

The week from 03 Nov 2025 to 09 Nov 2025

Gogabeel Lake, located in Bihar's Katihar district, has been declared India's 94th Ramsar site in November 2025, becoming the state's first community-managed wetland. This oxbow lake, formed between the Ganga and Mahananda rivers, serves as an important biodiversity hotspot and a habitat for migratory birds and aquatic life. With 94 Ramsar sites, India now ranks third globally after the UK and Mexico.

Maldives has become the world's first nation to ban tobacco and smoking for anyone born on or after January 1, 2007, including citizens and tourists. Retailers must verify age before sales, and violations invite heavy fines. This move, led by President Mohamed Muizzu, aligns with the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC).

Lucknow has been officially designated as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy during the 43rd UNESCO General Conference held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. The recognition celebrates the city's rich Awadhi cuisine, royal kitchen traditions, vibrant street food culture and ancestral cooking methods. Lucknow is now the second Indian city after Hyderabad to earn this global distinction, joining the ranks of 70 cities worldwide.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched GSAT-7R (CMS-03), India's heaviest communication satellite weighing 4,400 kg, from Sriharikota. Developed for the Indian Navy, it will enhance secure communication across the Indian Ocean Region. Launched aboard LVM3-M5, the mission also tested cryogenic stage re-ignition.

Democratic Socialist and New York State Assembly member Zohran Mamdani, aged 34, has made history by winning the New York City mayoral election, becoming the first Muslim and youngest mayor of NYC in a century. Born in Uganda, son of film-maker Mira Nair, Mamdani defeated former Governor Andrew Cuomo (backed by President Trump) and Republican candidate Curtis Sliwa.

Sweden has officially become the world's first fully cashless society in 2025, with almost all transactions now carried out through digital means. The mobile payment app Swish, launched in 2012, revolutionized real-time money transfers, making digital transactions effortless. To ensure financial stability, the central bank Riksbank has launched a pilot program for its digital currency, e-krona.

Google has announced Project Suncatcher, a bold plan to build solar-powered AI data centers in space. These satellites equipped with Tensor Processing Units (TPUs), will form an interconnected network in Earth's orbit and can generate up to eight times more energy than ground data centers, reducing pressure on land, water, and electricity. Google, in partnership with Planet Labs, plans to launch two prototype satellites by 2027.

Lando Norris delivered a dominant performance at the Mexico City Grand Prix 2025, reclaiming the Formula 1 World Championship lead from his McLaren teammate Oscar Piastri by a narrow one-point margin. Norris executed a bold long-run strategy to secure a 30-second lead over Ferrari's Charles Leclerc, while Max Verstappen finished third. Piastri placed fifth, allowing Norris to regain the top spot.



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