

The week from 15 Sep 2025 to 21 Sep 2025

Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh has been posthumously awarded the P. V. Narasimha Rao Memorial Award for Economics, acknowledging his pivotal role in shaping India's economic transformation. The award recognises individuals who have made transformational contributions to India's economy, particularly in connection with landmark reforms and nation-building efforts.

Albania has become the first country to appoint an Artificial Intelligence system as a government minister. Named Diella, the AI will serve as Minister for Public Procurement, tasked with making public tenders corruption-free by reducing human bias, bribery and political interference.

Saudi Arabia and Pakistan have signed a historic Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement, pledging to treat an attack on either country as an attack on both. The pact, which may include all military means, was endorsed by Pakistan Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir. The agreement comes amid rising Gulf tensions after an Israeli airstrike on Doha, Qatar.

Indian boxer Minakshi won the gold medal in the women's 48kg category at the 2025 World Boxing Championships, defeating Kazakhstan's Nazym Kyzaibay. She became the second Indian after Jaismine Lamboria (57kg) to win gold at this event, contributing to India's four-medal haul.

Wall Street's main indices posted record-high closes a day after the U.S. Federal Reserve delivered a quarter-point interest rate cut. In another development, chipmaker Intel rose after Nvidia decided to build a stake in Intel.

South Korea, USA and Japan launched their five-day trilateral exercise Freedom Edge 2025 on 15 September in waters near Jeju Island. This is the first such drill since South Korean President Lee Jae Myung and US President Donald Trump took office. The exercise aims at boosting interoperability against North Korea's missile and nuclear threats.

The Indian Navy has commissioned its newest naval base, INS Aravali, in Gurugram, Haryana. Named after the Aravali mountains, the base strengthens India's Maritime Domain Awareness and communication infrastructure, supporting command and operational coordination.

Indian chess Grandmaster Vaishali Rameshbabu made history by winning the FIDE Women's Grand Swiss 2025 in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, for the second consecutive time. With this victory, she also secured her place in the FIDE Women's Candidates Tournament 2026.



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