

## **TEC & IIT Bombay Sign MoU: Advancing 6G, AI, and India's Telecom Standardisation IN**

- Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) (technical arm, Department of Telecommunications) signed MoU with Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) (7 Nov 2025) for collaboration on joint studies, research, technical contributions in advanced telecom technologies, global standardisation activities
- Key areas: develop India-specific telecom standards and test frameworks; explore future network technologies (6G, AI, NGN, VoIP); enhance India's participation in ITU-T (International Telecommunication Union–Telecommunication Standardization Sector) Study Groups and 3GPP
- Strategic goal: accelerate indigenous R&D, increase India's influence in global standardisation bodies; strengthen Atmanirbhar Bharat vision by developing home-grown solutions, reducing import dependence, securing critical communications infrastructure
- TEC mandate: formulates technical standards, specifications, conformity assessment for telecom equipment/networks in India, ensuring interoperability, quality, global best practices; IIT Bombay: recognised Institute of Eminence, strong capabilities in 5G/6G, AI telecommunications applications, NGN

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## **PHDCCI-Busan Chamber MoU: India-South Korea Trade & Investment Pact**

- PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) signed MoU with Busan Chamber of Commerce and Industry to strengthen bilateral trade and industrial collaboration between India and South Korea
- Collaboration sectors: manufacturing, clean energy, digital technology, maritime logistics, emerging industries; facilitates business exchanges, investments, knowledge sharing
- Busan positioning: transforming into global hub for smart logistics, EVs, digital technology; India's rapid economic growth and strong manufacturing capacity present valuable collaboration opportunities

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## **Indian Hockey Centenary Celebration: 100 Years of Excellence & Resurgence IN**

- 100 Years of Indian Hockey celebrated nationwide on 7 Nov 2025 at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi with 1,000+ exhibition matches across 500 districts engaging 36,000+ players; graced by Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, FIH President Dato Tayyab Ikram, and hockey legends

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- Centenary significance: honours hockey's journey from 1925 to present-day resurgence; 8 Olympic gold medals (1928–1956), bronze in Tokyo 2020, Paris 2024; IAF operating at lowest squadron strength in 60 years; next FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2025 hosting in Tamil Nadu
- Exhibition match: Sports Ministry XI (led by Dr. Mandaviya) defeated Hockey India XI (led by Dr. Dilip Tirkey) 3–1; goals from Beauty Dungdung, Salima Tete, Krishna Pathak vs. Manpreet Singh
- Legend felicitation: honoured Gurbux Singh, Harbinder Singh, Ajith Pal Singh, Ashok Kumar, B.P. Govinda, Aslam Sher Khan, Zafar Iqbal, and others; launched commemorative "100 Years of Indian Hockey" book and photo exhibition spanning 1928 Amsterdam Olympics to present

## Hurun India Top 10 Philanthropists 2025: Shiv Nadar Leads with ₹2,708 Crore

- EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2025 reveals India's 191 philanthropists (12 first-time entrants) collectively donated ₹10,380 crore in FY25—85% rise over 3 years
- Top 5: (1) Shiv Nadar (HCL founder, ₹2,708 crore, 4th of 5 years leading list—education/social development), (2) Mukesh Ambani (Reliance, ₹626 crore), (3) Uday Kotak (Kotak Bank), (4) Kumar Mangalam Birla (Aditya Birla Group), (5) Gautam Adani (Adani Group)
- Notable movers: Sudhir & Samir Mehta (UNM Foundation) jumped 9 places to #9 (₹189 crore, 69% YoY jump), Nikhil & Nithin Kamath (Zerodha, youngest) donated ₹147 crore, Rohini Nilekani (#8, India's most generous woman, ₹204 crore), A.M. Naik (ex-L&T, ₹54 crore), Amit & Archana Chandra (₹47 crore), venture capitalists Prashanth & Amitha Prashanth (₹17 crore)
- Top 25 aggregated: ₹50,000 crore over 3 years—₹46 crore per day; reflects India's emerging philanthropic culture amid wealth creation across tech, manufacturing, finance sectors

## HAL Signs \$1 Billion GE Aerospace Deal: 113 F404 Engines for 97 Tejas Mk1A Jets IN

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) signed \$1 billion agreement with GE Aerospace (7 Nov 2025) for 113 F404-GE-IN20 jet engines supplying 97 Tejas Mk1A aircraft (68 single-seat fighters, 29 twin-seat trainers); deliveries 2027–2032
- Engine specifications: F404-GE-IN20 produces 19,000 lbf (85 kN) maximum afterburner thrust, highest in F404 family; incorporates latest hot-section materials, FADEC system ensuring reliable power/performance
- Mk1A programme timeline: First tranche (83 aircraft) ordered FY21 for ₹36,400 crore, initial target Feb 2028 (missed due to GE engine delays); currently ~10 aircraft assembled using reserve engines, 4 undergoing testing, HAL targeting 12 deliveries by March 2026; Second tranche (97 aircraft) ordered Sept 2025 for ₹62,370+ crore

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- IAF context: Indian Air Force operating at lowest squadron strength in 60 decades, no Mk1A received yet; deliveries post weapons-firing trials completion; GE restarted Boston production line (closed 5 years) supplying engines at 2/month accelerating to 3–5/month trajectory
- Atmanirbhar angle: Caveri engine development (homegrown turbofan) progressing; GE exploring F414 production plant in India with HAL and partners for future LCA Mk2 and export variants—building India's long-term engine independence

## **C-DOT & IIT Gandhinagar: Centre of Excellence for Next-Gen Telecom Innovation**

- Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) and IIT Gandhinagar signed MoU (Saturday) establishing Centre of Excellence (CoE) promoting cutting-edge research, innovation, development of indigenous telecom and cybersecurity solutions aligned with Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat vision
- Research focus: Mobile Communications, Cyber Security, Quantum Communication, Advanced AI, Advanced Telecom Applications; hub for fundamental + applied research, leveraging C-DOT expertise with IIT-GN academic excellence
- Collaborative mandate: facilitate IIT Gandhinagar students, faculty, researchers + C-DOT researchers collaboration in Telecom and Information & Communication Technology (ICT) domains; community-driven problem-solving via emerging technologies; support startup incubation, mentoring, industry/academia partnerships
- Capacity building: training, skilling programmes aligned with national telecom, semiconductor, digital transformation missions; scholarly publications, patent filing, seminars, joint product development for industry-ready workforce

## **NHAI-Google India Partnership: Real-Time Highway Safety & Connectivity Data**

- National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) collaborated with Google India to enhance highway safety and user convenience via Google Maps integration, powered by API Setu (digital backbone)
- Data sharing: NHAI provides near real-time authoritative highway information (wayside amenities—restrooms, eateries, petrol stations; temporary road closures, diversions, accident-prone areas) enabling public alerts before route navigation
- Google Maps features (India-first rollouts): Accident-Prone Area Alerts (visual/voice warnings, Gurugram, Cyberabad, Chandigarh, Faridabad), Proactive Traffic Alerts (major disruptions, Android users, New Delhi/Mumbai/Bangalore), Official Speed Limits (9 cities—Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, etc.), Gemini AI assistance in 9 Indian languages (contextual suggestions, place information)

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- Strategic outcome: transforms highways into smart, data-enabled corridors; leverages AI + government partnerships for transparent, user-centric travel experiences

## Tamil Nadu Launches India's First "Women's Wellness on Wheels" for Cancer Screening

- Tamil Nadu introduced ₹41-crore "Women Wellness in Week (WWW)" initiative, deploying 38 mobile medical units across all districts for free breast and cervical cancer screening; Chief Minister M.K. Stalin to inaugurate within 10 days
- Mobile unit features: fully-equipped clinics with diagnostic imaging, Pap smears, breast examinations, staffed by trained healthcare workers; focus on rural and semi-urban women lacking hospital access; conduct exclusive community screening camps
- Complementary initiative: ₹36-crore free HPV vaccination drive for girls under 14 years (Government schools, PHCs, private hospitals via Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation) preventing cervical cancer; also includes Girl Child Protection Scheme expansion (₹50,000 distribution at 18 years, income limit raised to ₹1.2 lakh)
- Health Minister Ma Subramanian: "Accessible screening critical for equitable preventive care; mobile units first-of-their-kind in India"—positions Tamil Nadu as national public health innovation model

## Quad Naval Exercise Malabar 2025: Four-Nation Indo-Pacific Manoeuvres in Guam

- Exercise Malabar 2025 (10–18 Nov, Guam, Northern Pacific) brings together India, USA, Australia, Japan navies amid post-Trump election questions over Quad alliance's future
- Phases: Harbour phase (10–12 Nov): operational planning, communication alignment, familiarisation visits, sporting events; Sea phase (13–17 Nov): complex naval drills (joint fleet operations, anti-submarine warfare, gunnery exercises, flying operations)
- Indian Navy deployment: INS Sahyadri, indigenously-designed guided-missile stealth frigate, arrived for participation
- Malabar history: began 1992 as bilateral India-US initiative, evolved into major multilateral Indo-Pacific maritime exercise; reinforces four-nation commitment to regional stability, freedom of navigation

## PM Modi Flags Off Four Vande Bharat Express Trains from Varanasi IN

- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated four new Vande Bharat Express trains from Varanasi Railway Station (virtually for 3 routes);

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nationwide network now 160+ Vande Bharat operating, emphasising next-generation Indian Railways transformation

- New routes & benefits:
- Banaras–Khajuraho Vande Bharat: saves 2 hours 40 minutes; connects Varanasi, Prayagraj, Chitrakoot, Khajuraho (religious/cultural destinations)
- Lucknow–Saharanpur Vande Bharat: ~7 hours 45 minutes (saves ~1 hour), connects Lucknow, Sitapur, Bareilly, Moradabad, Haridwar via Roorkee
- Ferozpur–Delhi Vande Bharat: fastest on route, 6 hours 40 minutes, strengthens Ferozpur, Bathinda, Patiala connectivity
- Ernakulam–Bengaluru Vande Bharat: reduces travel by 2+ hours (8 hours 40 minutes), connects IT/commercial hubs
- Strategic messaging: infrastructure drives regional development; Vande Bharat represents India's evolution into modern, efficient, globally-competitive railway ecosystem; Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, UP CM Yogi Adityanath attended event

### **PM Modi Inaugurates Legal Aid Conference IN**

- PM Modi inaugurated National Conference on Strengthening Legal Aid Delivery Mechanisms at Supreme Court (8 Nov)
- Launched Community Mediation Training Module by NALSA
- ~8 lakh criminal cases resolved via Legal Aid Defence Counsel System
- NALSA budget increased to ₹400 crore
- Tech enablement via eCourts project (₹7,000 crore Phase 3)

### **National Urban Conclave Targets Zero Dumpsites**

- Union Housing Minister Manohar Lal inaugurated National Urban Conclave 2025
- Dumpsite Remediation Accelerator Programme (DRAP) launched
- 1,428 sites undergoing remediation covering 8.8 crore metric tonnes waste
- "Lakshya Zero Dumpsites" targets completion by September 2026
- 50% land reclaimed (7,580 acres)

### **Salman Rushdie Receives Literary Peace Prize**

- Author Salman Rushdie (78) honoured with Dayton Literary Peace Prize
- Published acclaimed 2024 memoir "Knife"
- 1989 Iran fatwa on "The Satanic Verses" forced decades of hiding
- 2022 attacker Hadi Matar sentenced to 25 years

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- Award ceremony held in Ohio
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### ▣ Gujarat Launches Tribal Genome Project ▣

- Gujarat first state launching genome sequencing targeting tribal communities
  - Sampling DNA from 31 tribal communities across 11 districts
  - Low-cost DNA panels (~₹1,000–1,500)
  - GBRC achieves 25–50 genomes/run, 48–72-hour turnaround
  - Enables precision medicine and carrier identification
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### 🌐 World Science Day Celebrates 2050 Vision 🏭

- World Science Day (10 November) marks 24 years since UNESCO's proclamation
- 2025 Theme: "Trust, Transformation, and Tomorrow"
- Global celebrations at UNESCO General Conference in Samarkand
- Activities: science fairs, labs open-days, art-science collaborations
- Advances toward 2050 Sustainable Development Goals

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