

The week from 08th February 2026 to 14th February 2026

The 39th Surajkund International Crafts Mela in Faridabad, Haryana, attracted visitors with traditional crafts, performances and cuisines under the theme “Vocal to Global.” Uttar Pradesh and Meghalaya are this year’s theme states, while Egypt joins as the partner nation. The event promotes artisan self-reliance, with cultural displays from over 20 Indian states.

Royal Challengers Bengaluru defeated Delhi Capitals by six wickets in Vadodara to win their second Women’s Premier League title. Chasing 204 — the highest successful chase in a WPL final — RCB sealed victory with two balls to spare. Smriti Mandhana’s explosive 87 and a 165-run stand with Georgia Voll powered a historic win after Delhi posted a record 203/4.

A giant female reticulated python discovered in Sulawesi, Indonesia, has been recognised by Guinness World Records as the longest measured snake in the world. The python, nicknamed “Ibu Baron,” measures 7.22 metres and was safely protected by local conservationists. Experts verified the record while ensuring animal welfare, highlighting Sulawesi’s rich biodiversity and conservation efforts.

The government has launched White Revolution 2.0, a cooperative-driven programme to expand dairy coverage and raise milk procurement by 50% over five years, targeting 1,007 lakh kg per day by 2028–29. The initiative plans to establish 75,000 new dairy cooperative societies and strengthen over 46,000 existing ones to improve farmer incomes and market access.

The United States has withdrawn the additional 25% tariff on Indian goods following India’s commitment to stop importing Russian oil. The decision restores previous trade terms and signals improved bilateral relations. The US will monitor compliance and may reimpose tariffs if India resumes such imports.

Russia has blocked WhatsApp, citing non-compliance with domestic digital laws and affecting nearly 100 million users. The Kremlin said the platform failed to meet legal requirements on data and oversight. Authorities are urging citizens to shift to Max, a state-supported messaging alternative. The move reflects Moscow’s growing push for digital sovereignty and tighter control over online communications.

Bulgarian President Iliana Yotova has appointed central bank deputy governor Andrey Gyurov as interim prime minister to oversee national elections scheduled for April 19. The caretaker government will focus on conducting a free and fair vote amid prolonged political instability. The move follows repeated coalition failures and mass protests over corruption and governance.

Researchers at Wageningen University and Research, Netherlands, have created ‘compleximer’, a novel material blending the qualities of plastic and glass. The amber-hued substance can be moulded and blown like glass when heated, yet remains impact-resistant like plastic. Its slow melting behaviour enables easy shaping, defying conventional expectations of glassy materials.



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xpress minds