

The week from 10th November 2025 to 16th November 2025

Raahul VS, at just 21 years old, became India's 91st Chess Grandmaster after winning the 6th ASEAN Individual Championship 2025 in the Philippines. Usually, players have to earn 3 GM norms, but winning certain titles provides a fast-track of sorts. Thus, it was with Raahul, who had one previous norm, but this title victory secured him Grandmaster status.

In a landmark move for workplace gender equity, the Karnataka government has approved the Menstrual Leave Policy 2025, granting one paid leave day per month. The policy applicable to Government offices, IT firms, multinational corporations, and industrial units makes Karnataka the first Indian state to introduce a mandatory and inclusive menstrual leave framework.

Mumbai has been ranked Asia's happiest city for 2025, according to a Time Out survey of over 18,000 residents across major Asian cities. The city topped in parameters like joy, community bonding, lifestyle, and street food culture, surpassing Beijing, Shanghai, and Chiang Mai.

Canadian-Hungarian-British author David Szalay has won the 2025 Booker Prize for his novel 'Flesh', which explores the life of Istvan, an emotionally distant Hungarian man, across decades and countries. Praised for its minimalist style, the novel delves into themes of class, migration, intimacy, and masculinity. Szalay, 51, became the first author of Hungarian heritage to win the prize.

The 11th edition of the India-Sri Lanka joint military exercise "Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2025" began on November 10, 2025, at the Foreign Training Node in Belagavi, Karnataka, and will continue till November 23. The exercise involves 170 Indian Army personnel from the Rajput Regiment and 135 Sri Lankan soldiers from the Gajaba Regiment, along with Air Force participants from both nations.

The 30th UN Climate Change Conference (COP30) began on November 10, 2025, in Belem, Brazil, bringing together over 190 countries to strengthen global climate commitments. Held near the Amazon rainforest, the summit focuses on fully implementing the Paris Agreement, mobilizing \$100 billion in climate finance, and protecting tropical forests.

President Droupadi Murmu was symbolically handed over eight cheetahs by her Botswana counterpart Duma Gideon Boko at a nature reserve near Gaborone on the last day of her state visit to Botswana. All eight cheetahs are expected to reach India in the next few weeks after completion of their quarantine process.

Japan and the United States have partnered to explore and mine deep-sea rare earth deposits near Minamitorishima, a remote Pacific island 1,900 km southeast of Tokyo. The seabed, at depths of 6,000 meters, contains rare earth elements vital for EVs, clean energy, and defense technologies. Pilot mining begins January 2026, targeting 350 tons of sediment daily by 2027.



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