

The week from 4 May 2026 to 10 May 2026

GalaxEye successfully launched Mission Drishti, the world's first OptoSAR satellite, aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 from Vandenberg Space Force Base on 3 May 2026. The 190 kg satellite combines electro-optical and SAR imaging for 24/7 all-weather Earth observation, supporting defence, agriculture, disaster management, maritime monitoring, and infrastructure planning.

The Indian national badminton team ended its title defence with a 0–3 semi-final defeat to the French national badminton team, securing bronze at the Thomas Cup. Losses by Ayush Shetty, Kidambi Srikanth, and H. S. Prannoy, along with Lakshya Sen's absence through injury, proved decisive as France reached its maiden final.

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands set a Guinness World Record by unfurling a 60×40 metre Indian Tricolour underwater at Radhanagar Beach. The feat involved over 200 divers from multiple agencies, including the Navy and Coast Guard, while also showcasing Swaraj Dweep (formerly known as Havelock Island) as a leading global hub for scuba diving and adventure tourism.

Sikkim has become India's first fully paperless judiciary, as announced by Justice Surya Kant during a conclave in Gangtok. Powered by the e-Courts project and AI tools like SUPACE, the digital system enables remote filing, real-time case tracking, faster processing, greater transparency, and improved access to justice across the Himalayan state.

A subsurface microbial ecosystem was discovered beneath the Atacama Desert, including bacteria, archaea, and DNA traces nearly two metres underground. As Earth's driest hot desert and a key Mars analogue, the Atacama offers crucial insights into how life might survive in extreme environments. The findings strengthen hopes of detecting possible subsurface microbial life on Mars.

The National Stock Exchange of India has introduced Electronic Gold Receipts (EGRs), for trading in gold digitally through a regulated exchange platform. Backed by physical gold stored with SEBI-accredited vault managers, EGRs offer secure dematerialised trading, direct ownership, and optional physical delivery, while improving liquidity and accessibility compared to Gold ETFs.

Wu Yize won the 2026 World Snooker Championship title after defeating veteran Shaun Murphy in a dominant final. Hailed as a generational shift in the sport, Wu's triumph makes him one of the youngest world champions and is expected to fuel snooker's growing popularity across Asia.



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