

The week from 17 Mar 2025 to 23 Mar 2025

Astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore returned to Earth on March 19, 2025, using a SpaceX spacecraft after an eight-day mission turned into a nine-month voyage in space. The former Navy pilots had flown to the orbital lab on June 5 last year on what was supposed to be the first crewed flight of a Boeing Starliner.

Conducted at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam and hosted by The United States Navy's 7th Fleet, India successfully concluded participation in Sea Dragon 2025, a two-week multinational anti-submarine warfare (ASW) exercise. It aims to improve interoperability, coordination, and tactical proficiency among Indo-Pacific allies.

Günter Blöschl has been awarded the 2025 Stockholm Water Prize for his pioneering research on flood risks and climate change impacts globally. Presented by the Stockholm Water Foundation in collaboration with the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, it is an internationally acclaimed water award recognizing outstanding achievements in water science and management.

RBI has been honoured with the Digital Transformation Award 2025 by Central Banking, London, UK, recognizing its innovative digital initiatives—Pravaah and Sarthi—developed by its in-house developer team.

The 18th edition of the Indian Premier League have commenced on March 22, 2025 and the Final will be played on May 25, 2025. The 74 matches of the season will be played across 13 venues and will include 12 double-headers. The cricketing extravaganza kicked off at the iconic Eden Gardens in Kolkata where RCB beat defending champions – KKR by 7 wickets.

Incubated at IIT Madras, TuTr Hyperloop is set to launch the world's first commercial Hyperloop-based project in India, marking a milestone in India's journey towards Atmanirbhar Bharat. IIT Madras has been at the forefront of Hyperloop research, housing Asia's longest student-run Hyperloop test track (422 meters).

The Holberg prize, awarded annually to an outstanding researcher in the humanities, social sciences, law or theology, named Padma Bhushan Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak as its 2025 Laureate. Spivak is a Humanities Professor at Columbia University and is considered one of the most influential global intellectuals of our time. She has shaped literary criticism and philosophy since the 1970s.

The World Happiness Report 2025 was released recently, ranking countries based on happiness levels. India ranked 118th out of 147 countries, while Finland topped the list for the eighth consecutive year. It is published by the WRC, University of Oxford, gauged using six key indicators: GDP per capita, healthy life expectancy, social support, freedom, generosity, and perception of corruption.



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