place Abu Dhabi at the top. The capital city of the United Arab Emirates has retained its position as the world's safest city for the tenth consecutive year, reflecting consistent efforts in public safety, urban planning and governance. The recognition highlights how long-term policy focus can create a secure and stable living environment.



### China's Population Declines for Fourth Year Despite New Birth Incentives

January 20, 2026

China is facing an intensifying demographic challenge. New official data shows that China's

population declined again in 2025, marking the fourth straight year of contraction, even as the government rolled out financial incentives and policy measures to encourage families to have more children.

### Museveni Secures Seventh Term in Uganda as President

January 19, 2026

Uganda has concluded a closely watched presidential election with a decisive outcome. Veteran leader Yoweri Museveni has been declared the winner for a seventh term. However, the results have sparked controversy as the main opposition candidate rejected the outcome, citing irregularities, internet shutdowns, and alleged harassment of polling agents. The election has again put Uganda's democratic process under global scrutiny.



### Finke River Recognised as the World's Oldest Flowing River

January 17, 2026

Rivers have shaped human civilization for thousands of years, but some rivers tell stories far older than humanity itself. Scientists now believe that the Finke River, flowing through the arid heart of Australia, is the oldest river system still surviving on Earth. Geological evidence suggests it has been following the same course for hundreds of millions of years. It stretches for about 640 kilometres, traversing the Northern Territory and parts of South Australia.



### India Makes Historic Debut as Partner Country at Gulfood 2026 in Dubai

January 27, 2026

India has created a major milestone in global agri-trade by participating as a Partner Country at Gulfood 2026 in Dubai, for the first time in the event's 31-year history. The move highlights India's rising presence in the global food and beverage market and its deepening economic engagement with the Gulf region.



### Mozambique's Graca Machel Honoured with Indira Gandhi Peace Prize

January 24, 2026

The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development 2025 has been awarded to Graca Machel, a renowned human rights activist from Mozambique. The announcement was made by the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust. She has been honoured for her lifelong efforts to improve education, healthcare, nutrition, women's empowerment and humanitarian support, especially in difficult and conflict-affected regions.



### India Reveals Logo and Website for BRICS Presidency 2026

January 13, 2026

India has officially begun preparations for its BRICS Presidency in 2026 by revealing the logo and dedicated website for the grouping. The launch signals India's vision for a people-centric and inclusive chair ship at a time of growing global uncertainty. The initiative reflects India's intent to strengthen cooperation among emerging economies and promote shared development goals.



## PERSON IN NEWS

### Indian-Origin Scientist Wins Crafoord Prize 2026

February 3, 2026

Indian-origin scientist Veerabhadran Ramanathan received the Crafoord Prize, widely known as the "Nobel of Geosciences." His decades-long research fundamentally changed how the world understands climate change. From discovering the warming impact of industrial gases to shaping global environmental policies, his work has influenced both science and society. The award recognizes a lifetime dedicated to protecting the planet through evidence-based climate science.



### Indian Doctor Wins Wiley Research Heroes Prize 2025

January 27, 2026

India's contribution to global health research has received international recognition with a prestigious award in 2025. Dr. Chandrakant Lahariya has won the Wiley Research Heroes Prize 2025, becoming the first Indian to receive this global honour for impactful research beyond academia. He has been honoured for ensuring that research goes beyond academic boundaries and directly influences public policy and healthcare outcomes. The recognition highlights India's growing role in evidence-based global health governance.



### Pawan Kalyan Becomes First Indian to Receive Rare Samurai Martial Arts Honour

January 14, 2026

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has achieved a rare global distinction by being inducted into Kenjutsu, an ancient Japanese samurai swordsmanship tradition. This prestigious honour places him among a select few non-Japanese practitioners worldwide and highlights India's growing presence in global cultural and martial traditions.



## Save Environment

### Patna Bird Sanctuary and Chhari-Dhand Added to Ramsar Important Wetlands

January 31, 2026

India has taken another significant step in global environmental conservation. Two ecologically rich wetlands one in the Gangetic plains and the other in the arid landscapes of Kutch have received international recognition. This development strengthens India's position as a country increasingly committed to protecting wetlands and biodiversity under global frameworks. The Patna Bird Sanctuary in Etah, Uttar Pradesh, and Chhari-Dhand in Kutch, Gujarat, have been officially designated as Ramsar wetlands, increasing India's total Ramsar sites to 98.



### Second Range Wide Dolphin Survey Launched Under Project Dolphin

January 19, 2026

India has started the second range wide Dolphin Survey under Project Dolphin from Bijnor

in Uttar Pradesh. The nationwide exercise aims to estimate dolphin populations in rivers and coastal regions. Conducted in two phases, the survey will help understand species status, habitat conditions and threats, supporting stronger conservation planning for India's riverine and estuarine dolphins.



### High Seas Treaty Comes into Force: New Global Rules to Protect Oceans

January 19, 2026

The world's first legally binding High Seas Treaty came into effect on January 17, 2026. The agreement sets global rules to protect oceans beyond national boundaries. These international waters cover nearly half of the planet. The treaty is seen as a historic step to tackle overfishing, pollution, climate change and threats to deep-sea ecosystems. It is to protect marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.



### MSTripes App to Drive Tiger Census in Anamalai Tiger Reserve

January 10, 2026

Wildlife tracking in India is entering a new era. During the upcoming tiger and wildlife census in Anamalai Tiger Reserve, forest staff will use the advanced MSTripes mobile application. MSTripes stands for Monitoring System for Tigers: Intensive Protection and Ecological Status. This digital method will replace most manual work and allow officials to collect data directly in the field. The upgrade is expected to make the survey faster, more accurate, and better connected with the All India Tiger Estimation Survey 2026.



### New Reed Snake Species 'Calamaria mizoramensis' Discovered in Mizoram

January 8, 2026

In January 2026, the world of herpetology witnessed a significant breakthrough as scientists from Mizoram University, collaborating with international researchers from Russia, Germany, and Vietnam, unveiled a previously unknown

reed snake species. Named Calamaria mizoramensis, this discovery represents a major addition to India's reptilian biodiversity and has been formally documented in the prestigious international scientific journal Zootaxa. This groundbreaking finding is crucial for competitive exam aspirants studying Indian fauna, biodiversity, and environmental science.



### Rare Galaxy Frogs Feared Dead After Photo Tourism Disturbs Habitat

January 6, 2026

A rare and visually striking frog species from India's Western Ghats is facing a serious conservation crisis. A recent scientific study suggests that seven galaxy frogs may have died after repeated disturbances caused by wildlife photographers. The incident has renewed concerns about unethical photo tourism and its growing impact on fragile ecosystems, especially those hosting rare and endemic species.



## Sports

### Australian Open 2026: Carlos Alcaraz Defeats Novak Djokovic to Complete Career Grand Slam

February 1, 2026

In a gripping men's singles final at the Australian Open 2026, Spain's Carlos Alcaraz defeated Serbian legend Novak Djokovic to achieve feat and completed the Grand Slam series. At just 22 years of age, Alcaraz completed his career Grand Slam, becoming the youngest man in tennis history to do so.



### Nat Sciver-Brunt Creates History with First Century in WPL

January 27, 2026

A historic moment unfolded in the Women's Premier League as a long-standing batting milestone was finally breached. In a high-pressure league match, a standout individual performance rewrote tournament records and showcased the growing competitiveness of women's franchise cricket in India. Nat Sciver-Brunt became the first batter to score a century in Women's Premier League history during WPL 2026, achieving the feat while playing for Mumbai Indians against Royal Challengers Bengaluru in Vadodara.



### Devika Sihag Wins Maiden BWF Super 300 Title at Thailand Masters

February 2, 2026

Indian badminton has a new rising star. Devika Sihag, a 20-year-old shuttler from Haryana, has captured national attention after winning her first BWF Super 300 title at the Thailand Masters 2026. The victory marks the biggest achievement of her young career and signals India's growing depth in women's singles badminton.



### 53 Years Later, History Falls: How Djokovic Rewrote Australian Open Records at 38

January 31, 2026

On January 30, 2026, Novak Djokovic produced another fighting performance at the Australian Open, defeating world number two Jannik Sinner in a marathon semi-final. With this victory, the 24-time Grand Slam champion not only booked a place in the final but also shattered a 53-year-old record, becoming the



oldest man in the Open Era to reach an Australian Open final.

### Vidarbha Create History with Maiden Vijay Hazare Trophy Triumph

January 20, 2026

Vidarbha achieved a landmark milestone in Indian domestic cricket by winning their maiden Vijay Hazare Trophy. The team defeated Saurashtra in the final at Bengaluru with a confident all-round performance. Strong batting at the top and disciplined bowling later ensured Vidarbha lift the prestigious List A title for the first time in their cricketing history.



### Aaryan Varshney Becomes India's 92nd Chess Grandmaster

January 17, 2026

India's rise in world chess continues as a young talent adds his name to the elite list of Grandmasters. Delhi-based Aaryan Varshney achieved a major career milestone by earning the prestigious GM title at an international tournament in Armenia. His achievement reflects



### Saina Nehwal Retires from Badminton After Historic Career and Injury Battle

January 22, 2026

Indian badminton has reached the end of a golden chapter. Saina Nehwal, one of the country's most celebrated sportspersons, has officially confirmed her retirement from competitive badminton. After struggling with a chronic knee condition for nearly two years, the Olympic medallist has chosen to step away from the sport, closing a career that transformed Indian badminton on the global stage.



### Virat Kohli Becomes Second-Highest Run-Scorer in International Cricket

January 12, 2026

Indian cricket star Virat Kohli has once again etched his name into the record books. During a match winning innings against New Zealand, Kohli crossed a major milestone in international cricket. The achievement highlights his consistency, longevity, and dominance across formats, reinforcing his status as one of the greatest batters in the history of the game.



achievement in Ashes cricket and only the second instance in the 134-year history of Test cricket. This dominant display put Australia firmly on course for a 4-1 series victory and underlined the exceptional depth and consistency of their batting line up in the longest format of the game.

India's growing dominance in global chess and the steady emergence of young champions.

### National Sports Governance Rules 2026 Notified to Reform Sports Administration

January 13, 2026

India has taken a decisive step towards reforming sports administration with the notification of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026. These rules aim to ensure transparency, athlete-centric governance, and gender representation in national sports bodies. By clearly defining election procedures, eligibility, and accountability norms, the government seeks to professionalize sports governance and align it with global best practices.



### Sjoerd Marijne Returns as Coach of Australia Shatters 134-Year-Old Ashes Record with Historic Batting Feat at Sydney Cricket Ground

January 8, 2026

Australia produced a once-in-a-century performance on Day 3 of the fifth Ashes Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG). The hosts rewrote cricket history by creating seven partnerships of 50 or more runs in a single innings—an unprecedented



### Former World Billiards Champion Manoj Kothari Passes Away

January 8, 2026

In January 2026, the Indian sports fraternity mourned the passing of Manoj Kothari, one of the most distinguished figures in cue sports and a pioneering force in Indian billiards. The former World Billiards Champion and current Chief National Coach of the Indian billiards team breathed his last at the age of 67 years in Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu.



### National Record-Holder Jinson Johnson Announces Retirement from Professional Athletics

January 9, 2026

Jinson Johnson, India's celebrated middle-distance runner, announced his retirement from competitive athletics. The 34-year-old Kerala athlete represented India at the highest international level and achieved significant athletic milestones that earned him national recognition. His retirement marks the end of a distinguished career spanning over a decade of professional running.



## Health and Fitness

### India Issues First National Lung Cancer Care Guidelines

February 4, 2026

India has taken a major step towards standardising cancer treatment with the release of its first nationally developed, evidence-based lung cancer care guidelines. Issued ahead of World Cancer Day, the framework aims to improve early diagnosis, reduce treatment gaps, and ensure patient-centric care across public and private healthcare systems. The guidelines provide 15 evidence-based recommendations covering diagnosis, treatment pathways, and palliative care.



### World Cancer Day 2026: United by Unique

February 4, 2026

World Cancer Day is observed annually on February 4th as an international day to raise awareness of



cancer and encourage its prevention, detection, and treatment. Led by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), this global initiative supports the goals of the World Cancer Declaration and mobilizes the international community to combat one of the world's most pressing health challenges.

### India Targets Zero Dumpsites Under DRAP by 2026

February 2, 2026

India's urban cleanliness journey, strengthened by a decade of progress under the Swachh Bharat Mission, has entered a decisive new phase focused on eliminating legacy waste dumpsites. These long-standing waste accumulations pose serious environmental and public health risks. To accelerate their removal, the Government of India launched the Dumpsite Remediation Accelerator Programme (DRAP) in November 2025, with the goal of achieving "Lakshya: Zero Dumpsites" by October 2026.



### What Is PFRDA's NPS Swasthya Scheme and How Does It Cover Hospital Bills?

January 30, 2026

India's pension regulator has introduced an innovative pilot scheme. On January 27, 2026, the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority launched the NPS Swasthya Pension Scheme under its Regulatory Sandbox Framework. The scheme allows subscribers to use part of their pension savings for medical expenses, a first-of-its-kind experiment within the National Pension System. At a time when healthcare costs are rising sharply, this initiative could reshape how Indians plan for both health and retirement.



### France Moves Bill to Ban Social Media for Under-15s to Protect Mental Health

January 27, 2026

France has taken a decisive step to regulate children's digital exposure. The country's National Assembly has approved legislation to ban children under the age of 15 from accessing social media platforms. The move



reflects growing concerns over online bullying, mental health issues and the impact of excessive screen time on young people.

### Uttarakhand Signs MoU with ITBP to Launch Healthy Border Campaign

January 24, 2026

The Uttarakhand government has taken an important step to strengthen healthcare facilities in border areas. The state government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) under a new initiative called 'Swasth Seema Abhiyan'. The agreement aims to provide better medical services to people living in remote border villages.

### Indian Researchers Develop Low-Cost Biosensor for Early Heart Attack Detection

February 5, 2026

Researchers have developed a flexible and economical biosensor capable of rapidly detecting myoglobin, a critical cardiac biomarker linked to the early stages of a heart attack. The innovation is expected to significantly improve early diagnosis, particularly in resource-limited healthcare settings, by enabling faster and more accessible cardiac screening.