

The week from 18 Aug 2025 to 24 Aug 2025

India's first-ever aquanauts, Senior Scientist Raju Ramesh and Commander (Retd.) Jatinder Pal Singh, successfully undertook deep-sea expeditions in the Atlantic Ocean, reaching depths of 4,025 metres and then 5,002 metres making it the deepest underwater dive ever conducted by Indians. The two record-setting dives, which lasted for a combined seven hours, mark India's entry into the global league of deep ocean exploration.

A Mediterranean moth long mistaken for a known species has now been confirmed as a distinct species through DNA analysis. Named *Carcina ingridmariae*, a detailed examination of its sexual organs, along with genetic testing, has established it as a new species, resolving decades of entomological uncertainty.

German chess prodigy Vincent Keymer won the Quantbox Chennai Grand Masters 2025 with a round to spare, becoming the first-ever sole champion in the tournament's history. His stellar performance elevated him into the world's live Top 10 rankings for the first time

Meta has signed a six-year US\$10 billion agreement with Google Cloud, marking its first large-scale collaboration with the Alphabet subsidiary. The partnership aims to enhance Meta's artificial intelligence capabilities, aligned with CEO Mark Zuckerberg's strategic priority on AI, including the rollout of the Llama AI model and a new standalone AI application.

The Bibi Fatima Women's Self-Help Group (SHG) from Teertha village in Dharwad district, Karnataka, has been selected as a winner of the prestigious UNDP Equator Initiative Award 2025, also known as the "Nobel Prize for Biodiversity Conservation." Announced on the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, it recognizes outstanding community-led, nature-based solutions for sustainable development.

At the 16th Asian Shooting Championship in Shymkent, Kazakhstan, India's Kapil Bainsla and Rashmika Sahgal clinched golds in the junior men's and women's air pistol event respectively. In the youth category, Girish Gupta won gold and Dev Pratap bagged silver.

On 22 August 2025, the Supreme Court of India modified its earlier directive on stray dogs in Delhi-NCR. It permitted their sterilisation, vaccination, and release back to original localities, rather than permanent sheltering, citing feasibility concerns. The Court further instructed the creation of designated feeding zones and indicated plans for a comprehensive strategy for stray dog management.

The Ministry of Defence has confirmed the successful test of the indigenously developed Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) Agni-5. The trial was conducted on August 20 at the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha, under the supervision of the Strategic Forces Command further strengthening India's strategic deterrence capabilities.

Marking a major step in green innovation, the Ministry of Railways has commissioned India's first-ever removable solar panel system between railway tracks at the Banaras Locomotive Works (BLW), Varanasi. This initiative will enhance sustainability while utilizing unused track space for solar energy production.

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