

The week from 12 February 2024 to 18 February 2024

The Indian Supreme Court declared the electoral bonds scheme, allowing anonymous political donations, unconstitutional, citing a violation of voters' right to information. The judgment noted that secret donations could influence policy changes, harming voter interests.

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated a Hindu stone temple in Abu Dhabi and addressed the World Government Summit in Dubai. He oversaw the signing of a Bilateral Investment Treaty during the trip. The UAE, India's third-largest trading partner and second-largest export destination, hosts a significant Indian diaspora.

Qatar released from custody eight Indian navy veterans, previously facing death row for alleged spying for a foreign country. Efforts by the Indian government led to commuted sentences earlier before their eventual pardoning, and all individuals have since returned to India.

ISRO successfully launched the INSAT-3DS meteorological satellite into orbit from Sriharikota. The GSLV-F14 rocket carried the satellite, which will monitor land and ocean surfaces for weather forecasting and disaster warnings.

Farmers from neighbouring states marched to New Delhi, demanding a guaranteed minimum support price for their produce. This new demand seeks an assured and increased minimum support price from the Union government, over and above the minimum support price currently provided.

Chipmaker Nvidia, capitalizing on the demand for chips to run AI models like ChatGPT and Genie, etc., surpassed Amazon in the stock market. It is now the fourth most valuable American company with a valuation of \$1.82 trillion.

Epic Foundation unveiled Milkyway, the first 'designed in India' tablet for school children. The tablet is repairable and upgradable, aiming to reduce e-waste and lower costs for state governments purchasing them for use in government schools.

A jailed Russian politician and critic of President Alexei Navalny died due to poor health in a penal colony north of the Arctic Circle. Navalny had received several years in prison in separate cases after returning to Russia in 2021 following a 2020 poisoning attempt.



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