

**The week from 31 Mar 2025 to 06 Apr 2025**

ChaSTE became the first instrument ever to successfully penetrate and measure temperature beneath the surface of any celestial body, providing valuable thermal data from the Moon's south pole during the Chandrayaan-3 mission. It is an indigenous thermal probe onboard Chandrayaan-3's Vikram Lander which performs in-situ measurement of temperature and thermal conductivity of lunar soil.

U.S. President Donald Trump unveiled a sweeping "Liberation Day" tariff policy, imposing a 10% baseline duty on all imports and higher country-specific tariffs. India faces a 26% tariff hike, whilst the highest reciprocal tariff bearer being Lesotho at 50%. Reciprocal tariffs mirror to or adjust to the tariff rate imposed by another country and is used to counter trade imbalances and perceived unfair trade practices.

India hosted the Startup Mahakumbh 2025, the world's largest startup event, from April 3 to 5, 2025, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The showcase featured over 3,000 startups, 1,000 investors, and 50,000 business visitors from more than 50 countries. Themed "Startup India @ 2047—Unfolding the Bharat Story," it aimed to propel India's entrepreneurial ecosystem into a global innovation hub.

The Haryana Government has officially declared Mitathal and Tighrana, two Harappan civilisation sites in Bhiwani district, as protected archaeological sites. The site shows uninterrupted human settlement from Pre-Siswal to Post-Harappan periods and offers rich insights into early agricultural practices, craftsmanship, and community structure in Indo-Gangetic divide.

**Compiled by  
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INSV Tarini has reached Cape Town, South Africa, marking the fourth and final stopover of the Navika Sagar Parikrama II global circumnavigation expedition by two Indian Navy women officers. INSV Tarini is a 56-foot indigenously built sailing vessel, crewed by Lt Cdr Dilna K and Lt Cdr Roopa. Designed for deep-sea navigation and long-duration expeditions in turn strengthening India's naval diplomacy through port calls and engagements.

A team of astronomers identified 128 new moons around Saturn using the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope with the "shift and stack" technique, taking the planet's total confirmed moon count to 274 — the highest for any planet in the solar system. This reinforces Saturn's role as the "Moon King" of the solar system and sheds light on the chaotic early evolution of the solar system.

The 6th BIMSTEC Summit was held on April 4, 2025, in Bangkok, Thailand with the theme "Prosperous, Resilient, and Open BIMSTEC." It reiterated enhance regional cooperation on trade, security, connectivity, and endorsed the Bangkok Vision 2030. Established in 1997, BIMSTEC refers to the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation, an international organisation of seven South Asian and Southeast Asian nations.

The Indian Parliament passed the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025. The bill aims to streamline the management of Waqf properties, with provisions to safeguard heritage sites and promote social welfare. The legislation also aims to improve governance by enhancing transparency in property management, streamlining coordination between Waqf Boards and local authorities and protecting stakeholders' rights.

Veteran actor Manoj Kumar, popularly known as 'Bharat Kumar' for his patriotic films, passed away at the age of 87 in Mumbai. Born Harikrishna Giri Goswami, at Abbotabad, in present-day Pakistan, he adopted his stage name because he was a fan of Dilip Kumar; who had used 'Manoj Kumar' as a screen name in the movie 'Shabnam' (1949). Mr Kumar's hits include 'Shaheed', 'Upkar', 'Purab aur Paschim', 'Roti, Kapada aur Makaan' and 'Kranti'.

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