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World Witnessed “Bharat’s Remarkable Capabilities” In AI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said the world witnessed “Bharat’s remarkable capabilities” in artificial intelligence during the recently concluded AI Impact Summit 2026, describing it as a turning point in the global use of AI.

Addressing the 131st episode of his monthly radio programme Mann Ki Baat, the Prime Minister reflected on the AI Impact Summit held from February 16 to 20 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. The summit brought together global leaders, industry experts, innovators and start-up representatives, and concluded with the adoption of the New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact, endorsed by 88 countries and international organisations.

“Mann Ki Baat’ is a powerful platform for highlighting the achievements of the country and her citizens. The country recently witnessed a similar such achievement during the Global AI Impact Summit held in Delhi. Leaders from many countries, industry leaders, innovators, and people associated with the Start-up sector came together at Bharat Mandapam for the AI Impact Summit. This summit proved to be a turning point in the trajectory of how the world will utilize the power of AI in the future,” he said.

“At the summit, I also had the opportunity to meet world leaders and Tech CEOs. At the AI summit exhibition, I showed myriad things to world leaders. I want to mention two things in particular. These two products at the summit greatly impressed leaders from around the world. The first product was at Amul’s booth. It explained how AI is helping us in the treatment of animals... and how farmers keep track of their dairy and animals with the help of 24x7 AI assistance.”

Highlighting the use of AI in preserving India’s civilisational heritage, the Prime Minister added: “The second product was related to our culture. Leaders from all over the world were amazed to see how, with the help of AI, we are preserving our ancient texts, our ancient knowledge, our manuscripts and adapting them in accordance with today’s generation.”

Referring to the display of the ancient medical text Sushruta Samhita, he explained the technological process demonstrated at the exhibition. “Sushrut Samhita was selected for display during the exhibition. In the first step, it was shown how, with the help of technology, we are improving the image quality of manuscripts and making them readable. In the second step, this image was converted into machine-readable text. In the next step, the machine-readable text was read by an AI avatar. And further, in the next step, we also demonstrated how, with the help of technology, this invaluable Indian knowledge can be translated into Indian and foreign languages. World leaders showed great interest in learning about India’s ancient knowledge through a modern avatar.”

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Appointments

*The Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) has issued orders approving the appointment of Shri Krishna V R, Indian Railway Accounts Service (IRAS) officer, to the post of Director in the 8th Central Pay Commission (8th CPC) under the Department of Expenditure. The appointment has been made on a lateral shift basis and will be co-terminus with the 8th Pay Commission.

*The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the premature repatriation of senior IAS officer Ms. Prajakta L. Verma (MH:2001) from the Department of Atomic Energy to her parent cadre in Maharashtra. The decision was conveyed through an official order issued by the Secretariat of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).

*The Government of India, through the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, has appointed and replaced Central Nodal Officers (CNOs) for reviewing and monitoring the Aspirational Agricultural Districts under the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY).

Key replacements include: Kachchh, Gujarat: Shri Satyaprakash TL appointed, replacing Shri Ajay Kumar. Raigad, Maharashtra: Ms. Isha appointed, replacing Shri Milind Dharmrao Ramteke. The CNOs will oversee implementation, track progress, and coordinate with state and central authorities to ensure effective execution of PMDDKY objectives. For clarifications, officers may contact Shri Navin Kumar Vidyarthi, Adviser (P&M), Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.

Key Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) appointments in February 2026

Deepak Gupta as CMD of GAIL (effective March 1), the extension of IAS Dr. Kajal at DPIIT, and the appointment of Anirudh Sravan Pulipaka as Private Secretary to the Finance Minister. Major restructurings in the Railway Board and repatriation of IAS officers for promotion were also approved.

Key February 2026 ACC Appointments & Decisions:

Deepak Gupta (GAIL): Appointed as Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of GAIL (India) Ltd, effective March 1, 2026, until February 28, 2029.

Dr. Kajal (IAS): Approved for a two-year extension of central deputation at the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

Anirudh Sravan Pulipaka (IAS): Appointed as Private Secretary to the Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs (Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman) at the level of Director.

Prajakta L. Verma (IAS): Premature repatriation from the Department of Atomic Energy to the Maharashtra cadre for promotion benefits.

Railway Board Reshuffle: Eight officers from the 1989 batch empanelled in Level-16, with key General Manager and apex postings approved.

Mrinal Kumar Das (IRS): Premature repatriation to parent cadre (IT:2007) from the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Government of India Extends Central Deputation Tenures for Key Officers

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved multiple extensions and relaxations in central deputation tenures for senior officers across Ministries and Departments. These decisions aim to ensure continuity in governance, policy execution, and specialized project oversight.

Key Approvals and Extensions

Shri Nirmod Kumar, IRSSE (2006) – Director, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology
Tenure extended by 2 years beyond 22 February 2026, up to 22 February 2028.

On central deputation since 23 February 2021.

Shri Prabhat Kumar, IAS (JH:2011) – Director of Census Operations/Director of Citizen Registration, Jharkhand
Tenure extended beyond 31 March 2026, up to 09 October 2027.

On central deputation since 10 October 2022.

Shri Rajesh Gupta, IRSEE (2001) – Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs

Tenure extended by 2 years beyond 15 April 2026.

Shri Sadanand S Date, IPS (UK:2007) – Ministry of Home Affairs
"Cooling-off" period waived for central deputation in relaxation of IPS Tenure Policy.

Ms. P. Hemalatha, IAS (KN:2000) – Development Commissioner, SEZ, Cochin

Granted ex-post facto approval for additional charge as Chairman, MPEDA, Cochin (18 Dec 2025 – 2 Jan 2026).

Shri Manoj Sethi, ICAS (1993) – Joint Secretary & FA, Department of Fertilizers

Tenure extended by 1 year beyond 4 February 2026.

Shri Satyan Kumar - Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer, ONGC Green Limited, ONGC (Recommended)

Shri Sunil Kumar - Executive Director & Asset Manager, Mehsana Asset, ONGC

Nitesh Kumar Vyas (IAS) gets extension as Addl. Secretary in MHA



The Central Deputation Tenure of Shri Nitesh Kumar Vyas, IAS (MP:96), Additional Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs is extended for a period of two years beyond 30.05.2026 i.e. up to 30.05.2028 or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Shri Nitesh Kumar Vyas is an IAS officer of the 1996 batch, belonging from Madhya Pradesh cadre, and holds a B.E. in Electronics and Communication from Gujarat University and an M.E. in Electronics and Communication from Indian Institute of Science Bangalore. He currently serves as the Deputy Election Commissioner at the Election Commission of India. He is fluent in English, Gujarati, and Hindi.

Pushendra Rajput, IAS : One-Year Extension at Health Ministry



The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved a one-year extension in the central deputation tenure of Shri Pushendra Rajput, IAS (Himachal Pradesh cadre, 1999 batch), who is serving as Joint Secretary in the Department of Health and Family Welfare.

According to an official order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), the extension will be effective beyond November 29, 2025, and will remain valid for one year or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Dinesh Hariram Mate Re-designated as Dy.DG at Directorate General of Shipping

The Government of India has approved the re-designation of Shri Dinesh Hariram Mate, IA&AS (2012), from Deputy Director General at Deputy Secretary level to Deputy Director General at Director level in the Directorate General of Shipping, Mumbai, under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways.

The approval, issued by the Department of Personnel and Training through an Office Memorandum dated February 2026, is effective from the date Shri Mate assumes charge of the re-designated post. The tenure of this appointment is fixed until 21 November 2030, completing the five-year period under the Central Staffing Scheme.

The re-designation is granted as a measure personal to Shri Mate, reflecting his distinguished service and leadership within the Indian Administrative & Accounts Service (IA&AS). Shri Mate's central deputation tenure commenced on 21 November 2025 (AN).

Rashmi Kamal, IAS appointed as Director Census Operations in West Bengal



The President of India, Droupadi Murmu has approved the appointment of Rashmi Kamal, an IAS officer of the 2006-batch from the West Bengal cadre as the Director of Census Operations and Director of Citizen Registration, West Bengal.

Ms. Kamal holds an M.B.B.S from Patna University and a P.G. from IGNOU Delhi. She has served as Secretary at Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs Department.

Sunil Kumar Nagdawne : PESB recommends for CMD post of Pawan Hans Limited



Sunil Kumar Nagdawne is set to be next Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Pawan Hans Limited, a Miniratna PSU under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. He

has been recommended for the post by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) panel on Monday. Presently, he is serving as General Manager (Aviation) at Indian Oil Corporation Limited.

Nagdawne has been recommended for Pawan Hans Limited's CMD post from a list of six candidates who were interviewed by the PESB selection panel in its 12th selection meeting of 2026 held on February 16. The selection process involved interviews of senior executives from various public sector undertakings and organisations.

The candidates interviewed for the position included officials from Airports Authority of India, NTPC Limited, and Steel Authority of India Limited, among others. The recommendation is subject to further approvals as per the government's appointment process for senior management positions in central public sector enterprises.

Manish Raj Gupta as SAIL, Director (Mining)



Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has informed the stock exchanges about the redesignation of Shri Manish Raj Gupta from Director (Technical, Projects and Raw Materials)

to Director (Mining) with effect from February 18, 2026. Shri Manish Raj Gupta was initially appointed as Director (Technical, Projects and Raw Materials) on January 14, 2025, following nomination by the Government of India and approval by the SAIL Board. The Government of India, Ministry of Steel, has now redesignated the post, and consequently, Shri Gupta has been appointed to the new role.

Satyan Kumar: PESB Picks for Top Strategy Role at ONGC

The Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) has recommended Shri Satyan Kumar for the post of Director (Strategy & Corporate Affairs) at Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), a Schedule 'A' Central Public Sector Enterprise. The recommendation was made during the PESB meeting No. 13/2026 held at 08:45 AM on February 20, 2026.

Selection Process:

A total of 12 candidates were interviewed in the selection meeting. The candidates, drawn from various prestigious public sector undertakings, included:

Shri Devendra Kumar - Director (Finance), Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited.

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Corridors of Power

CS Drives Civic Cleanliness & Digital Services Push



Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao took decisive steps to improve urban governance in Telangana, with a special focus on sanitation and civic services. Rao instructed senior officials to prioritise cleanliness drives across Greater Hyderabad, in coordination with municipal agencies, as part of an enhanced urban hygiene strategy

Additionally, Rao has handled high-profile administrative challenges, with farm sector representatives bringing urgent petitions directly to his office seeking support on pending agricultural assistance and input procurement issues. In the picture CS felicitating Shailish Kumar Singh IAS, Secretary Rural Development Gol on his visit to Hyderabad.

Municipal Elections Concluded Peacefully



B.Shivdhar Reddy, Director General of Police Telangana, took a proactive role in overseeing law and order during the state's urban local body (municipal) elections. Reddy's leadership was reflected in largely peaceful electoral conduct across the state's 123 urban local bodies, despite political

rivalries and occasional post-poll tensions. His emphasis on strict enforcement of election laws and stringent monitoring helped authorities manage potential law-and-order challenges during the key civic poll period.

The naxal group leaders are surrendering continuously, These developments highlight the Telangana Police's dual focus under Reddy's guidance: enforcing law and order during high-stakes civic exercises and continuing targeted efforts to weaken armed insurgency through rehabilitation and security stabilization. ADG ,L&O Mahesh Bhagwat, IPS can also be seen in the picture.



Jayesh Ranjan Takes Charge to Lead Trifurcated Civic Governance

Sr. IAS officer Jayesh Ranjan assumed charge as Special Officer for the newly structured urban local bodies in Telangana, following the government's administrative decision to divide the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) into three municipal corporations — Greater Hyderabad, Cyberabad, and Malkajgiri — aimed at decentralising governance and strengthening civic administration.

Ranjan's leadership during this critical phase of urban governance reorganisation has been welcomed by policymakers and officials, who see his extensive administrative experience as an asset in steering improved service delivery and responsiveness in public civic works. Under his supervision, the new commission structures and zonal offices began operational coordination, with a focus on enhancing infrastructure planning, sanitation services, and citizen-centric administration across the Hyderabad metropolitan region.

Commissioner Sajjanar Champions Community & Cyber Safety Initiatives



Hyderabad Police Commissioner V. C. Sajjanar continued to be at the forefront of innovative and people-centric policing. Under the "Jagrat Hyderabad – Surakshit Hyderabad" campaign, he spearheaded a new outreach initiative that partners with social media influencers to combat cybercrime, encouraging content that educates citizens about online frauds and digital deception tactics..

Mr.Sajjanar displayed his commitment to responsible policing and public assurance by actively countering misinformation. He urged citizens not to spread unverified information and to rely on official channels for safety updates. His clear communication on cyber threats, public vigilance and community collaboration has earned appreciation from residents and civil society alike for reinforcing trust between the police and the public.

Pochampally Sridhar Rao Appointed as Advisor to AP Government



The Government of Andhra Pradesh has appointed Pochampally Sridhar Rao as Advisor to the State Government (Mass Communication) for a period of two years, a former cartoonist and media personality well-known for his long career in print and editorial cartoons. The appointment comes as part of the government's efforts to strengthen administrative coordination, especially I&PR department. Specifically in the Information and Public Relations / Mass Communications domain.

The appointment carries Cabinet-rank status, meaning he will receive pay and allowances equivalent to that of a cabinet minister. The state leadership expects his appointment to contribute significantly to policy planning and effective execution of development initiatives over the next two years.



'Young scouts should develop their skills and personality'

Governor Jishnu Dev Varma laid the foundation stone for a training hall at the Bharat Scouts and Guides (BSG) Society in Pet Basheerabad. This training hall consists of construction of an athlete track, a cricket pitch and other sports development works, along with renovation of the camp site at the BSG Training Centre in Jeedimetla, Quthbullahpur and Kompally.

The Governor said greater focus must be given to Scouts, particularly boys and girls aged three and above. He called for more activities and interactions at the upcoming Training Centre and said the new facility would give young scouts space to develop their skills and personality. School education director and BSG state secretary Dr E. Naveen Nicolas felicitated the Governor at the ceremony. Special chief secretary to the Governor Dana Kishore also attended the event.



UK Signals Strong AI Partnership

The India AI Impact Summit 2026 is creating waves across the global technology landscape, positioning India at the forefront of the artificial intelligence revolution.

Among the prominent international voices at the summit was Lindy Cameron, British High Commissioner to India, who expressed strong optimism over the expanding AI partnerships between India and the United

Kingdom. She lauded the collaborative momentum in responsible AI development, innovation exchange, and research-driven cooperation. In the post Lindy said I am deeply honoured to host UK Dy.Prime Minister David Lammy, Minister for AI Kanishka Narayan and former PM Rishi Sunak. A fascinating evening of new conversations on UK's AI and innovation strengths and how we partner with India to shape the technologies of tomorrow.

India AI Impact Summit in full swing !



U.S. Ambassador to India and Special Envoy to South and Central Asia, Ambassador Sergio Gor and Sunder Pichai, CEO, Google & Alphabet can be seen together during India AI Impact Summit 2026 held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, which is the first major global AI conference in the Global South, focusing on inclusive, sustainable AI under the theme "Welfare for All, Happiness of All". During the conversation Mr.Gor said that the summit is in full swing ! Whereas Mr.Pichai wish for many more great things ahead !

Strengthening Bilateral Bridges



The Consul General of Türkiye in Hyderabad, Orhan Yalman Okan, continues to play a proactive and dynamic role in enhancing trade, investment, and cultural ties between Türkiye and India. In a recent interaction, Mr. Okan was seen alongside Ms. Pelin Omay, Türkiye Operations Manager of VFS Global, during official discussions focused on strengthening visa facilitation services and improving people-to-people connectivity between the two nations. The meeting reflects the growing diplomatic and economic engagement between Türkiye and India, with Hyderabad emerging as a key hub for international collaboration.

Kazakhstan pavilion at OTM-2026 in Mumbai receives international recognition



Kazakh delegation took part in one of Asia's largest international tourism exhibitions, Outbound Travel Market (OTM) 2026.

According to the organizers, this year's exhibition was the largest in its history, with over 2,200 representatives from more than 60 countries, as well as 30 Indian states and union territories. Participants in the event include high-ranking representatives of government agencies, national tourism organizations, airlines, hotel chains, and leading players in the global tourism industry. The Kazakh delegation included representatives of the Embassy of Kazakhstan in India and the Almaty City Administration. In addition, the event was attended by executives from leading Kazakhstan's tourism companies, as well as representatives from organizations such as Air Astana, the Ritz-Carlton Kazakhstan hotel chain, and other industry-specific companies.



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Silver Jubilee Milestone in the Making:

Cyberabad Police Commissionerate Celebrates 24 Years of Tech-Driven Policing

In a moment of pride and reflection, the Cyberabad Police Commissionerate celebrated its 24th Formation Day with grandeur at T-Hub, Hyderabad, marking over two decades of progressive, technology-led policing. The commemorative event was graced by Chief Guest B. Shivadhar Reddy, IPS, Director General of Police, Telangana, alongside the present Commissioner of Police Dr. M. Ramesh, IPS, former Commissioners, and several distinguished retired officers.

The gathering turned into a reunion of leadership that shaped Cyberabad's policing landscape. Eminent officers including Dr. M. Mahender Reddy, IPS (Retd.), S. Prabhakar Reddy, IPS (Retd.), Ch. Dwaraka Tirumala Rao, IPS (Retd.), C.V. Anand, IPS, V. Naveen Chand, IPS (Retd.), and Sandeep Shandilya, IPS (Retd.) shared their experiences and memories, recounting the Commissionerate's evolution from its formative years to becoming one of India's most dynamic urban police forces.

Addressing the gathering, Chief Guest Shivadhar Reddy, IPS, DGP, TG, remarked that officers who have served in Cyberabad have consistently demonstrated exceptional efficiency and competence, contributing to the Commissionerate's strong reputation. Though the book — authored by a UK writer — focused on themes such as artificial intelligence and genetic engineering and had no direct connection to the Cyberabad Commissionerate, he observed that the choice of the name reflected the global recognition and appeal associated with Cyberabad.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. M. Mahender Reddy, IPS (Retd.), recalled the formation of the Cyberabad Police Commissionerate under the Metropolitan Act 2003, noting that the State-level coordination framework acted as a key facilitator in establishing a modern policing structure.

S. Prabhakar Reddy, IPS (Retd.), highlighted the importance of public-oriented policing, stating that the true strength of policing lies in accessibility and responsiveness to citizens. He emphasised that transparency, timely grievance redressal, and sustained community engagement build public trust and enable effective policing.

Ch. Dwaraka Tirumala Rao, IPS (Retd.), spoke about the importance of institutional discipline and operational consistency in urban policing. He noted that strengthening internal systems, field responsiveness, and teamwork played a vital role in sustaining public confidence and ensuring efficient law enforcement in a rapidly growing metropolitan environment.

Special Chief Secretary (Home) C.V. Anand, IPS, emphasised the significance of integrated governance and coordinated policing in supporting urban development. He highlighted that administrative alignment, data-driven decision-making, and technology adoption are critical in maintaining law and order while facilitating economic growth.

V. Naveen Chand, IPS (Retd.), reflected on the need for adaptive policing in a dynamic urban setting. He stressed that proactive field engagement, intelligence-based operations, and citizen partnership remain key to addressing emerging challenges and maintaining public safety.

Sandeep Shandilya, IPS (Retd.), presently Director, TGNAB, fondly recollected his association with the Cyberabad Commissionerate and shared insights into key investigations handled during his tenure. He highlighted how systematic teamwork and technology-driven investigation helped resolve long-pending cases, reinforcing public confidence in policing.

Addressing the gathering, Commissioner Dr. M. Ramesh, IPS, underscored that policing an IT-driven metropolitan region requires constant synergy with the technology sector. He stressed the need to strengthen cyber safety mechanisms, harness advanced digital tools, and foster collaborative partnerships with IT companies to enhance public safety. His vision reaffirmed Cyberabad Police's commitment to proactive, tech-enabled, and people-friendly policing as it marches towards its silver jubilee milestone.



Sr.IAS Jyoti Buddha Prakash Appointed New CMD of SCCL

In a significant administrative move, the Telangana government appointed IAS officer Dr. Jyoti Buddha Prakash as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Singareni Collieries Company Limited.

Dr. Buddha Prakash formally assumed charge at Singareni Bhavan in Hyderabad, where he was welcomed by senior SCCL directors and briefed on the corporation's functioning and future priorities. Observers say his extensive administrative experience and

deep understanding of regional development issues bring valuable perspective to the corporation's goals and community responsibilities. In the picture Dr. Buddhaprakash meeting with Vikram Dev Dutt, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Coal during his official visit to New Delhi.

Telangana Model to Tackle Cyber Crime: IPS Shikha Goel Inspires Group-1 Officers at MCR HRD



In a powerful and forward-looking session, senior IPS officer Shikha Goel, Director of TG Cyber Security Bureau & FSL and DG-Vigilance & Enforcement & Ex-Officio Principal Secretary to the V&E Department, delivered a special lecture on "Tackling Cyber Crime - Telangana Model" at the MCR HRD Institute of Telangana. The session was part of the 45-day foundation training programme for Group-1 (2025 batch) officers. Addressing over 200 young officers, she highlighted the growing challenges of cybercrime and the need for intelligence-led policing, effective financial fraud disruption, robust child protection mechanisms, and AI-driven

cybercrime investigations. She emphasized that as governance becomes increasingly digital, cyber awareness at both policy and field-administration levels is no longer optional but essential. Her interaction with the trainee officers was marked by candid discussions, practical insights, and a call for proactive, technology-enabled governance. Encouraging the future administrators to stay vigilant and citizen-centric in their approach, she wished them success in shaping a secure, transparent, and digitally resilient Telangana.

Tri-Corporation Commissioners Call for 100% Door-to-Door Garbage Collection



Assure Job Security & Accident Insurance In a strong push to make the Tri-Corporation (CURE) area clean and garbage-free, Commissioners of GHMC RV.Karnan, Cyberabad G.Srijana and Malkajgiri T.Vinay Krishna Reddy Municipal Corporations held a special meet-

ing with Swachh Auto drivers and sanitation workers, urging them to ensure 100% daily door-to-door garbage collection. At the meeting held at the GHMC Head Office, the Commissioners emphasised that sanitation has been accorded top priority under the upcoming 100-day action plan. They assured workers of job security, accident insurance coverage, reduced unloading waiting time, coordination with RTO authorities, and monitoring support to ensure complete household coverage. Swachh Auto workers, in turn, assured that garbage would be collected daily from every household without fail and pledged full cooperation to make the CURE region number one in cleanliness.

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NLC India CMD Presents ¹ 360 Crore Interim Dividend



NLC India Limited (NLCIL), a Navratna Public Sector Enterprise, has presented an interim dividend of ¹ 360 Crore to the Government of India for FY 2025–26, marking its highest interim dividend in six years. The dividend reflects robust financial performance and operational efficiency, approved by the Board of Directors in January 2026.

This payout aligns with government dividend guidelines, demonstrating NLCIL's strong fundamentals and commitment to shareholder value while investing in mining capacity, thermal efficiency, and renewable energy projects.

Chairman Prasanna Kumar Motupalli highlighted the company's dedication to India's energy security and sustainable growth, supported by the Ministry of Coal, while contributing to the Prime Minister's vision for an Energy Independent India.

NTPC Bongaigaon Launches Disha Classes 2026



NTPC Bongaigaon has launched the 2026 batch of Disha Classes to enhance community development and youth empowerment through its voluntary platform e-VOICE and CSR initiatives. The program, active since 2019, prepares local youth for competitive state and central recruitment exams, particularly for police and armed forces.

Commencing on 17 February 2026, nearly 45 students participated, supported by NTPC employees and the CISF Unit. Key speakers, including Anurag Gupta and Amit Kumar Asthana, emphasized discipline, education, and the company's commitment to nurturing local talent.

Disha Classes aim to foster a skilled generation, with over 21 local youths employed in various armed forces since the program's inception.

PFC, MECON Ink MoU to Strengthen Infrastructure and Energy Sector Partnerships



Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and MECON Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding on February 13, 2026, to enhance collaboration in infrastructure and energy sectors.

The MoU outlines a strategic framework for cooperation on projects in areas such as Energy, Transport, Water, and Social Infrastructure. MECON will offer technical and consultancy support, including feasibility studies and project management, for initiatives seeking financial backing from PFC. The partnership will also focus on sustainable solutions like Waste-to-energy and renewable energy integration, aiming to boost India's energy transition and infrastructure development.

NHPC Limited Receives Great Place To Work Certification



NHPC Limited, a Navratna enterprise of the Government of India, has been Certified™ by Great Place To Work for the second consecutive year (January 2026 to January 2027), achieving an improved Trust Index Score. Great Place To Work focuses on workplace culture, employee experience, and leadership behaviors that enhance market performance.

The certification, based on a rigorous assessment, evaluates employee feedback and organizational practices across five pillars: Credibility, Respect, Fairness, Pride, and Camaraderie.

Bhupender Gupta, CMD of NHPC, congratulated employees for this achievement, highlighting the importance of utilizing insights from the certification process to strengthen NHPC's work culture. The certification reflects NHPC's commitment to fostering an environment of trust, respect, and inclusivity. Over five decades, NHPC has maintained a positive employee experience despite challenges related to geographical diversity and cultural differences, with 88% of employees participating in the survey, showcasing strong engagement and trust in the organization.

RECPDCL Hands Over Bellary–Davanagere Power Transmission SPV to PowerGrid



REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited (RECPDCL), a subsidiary of REC Limited, transferred the project-specific Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for the Bellary Davanagere Power Transmission Limited to Power Grid Corporation of India Limited.

Power Grid was the successful bidder in the Tariff-Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) process, and the project will be developed on a Build, Own, Operate & Transfer (BOOT) basis. The handover was facilitated by CEO Saurabh Rastogi to Executive Director Sh. Pankaj Pandey, with other senior officials present. The implementation period for the project is set at 24 months, which includes enhancing the transformation capacity at Davanagere and Bellary Power Stations and establishing a 72 km 400 kV Double Circuit line between them.

Centre Inks ¹ 2,312 Crore Agreement with HAL for Supply of 8 Dornier 228 Aircraft



The Defence Ministry of India signed a Rs 2,312 crore contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for eight Dornier 228 aircraft tailored for the Indian Coast Guard.

This agreement is anticipated to enhance employment and support MSMEs. It aligns with the government's Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative and 'Make in India' campaign, reinforcing maritime security. Concurrently, HAL announced a 29.6% increase in its Q3 FY26 net profit, reaching Rs 1,866.66 crore.

In a broader strategy, India plans to invest Rs 65,400 crore to develop fighter jet engines by 2035 and invites private participation in this endeavor, aiming for self-reliance in aircraft propulsion.

HUDCO Raises ¹ 1,442 Crore via Perpetual Tier I Bonds



HUDCO (Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd.), a Navratna CPSE under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, has raised ¹ 1,442 crore through the issuance of Perpetual Tier I Bonds with a coupon rate of 7.87% per annum.

The bonds were issued on an electronic bidding platform and were oversubscribed by five times, indicating strong demand from Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs) and reflecting investor confidence in HUDCO's financial stability and growth potential.

The capital raised will bolster HUDCO's capital base and improve its leverage and capital adequacy, enabling sustainable balance-sheet growth. This enhancement of Tier I capital is expected to strengthen HUDCO's long-term financial resilience and support increased lending in housing and urban infrastructure, aligning with the Government of India's objectives for sustainable urban development.

CMD Sanjay Kulshrestha noted the substantial investor response and oversubscription as a testament to market confidence in HUDCO's financial health and strategic initiatives.

IRCTC Reports 15.5% Growth in Q3 Net Profit at ¹ 395 Crore
IRCTC reported a 15.51% increase in consolidated net profit for Q3 FY26, reaching Rs 395 crore, up from Rs 342 crore YoY.

Revenue from core operations grew by 18% to Rs 1,449 crore, driven by strong performance in catering, ticketing, Rail Neer, and tourism. However, total expenses rose by 21% to Rs 1,001 crore.

The board declared a second interim dividend of Rs 3.50 per share for FY26, with the record date set for February 20, 2026.

IRCTC shares closed 1.01% lower at Rs 622, with a long-term return of over 79% in five years, but a decline of more than 18% in the past year.



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Bonsai Exhibition 'On Screen'

Special Chief Secretary of Telangana Home Department CV.Anand ,IPS inaugurated Bonsai exhibition at Kalinga Bhavan,Banjara Hills upon the invitation of former DGP Appa Rao , who was instrumental in bringing the bonsai technique of growing trees to Hyderabad in 1983 , after his 6 months stay in Japan .Presently Friends' Bonsai Society has 100 strong members . Bonsai is the Japanese art of growing and shaping a tree in a small container so that it looks like a fully grown, mature tree found in nature — but in miniature form. "I was amazed at the various shapes and sizes and realised it requires lot of patience, nurturing , pruning and attention to bring out such plants." Mr.Anand said.



A Book on Medaram

Minister for Rural Development Dr D.Anasuya re-leased a publication on Medaram Jatara brought out by Kakatiya Heritage Trust titled "Goddess of Folk". Eminent filmmaker B.Narsing Rao who compiled the book with rare photographs and members of the Trust Retd IAS officers BP Acharya, BV Papa Rao, Retd NIT Professor Panduranga Rao, K Sridhar and retd DGP M Ratan were among those who attended the event held at J.Phoole Praja Bhavan. Minister lauded the efforts of the Trust and requested to prepare necessary proposal for recognition of Samakka Saralamma Jatara as an intangible World Heritage by UNESCO.



Midnight Reporter's Jan Edition is launched

Midnight Reporter's Jackpot January edition is out with a bang released by versatile bureaucrat Mr.SVR.Chandra Sekhar, Chief Vigilance Officer, KIOCL, Ministry of Steel. Click the link for epaper : https://midnightreporter.com/January_2026.pdf



The Interfaith Harmony Conference 2026 held

The Interfaith Harmony Conference 2026 held at Hyderabad, FTCCI, Red Hills themed on "Reflections on Satyuga & Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," is one of the greatest events of this year. Reputed speakers participated in the conference. Organized by the World Organisation of Religions & Knowledge (WORK) (Telangana Chapter) during the UN-declared World Interfaith Harmony Week, the event focuses on unity, ethics, and social harmony.

Retd.DGP S.Anwarul Huda and A.Narsi Reddy, Former MLC were present as a chief guest and guest of honor. Whereas Dr.Peter Praveen Paul, Dr.Balakrishna Maiyananda,Harwinder Singh and Tanweer Ahmed Khan were the speakers. The purpose of the conference was to bring the leaders together from various faiths to discuss ethics, service, and universal brotherhood. Aimed to promote peace and nonviolence.



'Positive Energy Award'to Dr. Kavya Priya Vazrala

The happening young Dr. Kavya Priya Vazrala, Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, Laparoscopic Surgeon, Infertility Specialist & Cosmetic Gynaecologist at KIMS Cuddles Hospital, Gachibowli received 'Positive Energy Award' from Dr. AV.Gurava Reddy, Managing Director of KIMS-SUNSHINE Hospitals. "I always move forward in my life with gratitude and Shiva's energy ,on the eve of Mahashivratri I pray God to multiply my positive energy to infinite times and serve the humanity in multiple ways not just as a doctor .Deeply humbled to receive having most positive energy in a form of award. To me, positivity in medicine means calm in emergencies, strength in difficult conversations and compassion in every consultation." Said Dr.Kavya in her post. Endorsement : Dr.Kavya-committed to serve with science and soul. Best wishes.



Indian Tech Leader Akshay Thakur Rises to Global Role at BitGo

In a moment of immense pride, Akshay Thakur has been elevated as International Manager and Product Director at BitGo, California, USA — a global leader in digital asset infrastructure.

Founded in 2013, BitGo today secures nearly 20% of on-chain Bitcoin transactions worldwide, making it one of the most trusted custodians in the crypto ecosystem. In a historic milestone, BitGo Holdings recently debuted on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: BTGO), becoming the first federally chartered digital asset infrastructure firm to go public — a defining moment for the global Web3 industry.

Mr. Thakur's promotion reflects years of dedication, innovation, and strategic foresight. With deep expertise in financial technology, cryptography, and Web3, he now leads the development of secure, enterprise-grade digital asset solutions, empowering institutional clients to safeguard billions in digital wealth.

An accomplished academician, he holds a Master of Science in Computer Science from the University of Cincinnati (2013) and an MBA from the prestigious University of California, Berkeley — Haas School of Business (2021).From technical excellence to global leadership, Akshay Thakur's journey stands as a powerful testament to vision, perseverance, and world-class achievement.A proud milestone. A global impact. A rising force in digital finance.



ISKCON Hyderabad Organized Hare Krishna Run

ISKCON Hyderabad, a globally renowned spiritual organization dedicated to promoting health, mindfulness, and conscious living, organized the Hare Krishna Run 2026 at Sanjeevaiah Children's Park, Necklace Road. The run was conducted in three categories – 10K Harinaam Run, 5K Bhakti Run, and 3K Sankirtan Walk.The Run was presented by W3Global India, whose commitment to social responsibility and wellness initiatives added immense strength to the movement. The Run flag-off was graced by Nikhil Chakravarty , Director of Industries -Govt of Telangana, Dr. Shirish Kumar G. Chavan , MD – Nizam Sugar Factory & Dean, ESIC Medical College & Hospital Sanathnagar, Venkatesh Battu, Manager – Admin & Facilities, W3Global India Pvt Ltd, Varada Krsna Das - spiritual guides, Convenor – ISKCON Abids Temple, Sambhu Vaisnav Das, Hanuman Vijay Das, General Manager – ISKCON Abids, Global Events team also flagged off the 5K and 3K runs. MLC Addanki Dayakar were also attended the closing ceremony.

Luxury Tour du Mont Blanc (TMB) treks in June 2026

Luxury Tour du Mont Blanc (TMB) treks in June 2026 offer premium, guided hiking experiences through France, Italy and Switzerland.

An invitation-only alpine journey that traces one of the world's most iconic treks, walked in the presence of legacy and leadership, alongside the sons of the first Everest summitters Sir Edmund Hillary & Tenzing Norgay. Tour Du Mont Blanc | 26 June – 08 July 2026 Across France ,Italy and Switzerland. Only 12 participants, of which 6 are already confirmed. A once-in-a-lifetime experience, shared intentionally. If this resonates with you, then feel free to contact further.

This trek is featuring high-end hotels, luggage transfers, and gourmet dining. Premier options include 7–10 day itineraries with guided treks.





Know More About Ceramic Artist Kobina Adusah

Kobina Adusah is foremost in love with clay and then scale. He is the ceramicist who wants to make his works feel monumental—and maybe that stems from a place of discipline, but it's also because he grew up with the infatuation of sculptors and ceramicists like James Kwame Amoah, Kingsley Kofi Broni known as KK Broni, and Kwame Akoto-Bamfo. That early fascination continues to shape his practice, which he insists is defined by patience and physical commitment.

Adusah's journey with clay began in Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana, where he spent four years carving his own visual language. Now working primarily with slab construction, he builds his forms incrementally, treating each work as an architectural process rather than a singular gesture. The resulting objects are often large-scale and artistically textured while exploring the themes of ancestry, migration, fragility, and personal memory.

It's this very artistic and monumental nationality that has placed his work in a growing international conversation around contemporary craft. In 2025, he was named a finalist for the Loewe Foundation Craft Prize, a milestone that asserts his ability to expand the sculptural possibilities of ceramics. Still, he remains clear-eyed about what he wants his works to invoke especially at first glance.

While pursuing an MFA degree in ceramics at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana, he also has an exhibition titled "Inherited Beings," currently open at Gallery FUMI until March 15 that expands his exploration of ancestry, memory, and the vessel as a carrier of lived experience. The exhibition is also part of Gallery FUMI's partnership in Collect 2026 at London's Somerset House.



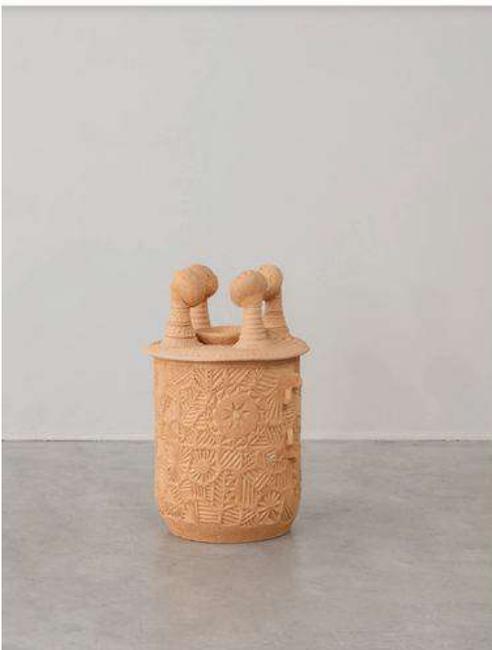
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Skins of the inherited form by Kobina Adusah.

Skins of the inherited form by Kobina Adusah.

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एपस्टीन फाइल्स : अनसीलड दस्तावेजों में 30 वैश्विक हस्तियों के नाम सामने आए



नई सार्वजनिक हुई जेफ्री एपस्टीन से जुड़ी फाइलों को लेकर सोशल मीडिया पर तीखी बहस छिड़ गई है। एक सोशल मीडिया पोस्ट में दावा किया गया है कि नई एपस्टीन फाइल्स में दुनिया के कई बड़े राजनीतिक नेताओं, कलाकारों, वैज्ञानिकों और उद्योगपतियों के नाम सामने आए हैं। हालांकि यह स्पष्ट किया गया है कि इन फाइलों में नामों का आना किसी भी व्यक्ति के खिलाफ अपराध सिद्ध होने का प्रमाण नहीं है।

2019 में जेफ्री एपस्टीन की मौत के बाद से लेकर 2024-26 के बीच, अमेरिकी अदालतों द्वारा 1,000 से अधिक पन्नों के दस्तावेज सार्वजनिक किए गए।

इन फाइलों में फ्लाइंग लॉग्स, ईमेल, कॉन्टैक्ट बुक्स, गवाहियों और आंतरिक मेमो शामिल हैं। इन दस्तावेजों में कई प्रभावशाली नाम सामने आए, लेकिन नाम आना अपराध सिद्ध होना, यह अंतर कानूनी तौर पर बेहद अहम है। यह सूची सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म द्वारा 1 फरवरी को साझा की गई। पोस्ट में कहा गया कि "नई एपस्टीन फाइल्स" में कुछ प्रमुख नाम सामने आए हैं, जिसके बाद यह पोस्ट तेजी से वायरल हो गई। विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि ऐसी सूचियों को सावधानी से पढ़ने की जरूरत है, क्योंकि कई नाम केवल संपर्क, बैठक, यात्रा या संदर्भ के तौर पर दस्तावेजों में दर्ज हो सकते हैं।

राजनीतिक और प्रभावशाली हस्तियों के नाम

वायरल सूची में अमेरिका और दुनिया के कई प्रमुख राजनीतिक नाम शामिल बताए गए हैं। इनमें डोनाल्ड ट्रंप, जो बाइडन, बिल क्लिंटन, हिलेरी क्लिंटन, अल गोर, रॉबर्ट एफ. कैनेडी जूनियर, प्रिंस एंड्रयू, इजराइल के पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री एहुद बराक, बिल रिचर्डसन, टॉम प्रिट्ज़कर, डग बैंड, पूर्व FBI निदेशक लुईस फ्री और प्रसिद्ध विचारक नोम चॉम्स्की जैसे नाम शामिल बताए गए हैं।

फिल्म, कला और ग्लैमर की दुनिया के नाम

सूची में मनोरंजन जगत से जुड़े कई चर्चित नाम भी सामने रखे गए हैं। इनमें माइकल जैक्सन, लियोनार्डो डि कैप्रियो, केविन स्पेसी, जॉर्ज लुकास, मैडोना, केट ब्लैंचेट, कैमरन डियाज, नाओमी कैंपबेल, हाइडी क्लम, क्रिस टकर, ब्रूस विलिस और बियांका जैगर के नाम शामिल हैं।

वैज्ञानिक, शिक्षाविद और कारोबारी

पोस्ट में विज्ञान और बिजनेस जगत की हस्तियों के नाम भी गिनाए गए हैं। इनमें स्टीफन हॉकिंग, बिल गेट्स, रिचर्ड ब्रैनसन, मार्विन मिन्स्की, ग्लेन डुबिन, ईवा एंडरसन डुबिन, लेस वेक्सनर, एबिगेल वेक्सनर, फ्रेडरिक विकार्ड, एलेक्जेंड्रा विकार्ड, पीटर लिस्टरमैन, रिकार्डो लेगोरेटा और एलन मस्क जैसे नाम शामिल बताए गए हैं।

नाम आने का मतलब क्या है

कानूनी विशेषज्ञों और मीडिया रिपोर्टों के अनुसार, एपस्टीन फाइल्स में नामों का आना यह जरूरी नहीं बनाता कि संबंधित व्यक्ति ने कोई अपराध किया हो। कई मामलों में ये नाम संपर्क सूची, उड़ान लॉग, ईमेल, सामाजिक मेलजोल या फंडिंग से जुड़े संदर्भों में दर्ज हो सकते हैं। अब तक इन नामों में से कई हस्तियां पहले ही एपस्टीन से किसी भी गैरकानूनी गतिविधि में शामिल होने से इनकार कर चुकी हैं।

ब्रिटिश कंपनी का बड़ा दावा: भारत बनेगा दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा उन्नत हवाई यात्रा बाजार



ब्रिटेन की अग्रणी एयरोस्पेस कंपनी 'वर्टिकल एयरोस्पेस' ने भारत को वर्टिकल टेकऑफ और लैंडिंग विमानों के लिए दुनिया के सबसे महत्वपूर्ण भावी बाजारों में से एक बताया है। कंपनी के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी स्टुअर्ट सिंपसन ने कहा कि भारत की विशाल आबादी, तेज आर्थिक वृद्धि और गंभीर यातायात चुनौतियां इस तकनीक के लिए अनुकूल परिस्थितियां बनाती हैं।

तीन से आठ फरवरी तक आयोजित सिंगापुर एयरशो-2026 में भाग लेने के बाद सिंपसन ने यह टिप्पणी की। उन्होंने एक ईमेल में कहा कि हालांकि दीर्घकालिक पूर्वानुमान लगाना कठिन है, लेकिन भारत में ईवीटीओएल विमानों के लिए अपार संभावनाएं मौजूद हैं।

EVTOL विमान ऐसे उन्नत विमान होते हैं, जिन्हें उड़ान भरने और उतरने के लिए लंबे रनवे की आवश्यकता नहीं होती। ये हेलीकॉप्टर की तरह सीधे ऊपर उड़ान भर सकते हैं, हवा में स्थिर रह सकते हैं और सुरक्षित रूप से उतर सकते हैं। सिंपसन ने कहा कि भारत भविष्य में दुनिया के सबसे बड़े और उन्नत हवाई यात्रा बाजारों में से एक बन सकता है। उन्होंने कहा, "भारत स्ट्रॉन्ग तकनीक के लिए एक स्वाभाविक आजमाइश स्थल है। यहां की बड़ी आबादी, युवा जनसांख्यिकी, बढ़ती आय, तेज आर्थिक विकास और बड़े शहरों में यातायात संकट इसकी प्रमुख वजहें हैं।" उन्होंने बताया कि भारत में हवाई अड्डों, अंतर-शहरी गलियारों, शहरी आवागमन, आपातकालीन चिकित्सा सेवाओं, माल ढुलाई और रक्षा क्षेत्र में भी स्ट्रॉन्ग विमानों के उपयोग की व्यापक संभावनाएं हैं।

वर्टिकल एयरोस्पेस का प्रमुख उत्पाद 'वालो', एक पायलट संचालित चार सीट वाला इलेक्ट्रिक ईवीटीओएल विमान है, जो संचालन के दौरान शून्य उत्सर्जन करता है। सिंपसन के अनुसार, 'वालो' भारत की शहरी भीड़भाड़ की गंभीर समस्या से निपटने में अहम भूमिका निभा सकता है और घंटों की यात्रा को मिनटों में बदल सकता है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि भविष्य में भारत में हवाई पर्यटन, दर्शनीय स्थल भ्रमण, क्रिकेट मैचों और फिल्म समारोहों के लिए भी 'वालो' का उपयोग तेजी से बढ़ सकता है। सिंपसन ने जानकारी दी कि वर्टिकल एयरोस्पेस ने भारतीय निजी विमानन कंपनी 'जेटसेटगो' के साथ 50 'वालो' विमानों की प्रस्तावित खरीद के लिए एक समझौता ज्ञापन (एमओयू) पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। इसके साथ ही भारत में उन्नत हवाई यात्रा (एडवांस्ड एयर मोबिलिटी) सेवाओं को विकसित करने के लिए एक रणनीतिक सहयोग भी किया गया है।

पाकिस्तान में बाल कैंसर की डरावनी सच्चाई, हर साल दस हजार में से 7000 बच्चे हार जाते जिंदगी से



पाकिस्तान में हर साल लगभग 10,000 बच्चों में कैंसर की पहचान होती है, लेकिन इनमें से 30 प्रतिशत से भी कम बच्चे ही जीवित रह पाते हैं। स्वास्थ्य विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार, देर से निदान, सीमित इलाज सुविधाएं, प्रशिक्षित डॉक्टरों की कमी और आर्थिक कठिनाइयां इसकी प्रमुख वजह हैं। रविवार को बाल कैंसर पर आयोजित "हेल्थ वाइज" जागरूकता सत्र में विशेषज्ञों ने बताया कि दुनिया भर में हर साल करीब 4 लाख बच्चों और किशोरों को कैंसर होता है, जिनमें से लगभग 80 प्रतिशत मामले निम्न और मध्यम आय वाले देशों से सामने आते हैं।

यह जानकारी पाकिस्तानी अखबार The EUPress Tribune ने दी। कार्यक्रम का आयोजन Indus Hospital and Health Network द्वारा किया गया। विशेषज्ञों ने बताया कि विकसित देशों में बाल कैंसर से जीवित रहने की दर 80 से 85 प्रतिशत तक है, जबकि विकासशील देशों में यह दर काफी कम है। बाल हेमेटोलॉजी-ऑन्कोलॉजी विशेषज्ञ ने कहा कि बच्चों में होने वाले अधिकतर कैंसर समय पर इलाज मिलने पर पूरी तरह ठीक हो सकते हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि बच्चों के कैंसर का आमतौर पर जीवनशैली से कोई संबंध नहीं होता और सही इलाज मिलने पर 85 प्रतिशत तक ठीक होने की संभावना रहती है। डॉ. जब्बार के अनुसार, पाकिस्तान में कम सर्वाइवल रेट की वजह लक्षणों की देर से पहचान, सहायक उपचार की कमी, विशेषज्ञ डॉक्टरों की कमी, सीमित विशेष केंद्र और इलाज बीच में छोड़ देना है।

बच्चों में सबसे आम कैंसर में ल्यूकेमिया, लिम्फोमा, ब्रेन व स्पाइनल ट्यूमर, बोन ट्यूमर, न्यूरोब्लास्टोमा, विल्स ट्यूमर और रेटिनोब्लास्टोमा शामिल हैं। इस मौके पर बाल ऑन्कोलॉजी विशेषज्ञ ने बताया कि कराची में उनके विभाग में हर साल करीब 1,000 नए मामले आते हैं। वर्ष 2014 से अब तक 16,000 से ज्यादा बच्चों का इलाज किया जा चुका है। विशेषज्ञों ने दोहराया कि समय पर जांच से जान बचाई जा सकती है और माता-पिता, शिक्षक, डॉक्टर व मीडिया से अपील की कि वे जागरूकता बढ़ाने में अपनी भूमिका निभाएं, ताकि हर बच्चे को जीवन का समान अवसर मिल सके।

अंटार्कटिका के गहरे बर्फीले समंदर में तैरती दिखी स्लीपर शार्क, आश्चर्यचकित रह गए वैज्ञानिक



वैज्ञानिकों को उस समय गहरा आश्चर्य हुआ जब अंटार्कटिका के लगभग जमते पानी में पहली बार एक विशाल शार्क कैमरे में कैद हुई। यह दुर्लभ दृश्य जनवरी 2025 में रिकॉर्ड किया गया, जब एक स्लीपर शार्क समुद्र तल पर सुस्त गति से तैरती दिखाई दी। यह शार्क 3 से 4 मीटर लंबी बताई जा रही है और करीब 490 मीटर की गहराई में पाई गई, जहां पानी का तापमान केवल 1.27 डिग्री

सेल्सियस था। अब तक वैज्ञानिकों का मानना था कि इतनी ठंडी अंटार्कटिक जलधाराओं में शार्क का अस्तित्व संभव नहीं है।

यह ऐतिहासिक फूटेज Minderoo&UWA Deep&Sea Research Centre द्वारा लगाए गए कैमरे से रिकॉर्ड हुई, जिसे दक्षिण शेटलैंड द्वीप समूह के पास समुद्र की गहराई में स्थापित किया गया था। यह Southern Ocean की सीमा के भीतर आता है। इस शोध केंद्र के संस्थापक निदेशक Alan Jamieson ने कहा कि अंटार्कटिक महासागर में अब तक किसी भी शार्क के पाए जाने का कोई रिकॉर्ड मौजूद नहीं था। उन्होंने इसे "समुद्री विज्ञान के लिए बेहद महत्वपूर्ण खोज" बताया। वीडियो में एक स्केट मछली भी दिखाई देती है, जो शार्क के गुजरने के बावजूद स्थिर रहती है।

स्केट की मौजूदगी वैज्ञानिकों के लिए आश्चर्यजनक नहीं थी, क्योंकि उनकी प्रजाति पहले से ही इस क्षेत्र में ज्ञात है। विशेषज्ञों का मानना है कि जलवायु परिवर्तन और समुद्र के बढ़ते तापमान के कारण शार्क जैसी प्रजातियां अब ठंडे इलाकों की ओर बढ़ रही हो सकती हैं। हालांकि, यह भी संभव है कि स्लीपर शार्क लंबे समय से इन गहराइयों में मौजूद रही हो, लेकिन इसानी नजरों से ओझल रही हो। वैज्ञानिकों का अनुमान है कि ये शार्क समुद्र की गहराइयों में मृत व्हेल, विशाल स्क्वड और अन्य समुद्री जीवों के अवशेषों पर निर्भर रहती हैं। अंटार्कटिक जलक्षेत्र में साल के अधिकांश समय शोध संभव नहीं होता, इसलिए ऐसे चौंकाने वाले दृश्य बहुत कम सामने आते हैं।

80 साल का लंबा इंतजार: बंटवारे के बाद पहली बार लाहौर कॉलेज के गुरुद्वारे में दिखी रौनक

पाकिस्तान के एचिसन कॉलेज परिसर स्थित ऐतिहासिक गुरुद्वारे में लगभग 80 वर्षों बाद सिख अरदास आयोजित की गई। कॉलेज के अधिकारियों ने शुक्रवार को यह जानकारी दी। वर्ष 1947 के बाद से सिख विद्यार्थियों की कमी के कारण एचिसन कॉलेज बंद था, हालांकि उसका रखरखाव कॉलेज द्वारा किया जाता रहा।

कॉलेज के मानद दूत डॉ. तरुणजीत सिंह बुटालिया ने बताया, "बुधवार को लाहौर के मॉल रोड स्थित ऐचिसन कॉलेज परिसर के गुरुद्वारे में एक ऐतिहासिक और भावनात्मक सिख अरदास सभा आयोजित की गई।" उन्होंने कहा कि यह विशेष आयोजन कॉलेज की 140वीं वर्षगांठ के उपलक्ष्य में किया गया, जिसमें करीब 100 लोग शामिल हुए। उन्होंने कहा, "यह मेरे लिए भावुक क्षण था। मेरे पिता, दादा और परदादा विभाजन से पहले जब ऐचिसन कॉलेज में छात्र थे, तब वे प्रतिदिन शाम को यहीं अरदास देते थे।"

उन्होंने बताया कि 140वीं वर्षगांठ समारोह के लिए इस कार्यक्रम के आयोजन में उन्होंने सहयोग किया। कॉलेज के प्राचार्य हुसैन ने कहा, "वर्ष 1947 के बाद ऐचिसन कॉलेज के गुरुद्वारे में आयोजित यह अरदास सेवा हमारी 140वीं वर्षगांठ की आध्यात्मिक शुरुआत है। हम भविष्य में ऐसे और अवसरों की उम्मीद करते हैं, जो सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द, आपसी समझ और सम्मान को बढ़ावा दें।" एचिसन कॉलेज की आधारशिला 3 नवंबर 1886 को अविभाजित पंजाब के शाही और प्रमुख परिवारों को शिक्षा प्रदान करने के उद्देश्य से रखी गई थी।

Tourism



Phuket Gears Up for Three Major Global Conferences in 2026

In 2026, Phuket is expected to reinforce its status as an international MICE destination by hosting three international conferences. These conferences will feature the island's commitment to sustainability, wellness, and diversity, thus reiterating its status as a world-class destination for international conferences. The Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau (TCEB) has assisted Phuket in winning the bids to host these important conferences, which are in line with the development strategy of the province and make it a model MICE destination.

Key Global Conferences to Propel Phuket's MICE Industry Forward

The first event in 2026 is the Global Sustainable Tourism Conference (GSTC), which will take place from April 21–24 at the Royal Phuket City Hotel and Courtyard by Marriott Phuket Town. This important conference will promote the advancement of global sustainability goals and serve as a platform for international thought leaders in the tourism industry.

In addition to the GSTC, InterPride's General Meeting & World Conference will take place in Phuket, emphasizing the island's commitment to LGBTQIA+ rights and diversity. Thailand's marriage equality law and ongoing efforts towards gender recognition will be featured prominently at the event. Finally, the Global Wellness Summit (GWS) 2026 will open up new business opportunities for Phuket in the growing wellness tourism sector.

These conferences are pivotal in Phuket's journey as a global MICE destination, reinforcing the island's leadership across sustainability, wellness, and diversity. They will also have a lasting impact, not only on Phuket's tourism growth but also on its broader economic future.

Sustainability and Wellness as Key Drivers of Phuket's MICE Strategy

Phuket's hosting of the GSTC 2026 aligns with its ongoing commitment to sustainable tourism. The island has developed a strong sustainability network of local government, hotels, and tourism operators dedicated to environmental responsibility. Phuket's collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to create sustainable tourism projects and establish 2030 sustainability goals highlights the island's forward-thinking approach to tourism development.

In addition, the Global Wellness Summit will provide Phuket with an opportunity to attract international investors into its wellness tourism sector, positioning the island as a health and wellness hub in Southeast Asia. The growth of the wellness economy on the island, supported by world-class facilities and Phuket's natural environment, will foster long-term industry growth, with the summit acting as a catalyst for future business expansion and international collaboration.

Saudi Arabia Joins Greece, Jordan, UAE, and More in Transforming Global Trade



Saudi Arabia's strategic move to open new trade pathways between India and Europe marks a pivotal moment in global commerce. By aligning with Greece, Jordan, the UAE, and other key players, the Kingdom is significantly enhancing trade connectivity, boosting economic ties, and fostering mutual growth. This decision, aimed at facilitating

smoother, more efficient trade routes, is set to reshape the dynamics of regional and international trade, further cementing Saudi Arabia's position as a central hub for global trade between the Middle East, India, and Europe. The India AI Impact Summit 2026 served as a key platform for global leaders to gather and discuss the future of artificial intelligence and its implications for social, economic, and developmental progress. Among the discussions at this summit was a crucial meeting between high-level officials, focusing on the potential for deepening international collaboration on infrastructure, trade, and AI governance. The event aimed at shaping a global AI policy framework, emphasizing the importance of measurable social and developmental impacts while addressing the emerging challenges posed by the rapid advancement of AI technologies.

One of the focal points of the discussions was the intention of a certain country to engage in a significant infrastructure project designed to enhance connectivity between India and Europe. This project, known as the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), is a visionary multinational initiative that seeks to establish a robust trade route linking India with Europe. The corridor will traverse the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Israel, providing a vital bridge between two of the world's most dynamic economic regions. The ambition of the country is to position itself as an essential hub within this corridor, leveraging its geographic location and existing infrastructure to serve as a gateway for Indian trade and investments into Europe.

Atlantic Canada's UNESCO Tourism Corridor: A New Initiative to Showcase Cultural and Natural Heritage



Atlantic Canada is taking a significant step in strengthening its tourism sector, with a \$309,500 federal investment to establish the Atlantic Canada UNESCO Tourism Corridor. This new initiative is designed to connect 13 UNESCO-designated sites across the region, boosting both tourism and economic growth. The announcement was made by Alana Hirtle, Member of Parliament for Cumberland-Colchester, on behalf of Sean Fraser, Canada's Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency

(ACOA). This new corridor, spearheaded by the Fundy Biosphere Region, is a key element in the Government of Canada's strategy to enhance its cultural and natural tourism offerings. It connects Atlantic Canada's world-class geological, cultural, and ecological sites, helping visitors uncover the rich history and heritage that define this part of Canada. The initiative aims to create new tourism experiences and foster collaboration among local communities, tourism operators, and regional partners.

Atlantic Canada's UNESCO Wonders Connected Through New Tourism Corridor

The creation of the Atlantic Canada UNESCO Tourism Corridor is expected to bring substantial benefits to the tourism sector. By connecting these 13 UNESCO sites, the corridor showcases Atlantic Canada's most iconic destinations, including the Bay of Fundy, Lunenburg, and the Joggins Fossil Cliffs. Visitors will now have the chance to explore the interconnected beauty of the region, experiencing authentic stories that are rooted in both nature and human history.

Explore Los Cabos: A Luxury Destination Redefining Travel with High-Value Experiences



Fancy places. Los Cabos, one of Mexico's luxury destinations, just hit major growth! In 2025, Los Cabos hit a remarkable 130% growth over 10 years. In 2025, they welcomed 3.8 million visitors. Los Cabos is a resilient, flexible destination. They provide great service to high-value travelers.

Los Cabos' Strategic Vision

Unlike many destinations focusing on volume, Los Cabos has built its reputation around high-value tourism. With a model that emphasizes quality over quantity, the region has focused on attracting well-

heeled travelers seeking exclusive experiences. Over the years, the destination has undergone a deliberate transformation that combines luxury, sustainability, wellness, and cultural immersion.

This transformation is evident in Los Cabos' ever-expanding array of upscale accommodations and experiences. The average daily rate (ADR) in 2025 reached \$440 USD, setting a new record in Mexico. From \$286 USD in 2017, this increase is a testament to the destination's ongoing commitment to elevating its status as a luxury hub.

Premium Infrastructure Driving Sustainable Growth

Since 2016, the number of hotel rooms in Los Cabos has expanded by over 40%, rising from 15,000 to more than 22,000. The majority of these new properties (approximately 80%) fall within the five-star category, underscoring the area's focus on delivering premium experiences. These investments in luxury infrastructure align with Los Cabos' long-term goal of sustainable development that benefits both visitors and the local community.

Despite the challenges faced by the global tourism industry over the years, Los Cabos has consistently maintained a high occupancy rate of 70%. The destination has remained strong across various economic cycles, a feat attributed to its sustainable tourism practices and robust public-private partnerships.

Prague Unveils Soul of the City Initiative

A fresh chapter in the promotion of the Czech capital is being written through the introduction of a specialized initiative centered on spiritual tourism. While the city is frequently associated with its vibrant nightlife and bustling medieval squares, a deliberate shift toward sustainable travel and cultural heritage is being orchestrated by local authorities. Through this new endeavor, the rich tapestry of religious history and the quietude of sacred architecture are being brought to the forefront of the visitor experience. It is observed that the modern traveler often seeks a deeper connection with the locations being visited, and thus, this project was conceived to satisfy the growing demand for meaningful exploration and authentic discovery within the urban landscape.

The treasures of the city are being presented through a lens that emphasizes peace, reflection, and historical depth. By focusing on off-the-beaten-track locations, the pressure on traditional tourist hotspots is being alleviated, and a more balanced distribution of visitors across the city's various districts is being encouraged. This strategic move is supported by the belief that the soul of the city is found not just in its grand cathedrals, but in the small, silent corners that have witnessed centuries of devotion.

The Launch of a Digital Gateway to the Sacred

A comprehensive digital platform has been unveiled to serve as the primary resource for those interested in the spiritual side of the city. This website was designed to act as an invitation to both international guests and local residents to explore the ecclesiastical wealth of Prague. Detailed information regarding opening hours, historical contexts, and architectural significance is provided for a wide array of sites. It is intended that the website will function as a bridge between the ancient past and the digital present, allowing for the seamless planning of contemplative journeys.

The creation of this portal was overseen by Prague City Tourism, in collaboration with various religious institutions and heritage experts. By consolidating these resources into a single, user-friendly interface, the accessibility of the city's religious landmarks is being significantly enhanced. The narrative within the site is constructed to be welcoming, ensuring that individuals from all backgrounds, regardless of their personal beliefs, feel encouraged to step inside these hallowed halls.