

The week from 29 January 2024 to 04 February 2024

The Indian Navy's INS Sumitra conducted two consecutive anti-piracy rescue operations in the Gulf of Aden on the Arabian Sea. It responded to the distress call of the first vessel, the Iran-flagged MV Ruen, coercing the pirates to release both the vessel and its crew. Two days later, on January 30, INS Sumitra rescued another Iran-flagged vessel, Al Naeemi, and its Pakistani crew.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman delivered the Interim Budget in the Lok Sabha on February 1. She presented that, among other things, 25 crore people have escaped poverty in the last 10 years and, the govt. will subsidise the construction of 30 million affordable houses in rural areas, inflation (price rise of goods) has stayed in control, besides several other facts and figures.

Former Deputy PM and veteran Bharatiya Janata Party leader Lal Krishna Advani will receive the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award. This accolade aligns him with the late Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the PM he served under, who was conferred the award in 2015.

Elon Musk's Neuralink successfully implanted a brain chip in its first live human trial patient, marking a breakthrough. The device, placed in the brain's movement-planning area, interprets neural activity, allowing control of external devices with thoughts. The device, which needs more trials before government approval, aims to help those without control of their limbs.

Imran Khan, the world-cup-winning cricketer-turned-politician, faced sentences related to alleged wrongdoing during his time as the Prime Minister of Pakistan. The sentences, perceived as politically motivated at the behest of the Pakistan Army, come just ahead of the National Assembly elections, with the longest being a 14-year prison term.

In Bihar, Nitish Kumar of the Janata Dal (United) party took oath as the CM for a record ninth time. This follows his resignation as CM, ending an alliance with the Rashtriya Janata Dal to return to his former ally, the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance.

Champai Soren took oath as CM of Jharkhand on February 2, after the Governor invited him to form a new government. It followed the resignation and subsequent arrest by the Enforcement Directorate, of his party colleague and predecessor Hemant Soren in an alleged land scam case.

The 22-year-old Italian Jannik Sinner, despite being two sets down, clinched the Australian Open men's singles title against Russia's Daniil Medvedev. In the semi-final, Sinner ended Novak Djokovic's 33-match streak at the tournament by defeating the incumbent champion in three sets.



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