

### Weekly Current Affairs-20th May To 25th May 2024

### **National News**

### Gopi Thotakura Makes History as First Indian Space Tourist

In a groundbreaking moment for space tourism, Indian expatriate Gopi Thotakura joined the ranks of space explorers as the first Indian to embark on a journey beyond Earth's atmosphere. The NS-25 mission, part of Jeff Bezos's Blue Origin program, saw Thotakura and five other crew members lift off aboard the New Shepard spacecraft from a private ranch in West Texas.

### Student Enrollment Under SC Category Grows By 44%

The National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) has reported significant increases in student enrollment under various categories from 2014-15 to 2021-22. According to data released on Saturday, enrollment of Scheduled Caste (SC) students rose by 44%, from 4.61 million to 6.62 million. SC female student enrollment increased by 51%. Additionally, Scheduled Tribe (ST) student enrollment grew by 65.2%, from 1.641 million to 2.71 million, with female ST enrollment surging by 80%. Minority female student enrollment also saw a notable rise of 42.3%, growing from 1.07 million to 1.52 million.

### Artara'24 Celebrates Indian Cultural Diversity in Dubai

The Artara'24 Fine Arts Exhibition and Competition has made its mark in Dubai as a prestigious platform for discovering and nurturing emerging artistic talents from India. The event aimed to uncover hidden artistic gems, with a particular focus on the Indian talent residing in Dubai.

# DAHD & UNDP MoU on Digitalisation of Animal Vaccine Cold Chain Management

The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) under the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India to digitalize vaccine cold chain management, enhance communication planning, and build capacity.

# Cabinet Approves Over Rs 10,300 Crore for IndiaAI Mission

The Cabinet has greenlit an ambitious financial allocation of over Rs 10,300 crore for the IndiaAI Mission, aimed at fortifying India's AI innovation ecosystem. Spearheaded by a public-private partnership model, this significant investment over the next five years is poised to catalyze various strategic initiatives, including compute infrastructure expansion, startup empowerment, and ethical AI deployment.

### To Lam elected as the New President of Vietnam

To Lam, Vietnam's former minister of public security, has been confirmed as the nation's new president by the National Assembly. His rise comes amid an ongoing anti-corruption campaign that has shaken the country's political establishment and business elites, resulting in multiple high-level government changes.

## Doordarshan's DD Kisan Embraces AI Revolution with 'Krish and Bhoomi'

As the Doordarshan channel DD Kisan marks its 9th anniversary on 26 May 2024, it is set to embark on a remarkable journey by introducing Krish and Bhoomi, the first AI anchors in India's government broadcasting history. This groundbreaking move underscores the channel's commitment to leveraging cutting-edge technology to better serve the nation's agricultural community.

# Mission ISHAN: Streamlining India's Airspace for Enhanced Efficiency

India is embarking on Mission ISHAN, aimed at consolidating its fragmented airspace management into a single, unified system headquartered in Nagpur. This move promises to revolutionize air traffic management, benefitting both airlines and passengers.

### **International News**

# China Sanctions US Defence Firms Over Taiwan Arms Sales

In the latest move against perceived infringements on its territorial claims, China has sanctioned Boeing and two other US defense companies for their involvement in arms sales to Taiwan. The announcement came on the day of Taiwan's presidential inauguration, highlighting tensions in the region.

### Mohammad Mokhber, Iran's Acting President and His Iourney

Mohammad Mokhber, born on June 26, 1955, in Dezful, Iran, is a prominent figure in Iranian politics. He holds two doctoral degrees, one in international law and another in management, along with a master's degree in management.

# Iran President's Death: A Spark in Tinderbox - Geopolitical Impact Explained

Iran mourns its President Ebrahim Raisi, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, and other officials who were killed in a helicopter crash in northwest Iran. This incident occurs amidst heightened tensions in West Asia, notably the ongoing conflict between Israel and Gaza and the broader geopolitical confrontations involving Iran, Israel, and the US.

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### Lai Ching-te Sworn in as New Taiwan President, Urges China to Halt Military Intimidation

Lai Ching-te was sworn in as Taiwan's new President in a ceremony on Monday after winning the election earlier this year. He succeeds Tsai Ing-wen, who led Taiwan through eight years marked by economic and social progress despite the COVID-19 pandemic and China's increasing military threats. Lai, a relative moderate, aims to maintain Taiwan's policy of de facto independence while bolstering its defense capabilities against China.

# World's Highest Observatory Inaugurated in Chile by University of Tokyo

The University of Tokyo has inaugurated the Atacama Observatory (TAO), which has been awarded a Guinness World Record for being the highest observatory in the world. Situated at a staggering 5,640 meters above sea level on the summit of Cerro Chajnantor in the Antofagasta Region of Chile, TAO stands as a testament to human ingenuity and determination.

### World Economic Forum Founder Klaus Schwab To Step Back From Executive Role

Klaus Schwab, founder and executive chairman of the World Economic Forum (WEF), will transition from his current role to become chairman of the board of trustees by January next year, according to an emailed statement from the Genevabased institution. This move is part of a planned "governance evolution" from a founder-managed organization to one where the president and the managing board assume full executive responsibility.

# **European Countries Recognize Palestine, Israel Recalls Envoys**

Amid the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict, Ireland, Norway, and Spain have formally recognized Palestine as a state. In response, Israel has recalled its ambassadors to Ireland and Norway, with warnings directed at Spain. This move adds to the diplomatic tensions amidst the escalating violence in Gaza.

### **State News**

### Assam's DRIMS: Revolutionizing Disaster Management

Assam has taken a significant step towards enhancing its disaster management capabilities with the launch of the Disaster Reporting and Information Management System (DRIMS). This state-of-the-art digital platform, an initiative of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), aims to streamline the reporting and assessment of damages caused by various disasters, enabling prompt disbursal of aid to those affected.

# Karnataka Mandates 33% Reservation for Women in Govt Contract Jobs

The Karnataka government has mandated a 33% reservation for women in outsourced government jobs. This aligns with existing quotas for permanent positions and applies to jobs lasting more than 45 days and involving over 20 employees.

### **Economy News**

## GDP Growth Rate Likely to be 6.7% in Q4, Around 7% in FY24: Ind-RA

The Indian economy showed robust growth in the first three quarters of the 2023-24 fiscal year, with GDP expanding by 8.2% in the June quarter, 8.1% in the September quarter, and 8.4% in the December quarter. India Ratings and Research (Ind-RA) expects the GDP growth rate to be 6.7% for the March quarter and around 6.9-7% for the entire fiscal year, according to their principal economist, Sunil Kumar Sinha. The official GDP numbers for Q4 and provisional estimates for FY24 will be released on May 31.

# RXIL's TReDS Platform Surpasses INR 1 Trillion in MSME Invoice Financing

India's MSME sector, contributing over 30% to the GDP and employing approximately 12 crore people, faces a significant credit gap of around Rs. 28.2 lakh crores. RXIL's Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) platform has achieved a milestone by facilitating financing of over 50 lakh invoices worth ₹1,00,000 crore since its inception. This milestone underscores the platform's role in providing accessible working capital financing solutions to MSMEs, crucial for economic growth and India's journey towards achieving a Rs. 5 trillion economy.

# Fusion Micro Finance Secures \$25 Million Loan from US International DFC

Fusion Micro Finance has obtained a \$25 million loan from the United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) to fuel its expansion plans, primarily focusing on empowering rural women entrepreneurs. The initial disbursement of \$20 million, part of an eight-year loan, aims to enhance business operations and advance financial inclusion efforts.

# SEBI's Amendments to LODR Regulations: Enhancing Market Capitalization Computation

SEBI has introduced significant amendments to its Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements (LODR) regulations, focusing on the computation of market capitalization for listed companies. The amendments aim to redefine the criteria for applicability and establish a defined period for calculating average market capitalization.

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### **Rankings & Reports News**

### Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani Secure Positions Among the World's Top 15 Super Rich

Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani have made it to the top 15 world's super-rich list of the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. This marks a significant achievement, especially for Gautam Adani, who reclaimed his position after losing it in 2023 due to short selling in his company's stock. Notably, for the first time, all individuals in the top 15 have a net worth of \$100 billion or more.

### Ronaldo Tops Forbes' List of Highest-Paid Athletes Again Cristiano Ronaldo, despite nearing the twilight of his career, has secured the top spot on Forbes' list of the world's

has secured the top spot on Forbes' list of the world's highest-paid athletes. His significant earnings in Saudi Arabia have propelled him to this position for the fourth time.

# India Rises to 39th Position in WEF Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024

India has ascended to the 39th spot in the World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024, marking a significant improvement from its 54th position in 2021. Despite challenges posed by the pandemic, India showcases resilience and competitiveness in various aspects of its travel and tourism industry.

### Over 4000 Gangetic Dolphins in India: Indian Wildlife Institute

According to a recent report by the Wildlife Institute of India, there are more than 4000 Gangetic dolphins in the Gangetic River basin. Over 2000 of these dolphins are found in Uttar Pradesh, primarily in the Chambal River. This increase suggests that the river's pollution levels are declining, and the government's conservation efforts are proving effective.

# India Records Positive Growth Among Top 5 World Steel Producers in April

India is the only country among the world's top five crude steel producers to record positive growth in April 2024, according to the World Steel Association. India, the second-largest crude steel producer globally, achieved a growth rate of 3.9% compared to April 2023.

# Oxford Economics' Global Cities Index: Delhi Leads Indian Rankings

In the latest Oxford Economics' Global Cities Index, Delhi emerges as the highest-ranked Indian city, securing the 350th position among the world's 1000 largest cities. However, no Indian city managed to break into the top 300. The index, encompassing cities from 163 countries, evaluates cities across five key categories: Economics, Human Capital, Quality of Life, Environment, and Governance. New York clinches the top spot, with London, San Jose, Tokyo, and Paris following suit.

### **Business News**

# IRDAI Lowers Solvency Requirement and Removes Exposure Limit for Surety Bonds

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has made significant adjustments to the regulations governing surety bonds in response to feedback from insurance stakeholders. These changes aim to enhance the accessibility of surety insurance products and encourage more insurers to participate in servicing the growing demand across various sectors of the economy, particularly the infrastructure sector.

### Tata Motors Partners with Bajaj Finance to Enhance Dealer Financing Options

Tata Motors' subsidiaries, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles (TMPV) and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM), have teamed up with Bajaj Finance to offer an innovative financing programme for their authorised passenger and electric vehicle dealers. This partnership aims to streamline financing options and support the business operations of these dealers.

# Swiggy Fortifies Fraud Prevention with SHIELD Partnership

Online food delivery platform Swiggy has partnered with SHIELD, a device-first risk AI platform, to bolster its fraud prevention and detection capabilities. This strategic move aims to address promo abuse and deter fraudulent practices within Swiggy's Delivery Partner ecosystem.

# Mahindra Finance Expands Services with IRDAI Approval

Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services, a prominent player in India's non-banking finance sector, has secured a corporate agency license from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI). This license empowers Mahindra Finance to act as a 'corporate agent (composite)' under the Insurance Act, 1938, facilitating the distribution of insurance products.

# **L&T Technology Services Launches Simulation Centre of Excellence for Airbus in Bengaluru**

L&T Technology Services Ltd (LTTS) announced the inauguration of a Simulation Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Airbus at its Bengaluru campus. This state-of-the-art facility is set to bolster engineering support for Airbus's aircraft structural simulation activities across its European business units in France, Germany, the UK, and Spain.





### **Appointment News**

# RBI Approves Appointment of Pradeep Natarajan as IDFC FIRST Bank's Whole Time Director

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given its nod for the appointment of Pradeep Natarajan as Whole Time Director on the Board of IDFC FIRST Bank, marking a significant development for the private sector lender. The approval, granted for a tenure of three years, underscores the bank's commitment to strengthening its leadership team.

# Sanjiv Puri Elected CII President for 2024-25: A Leadership Transition

In a significant leadership transition, Sanjiv Puri, the Chairman and Managing Director of ITC Ltd., has been elected as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for the term 2024-25. Puri succeeds R Dinesh, Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions, in this prestigious role. Alongside Puri, Rajiv Memani assumes the position of President-Designate, while R Mukundan takes on the role of Vice President for the same term.

# BARC India Appoints Dr. Bikramjit Chaudhuri as New Chief of Measurement Science & Analytics

The Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) India, the world's largest television audience measurement organization, has appointed Dr. Bikramjit Chaudhuri as its new Chief of Measurement Science & Analytics. He will succeed Dr. Derrick Gray, a veteran in the field of audience measurement and advanced analytics, who has been an esteemed member of the BARC India team for six years.

### John Slaven Appointed Vice-Chairman of the International Aluminium Institute

Vedanta Aluminium has announced the appointment of its Chief Executive Officer (CEO), John Slaven, as the Vice-Chairman of the International Aluminium Institute (IAI). In this prominent role, Slaven will spearhead global initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable transformation within the aluminium industry and highlighting aluminium's crucial role in advancing the energy transition towards a Zero Carbon future.

# Ramesh Babu V. Sworn in as Member of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission

Shri Ramesh Babu V. has taken the oath of office and secrecy as a Member of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) on May 21, 2024. The oath was administered by the Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Shri R. K. Singh.

### Rushabh Gandhi Appointed as MD and CEO of IndiaFirst Life Insurance

The board of IndiaFirst Life Insurance has approved the promotion of Rushabh Gandhi, the current Deputy Chief Executive Officer, to the position of Managing Director and

Chief Executive Officer (MD and CEO). Gandhi's appointment marks a significant milestone for the company, aligning with its succession strategy.

### **Banking News**

## SBI General Unveils 'Surety Bond Bima' for Infrastructure Projects

SBI General Insurance, the non-life insurance arm of State Bank of India (SBI), has launched 'Surety Bond Bima' to support infrastructure development by providing a security arrangement for infrastructure projects.

### YES Bank Launches YES Grandeur: Elevating Banking for Elite Customers

In a strategic move to cater to the evolving needs of affluent and elite customers, YES Bank has introduced 'YES Grandeur,' a premium banking service designed to provide tailored financial and lifestyle solutions.

### **Bank** of Maharashtra Leads PSU Banks in FY24 Business Growth

In FY24, Bank of Maharashtra emerged as a frontrunner among public sector banks, showcasing remarkable growth in total business and deposit mobilization. Despite facing industry-wide challenges, the Pune-based lender recorded a notable 15.94% rise in total business, surpassing even the State Bank of India (SBI). With a focus on low-cost CASA deposits, Bank of Maharashtra achieved a remarkable 52.73% growth, underscoring its strategic advantage in maintaining a healthy cost of funds.

# SBI Bolsters Presence in GIFT City with Acquisition of Stake in CCIL IFSC

In a strategic move to expand its foothold within the Gujarat International Finance Tec City (GIFT City), the State Bank of India (SBI) has finalized the acquisition of a 6.125% stake in CCIL IFSC Limited. The transaction, valued at ₹6.125 crore, marks SBI's commitment to enhancing its role in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at GIFT City.

### HDFC Bank Exits Protean eGov Tech, Sells Entire Stake

HDFC Bank divested its entire 3.20% stake in Protean eGov Technologies, amounting to 12,94,326 shares, for Rs 150 crore. The shares were sold at an average price of Rs 1,160.15 apiece through an open market transaction. Simultaneously, Nippon India Mutual Fund acquired a 3.16% stake in Protean eGov Technologies for Rs 148 crore.

#### **HSBC and SBI Acquire Stakes in CCIL IFSC**

HSBC and State Bank of India (SBI) have made strategic investments in CCIL IFSC Limited, acquiring 6.125% stakes each, valued at ₹6.125 crore each. This move is aimed at bolstering their presence within Gujarat International Finance Tec (GIFT) City, India's premier international financial services center.





# RBI Data Shows Significant Decline in Net FDI to \$10.5 Billion in FY24

Net foreign direct investment (FDI) into India experienced a notable decrease of 62.17% in the fiscal year 2023-24 (FY24), plummeting to \$10.58 billion from the previous year's \$27.98 billion. This decline is attributed primarily to increased repatriation of capital and Indian companies' investments abroad.

### **Science & Technology News**

# Elon Musk Launches Starlink in Indonesia: Bridging Connectivity Gaps

Tech mogul Elon Musk introduced SpaceX's Starlink satellite internet service in Indonesia, aiming to enhance connectivity in remote regions of the archipelago nation. The inauguration took place in Bali, where Musk, alongside Indonesian officials, emphasized the transformative potential of improved internet access.

# AstraZeneca's \$1.5 Billion Investment in Singapore: Advancing Cancer Treatment

AstraZeneca, a leading pharmaceutical company, announced plans to construct a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Singapore with a focus on producing antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs), a promising class of cancer-fighting medications.

# Noise Acquires Women's Wellness Platform SocialBoat to Bolster Smart Ring Innovation

Leading smartwatch and connected lifestyle brand, Noise, has announced the acquisition of the AI-powered women's wellness platform SocialBoat. This strategic move is part of Noise's broader strategy to advance innovation in smart rings, particularly its flagship wearable, the Luna Ring.

### **Summits & Conference News**

### 10th World Water Forum Opens in Bali, Indonesia

The 10th World Water Forum, themed "Water for Shared Prosperity," officially commenced on May 21 in Bali, Indonesia. Attendees included numerous country leaders and United Nations representatives. The forum focused on four critical topics: water conservation, clean water and sanitation, food and energy security, and mitigation of natural disasters.

### **Awards & Honors News**

### Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Receives First Stamp Commemorating 200 Years of Indian Origin Tamils in Sri Lanka

Indian spiritual guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar received the first stamp released to commemorate the completion of 200 years of Indian Origin Tamils (IOT) in Sri Lanka. The stamp was presented by the Governor of the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka, Senthil Thondaman. The event aimed to recognize and honor the IOT community, which has faced decades of neglect. Thondaman expressed gratitude to both the Indian and Sri Lankan governments for their support to the IOT community.

#### NTPC Shines at ATD BEST Awards 2024

The public sector company NTPC has secured the third rank in the world for the Talent Development category at the prestigious ATD BEST Awards 2024. The award ceremony was held in New Orleans, United States of America, on 21 May 2024. Ms. Rachana Singh Bhal, NTPC's chief general manager strategic HR & talent management, accepted the award on behalf of the company.

### Scientist Srinivas R. Kulkarni Honoured with Prestigious Shaw Prize in Astronomy

Srinivas R. Kulkarni, an Indian-origin U.S. scientist and brother of renowned author Sudha Murty, has been awarded the prestigious Shaw Prize in Astronomy for 2024. This prestigious recognition celebrates Kulkarni's groundbreaking discoveries in the field of astronomy, including his pioneering work on millisecond pulsars, gamma-ray bursts, supernovae, and other transient astronomical phenomena.

### Jenny Erpenbeck's 'Kairos' Wins International Booker Prize

German author Jenny Erpenbeck and translator Michael Hofmann have won the prestigious International Booker Prize for their novel "Kairos." The book, which tells the story of a tangled love affair during the final years of East Germany's existence, beat out five other finalists from a pool of 149 submitted novels.

### **Important Dates News**

# World Bee Day 2024: Date, Theme, History, Significance and Celebrations

World Bee Day, observed on May 20, marks the birth anniversary of Anton Janša, a pioneer in beekeeping. Established by the United Nations in 2017, this day highlights the critical role of bees in ensuring food security, biodiversity, and sustainable agriculture. The 2024 theme, "Bee engaged with Youth," emphasizes the importance of involving young people in bee conservation efforts to protect these vital pollinators.

### International Tea Day 2024, Date, History and Objective

On Tuesday, May 21, 2024, tea enthusiasts and advocates worldwide will come together to commemorate International Tea Day. This annual celebration honors the rich cultural heritage, economic significance, and environmental impact of the humble tea leaf. As we raise our cups in reverence, let us delve into the history, themes, and objectives that underpin this cherished occasion.





# International Day for Biological Diversity 2024: Be Part of the Plan

The International Day for Biological Diversity is celebrated every year on May 22. This year, it falls on a Wednesday. The theme for 2024 is "Be Part of the Plan." This theme encourages governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, non-governmental organizations, lawmakers, businesses, and individuals to showcase their efforts in supporting the implementation of the Biodiversity Plan.

#### India observed Anti-Terrorism Day 2024 on 21 May

India observes Anti-Terrorism Day on 21 May to commemorate the assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi by a suicide bomber from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a terrorist organization based in Sri Lanka. The day serves as a reminder of the devastating consequences of terrorism and emphasizes the need for vigilance against such threats.

# Vesak 2024: Celebrating the Birth, Enlightenment, and Passing of the Buddha

Vesak, also known as Buddha Purnima or Buddha Day, is the most sacred day for millions of Buddhists around the world. It is a day that commemorates three significant events in the life of Gautama Buddha: his birth, his enlightenment, and his passing away (Parinirvana).

### UNGA Proclaimed May 24 as the International Day of the Markhor

The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed May 24 as the International Day of the Markhor. This resolution, sponsored by Pakistan and eight other countries, aims to raise awareness and promote the conservation of this iconic and ecologically significant species found across the mountainous regions of Central and South Asia.

#### World Football Day 2024, Date, History and Significance

In 2024, the world marks the 100th anniversary of the first international football tournament involving teams from all regions, held on May 25, 1924, during the Summer Olympic Games in Paris. To honour this milestone, the United Nations General Assembly passed Resolution A/RES/78/281 on May 7, 2024, proclaiming May 25 as World Football Day.

# International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories 25-31 May

The U.N. commemorates International Week of Solidarity with Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories annually from May 25 to May 31. The U.N. describes a Non-Self-Governing Territory as a territory "whose people have not yet gained a complete degree of self-government." This day aims to request the administering Powers to protect and respect the rights of the peoples in these territories to their natural resources and their property rights. Currently, there are 17 non-self-governing territories left in the world.

### **Sports News**

### Indian Para Athlete Deepthi Jeevanji Wins Gold and Sets New World Record

Indian para-athlete Deepthi Jeevanji etched her name in history by winning the gold medal in the women's T20 400m event at the World Para Athletics Championships 2024. Her stunning performance on Monday not only secured India's first gold medal at the prestigious event but also set a new world record time of 55.07 seconds.

# Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty Triumph at Thailand Open 2024

The world's third-ranked Indian badminton pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty etched their names in glory by winning the coveted Thailand Open 2024 men's doubles title. In a thrilling final clash on May 19, 2024, the dynamic duo defeated the Chinese pair of Chen Bo Yang and Liu Yi with a scoreline of 21-15, 21-15, in a match that lasted 46 minutes.

# Alexander Zverev and Iga Swiatek Reign Supreme at Italian Open 2024

German tennis star Alexander Zverev etched his name in history by winning the Italian Open singles title for the second time. The 25-year-old defeated the first-time Masters finalist, Nicolas Jarry of Chile, in straight sets, 6-4, 7-5, to claim his eighth overall Masters title.

## Neeraj Chopra Shines at Federation Cup 2024 Athletics Meet

Indian athletic sensation Neeraj Chopra continued his dominance in the men's javelin throw event, clinching the gold medal with a modest effort of 82.27m at the prestigious Federation Cup 2024 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The 26-year-old Olympic champion showcased his prowess in his first competitive outing in India since his historic triumph three years ago.

### Indian Boxers Shine at the 3rd Elorda Cup 2024

The Indian boxing contingent made a remarkable impact at the 3rd Elorda Cup 2024, held in the Kazakh capital city of Astana. The team returned with an impressive haul of 12 medals, including 2 gold, 2 silver, and 8 bronze.

# Brazil Awarded 2027 Women's World Cup Hosting Rights

In a historic moment for South American football, Brazil was declared the host of the 2027 Women's World Cup at the FIFA Congress. The Brazilian bid triumphed over the joint bid from Belgium, Netherlands, and Germany, becoming the first South American country to secure the hosting rights for the prestigious tournament.





### Max Verstappen Triumphs at Emilia Romagna Grand Prix 2024

Max Verstappen, the defending Formula 1 World Champion, showcased his prowess on the track by clinching a hard-fought victory at the Emilia Romagna Grand Prix 2024. The Dutchman held off a spirited challenge from McLaren's rising star, Lando Norris, to secure his third win of the season.

### Australia to Host AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) has confirmed Australia as the hosts for the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026. The continental football governing body made this announcement after the AFC Executive Committee ratified the recommendations of the AFC Women's Football Committee at its meeting in Bangkok, Thailand.

### 'Let's Move India' Campaign Celebrates Olympians Bound for Paris

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has launched the "Let's Move India" campaign in collaboration with the Reliance Foundation and the Abhinav Bindra Foundation. The initiative aims to celebrate the Olympians heading to the upcoming Paris Olympics and encourage everyone to participate in physical activity.

### **Obituaries News**

#### Banking Icon N Vaghul Passes Away at 88

The Indian banking industry mourns the loss of a legendary figure, N Vaghul, who passed away on Saturday in Chennai at the age of 88. Vaghul, a former chairman of ICICI Bank, left an indelible mark on the financial sector with his visionary leadership and commitment to excellence.

### **Miscellaneous News**

# Thiruvananthapuram International Airport Leads Nation with Zero Waste to Landfill Accolade

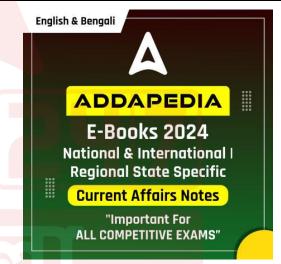
Thiruvananthapuram International Airport has made history as the first airport in India to achieve the prestigious

recognition of zero waste to landfill (ZWL). This commendation comes from the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII-ITC) Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development, confirming the airport's commitment to environmentally responsible practices.

### **Cyclone Remal: IMD Predictions and Impact**

A low-pressure system over the Bay of Bengal is set to intensify into Cyclone Remal, reaching Bangladesh and adjoining West Bengal coasts as a severe cyclonic storm. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecasts the cyclone's progression, predicting it to become a severe cyclonic storm by May 25 morning and make landfall between Sagar island in West Bengal and Khepupara in Bangladesh by May 26 evening.

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