

Barnard's Star, a red dwarf star, 6 light-years from our solar system, has at least one planet orbiting it. Leaving aside the Alpha Centauri system, it is the closest individual star to our solar system. Jonay González Hernández, an astrophysicist in Tenerife, Spain, and his team analysed 150+ observations made by a telescope in South America before coming up with this theory.

Israel launched a ground offensive against the rebel group Hezbollah's bases in Lebanon, along Israel's northern border. This came after strikes that killed Hezbollah's founder leader Hassan Nasrallah. This led to Hezbollah ally Iran launching hundreds of missiles against Tel Aviv.

Maldivian President Mohammed Muizzu is on a state visit to India. Elected to power after an election campaign which was centred on an "India out" policy, he adopted a reconciliatory tone, telling BBC, "we are confident that any differences can be addressed through open dialogue and mutual understanding".

India became the fourth nation to cross 700 billion US Dollars in foreign exchange reserves, joining China, Japan, and Switzerland. As per estimates, India's forex reserves are sufficient to cover over a year of projected imports.

The Central Government conferred Classical Language status on 5 languages- Assamese, Bengali, Marathi, Pali and Prakrit. Beginning with Tamil (2004), a total of six languages have already been accorded this status. The other such languages are Kannada, Malayalam, Odiya, Sanskrit and Telugu.

Researchers found that vegetation cover across the Antarctic Peninsula increased more than tenfold. They used satellite data to estimate the "greening" rate of the Antarctic Peninsula in response to climate change. This coincides with a marked decrease in sea-ice extent in Antarctica over the same period," the authors wrote in the study published in the journal Nature Geoscience.

India beat Bangladesh in the Kanpur Test by 7 wickets in an extraordinary display of aggressive batting and bowling. After over 7 sessions were lost to bad weather, Rohit Sharma's team scored 383 runs in just 52 overs (across 2 innings), and bowled Bangladesh out twice, for 233 and 146. Yashasvi Jaiswal was Player of the Match while Ravichandran Ashwin was adjudged Player of the Series, for a record-equalling eleventh time, matching Lankan world-record holder, Muttiah Muralitharan.

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