

Sahitya Akademi Children's Literature Awards 2025 Across 24

Languages IN

- Sahitya Akademi presented Children's Literature Awards 2025 (14 Nov 2025) at Triveni Auditorium, Delhi, awarded by Academy President Madhav Kaushik
- Chief Guest: renowned Gujarati author Varsha Das; Vice President Kumud Sharma delivered vote of thanks; Secretary Pallavi Prashant Holkar gave welcome address
- Awards across 24 languages: Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Rajasthani, Sanskrit, Santali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu
- Notable winners: English—Nitin Kushlappa MP ("South: South Indian Myths and Fables Retold"), Hindi—Susheel Shukla ("Ek Bate Barah"), Tamil—Vishnu Puram Sarvanan ("Otrai Siragu Oviya"), Gujarati—Kirtida Brahmhatt ("Tinchak"), Marathi—Suresh Govindrao Sawant ("Abhayamaya")
- Prize details: Each winner received ₹50,000 cheque and bronze plaque honoring their contributions to children's literature
- 14–15 Nov: Winners' meet at Ravindra Bhavan (Firoz Shah Road) where laureates discussed creative experiences; Vice President Kumud Sharma presided

PhonePe Partners with OpenAI: ChatGPT Access for Indian Users at Scale

- PhonePe announced strategic collaboration with OpenAI (13 Nov 2025) to bring ChatGPT features to Indian users at scale across PhonePe ecosystem
- Integration: ChatGPT discoverable on PhonePe consumer app and PhonePe For Business app, leveraging Indus Appstore and broader ecosystem
- Use cases: travel planning, shopping, everyday information needs enhanced with AI-powered smarter recommendations
- PhonePe scale: 61 crore registered users, 4.4 crore merchant acceptance network as of March 2025; offers payments, financial services, marketplace solutions
- Founder Rahul Chari: "Collaboration demonstrates how innovative companies can expand cutting-edge technology reach to broader population"
- OpenAI Head Oliver Jay: "Partnership significant milestone in making AI more accessible across India; PhonePe ideal partner understanding India's user fabric"
- Aligns with India's generative AI adoption and consumer technology accessibility goals

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🎵 Federal Bank Launches "Bharat Surotsav": Dance-Music Fusion

Cultural Festival

- Federal Bank unveiled "Bharat Surotsav" (signature cultural IP), a dance and music fusion festival celebrating India's artistic heritage
- Inaugural edition: 22 November at Madras Music Academy, Chennai; features Padma Shri Shobana, Agam Band (Carnatic-rock pioneers), Charumathi Raghuraman, sitar maestro Ravi Chari
- Concept: blending finance with "finer rhythms of life"; celebrating India's artistic traditions uniting generations, inspiring pride, sparking creativity
- Customer benefits: 15% discount on tickets via Federal Bank Debit/Credit Cards (max ₹200 per booking) through BookMyShow; valid once per card
- Expansion plan: Each city series features local artists reflecting regional cultural ethos, creating emotional connection, fostering regional pride
- CMO MVS Murthy: "Bharat Surotsav honours India's creative pulse while offering unforgettable cultural experience connecting emotionally with brand"

📁 DFS Launches Startup Common Application Portal on Jan Samarth

- Department of Financial Services (DFS) launched Startup Common Application Journey on Jan Samarth Portal (public sector banks review, New Delhi)
- Single digital platform: enables startups to access credit across all PSBs, apply for loans, compare offers, track applications seamlessly
- Loan amount: up to ₹20 crores under Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS by NCGTC) by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- Data integration: platform integrates PAN, GST, Udyam, ITRs, Credit Bureau data, ensuring faster processing and transparency
- Women entrepreneur support: special interest concessions promoting inclusivity
- Portal access: available at <https://www.jansamarth.in/business-loan-startup-scheme>
- Reinforces government's commitment to empowering entrepreneurs aligned with Viksit Bharat 2047 vision

📊 Moody's: India's 6.5% GDP Growth Sustained Till 2027 via

Infrastructure & Consumption IN

- Moody's Ratings projects India's average annual economic growth of 6.5% through 2027 in Global Macro Outlook
- Growth forecasts: 2025: 7%, 2026: 6.4%, 2027: 6.5%; India among fastest-growing G20 economies alongside Brazil (2%)

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- Key drivers: robust infrastructure spending, resilient household consumption, stable domestic demand, export diversification
- Private sector caution: corporate capital spending lags despite strong macro indicators; businesses cautious about large expansions
- Export resilience: amid 50% US tariffs, Indian exporters grew shipments 6.75% in September (US exports down 12%); successful trade redirection
- Inflation outlook: 2.8% (2025), 3.5% (2026), 4% (2027); October inflation record low 0.25% on easing food prices, GST cuts
- Global context: G20 growth 2.5–2.6% (2026–27); emerging markets ~4%, advanced economies ~1.5%
- Risk factors: geopolitical tensions, trade disruptions, political instability, diverging monetary policies, bond market volatility, rapid tech displacement

NSDL Launches Unified Digital Platform for Foreign Investors

- National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) launched unified digital platform combining FPI (Foreign Portfolio Investor) and FVCI (Foreign Venture Capital Investor) registration (7 Nov 2025)
- Unveiled by SEBI Executive Director Dr. Ruchi Chojer at NSDL's 9th Designated Depository Participants Conference, Mumbai
- Key features: Guided workflows, single-window interface, real-time application tracking, audit trails, API-automated PAN processing (1–2 days), scalable Angular/.NET Core/SQL Server tech stack
- Streamlines operations: eliminates redundant logins, manual procedures, provides transparent, efficient access to Indian equities, bonds, mutual funds, venture capital funds, unlisted startups
- Benefits: 3–5 second load times, reduced administrative complexity, enhances India's position as investor-friendly capital market hub

JSW Energy Commissions India's Largest Green Hydrogen Plant IN

- JSW Energy Limited commissioned India's first and largest green hydrogen manufacturing plant at JSW Steel facility, Vijayanagar, Karnataka (10 Nov 2025)
- Production capacity: 3,800 tons per annum (TPA) green hydrogen, 30,000 TPA green oxygen under 7-year offtake agreement with JSW Steel
- Project framework: under Production Linked Incentive Scheme – Tranche I, National Green Hydrogen Mission; part of 6,800 TPA allocation under SECI's SIGHT (Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition) program
- Future expansion: MoU signed with JSW Steel to scale supply to 85,000–90,000 TPA green hydrogen, 720,000 TPA green oxygen by 2030; aligns with India's 5 MTPA target by 2030

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- JSW Energy capacity: 30.5 GW locked-in generation (13.3 GW operational, 12.5 GW under construction), 29.4 GWh energy storage; targets 30 GW + 40 GWh by FY 2030, carbon neutral by 2050

Cabinet Approves Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters (CGSE)

₹20,000 Crore

- Union Cabinet approved Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters (CGSE) providing 100% credit guarantee coverage by NCGTC to Member Lending Institutions for ₹20,000 crore additional credit to eligible exporters, including MSMEs
- Implementation: by Department of Financial Services (DFS) through NCGTC; Management Committee chaired by DFS Secretary oversees progress
- Expected impact: enhance global competitiveness, market diversification, collateral-free credit access, liquidity support, reinforce USD 1 trillion export target, Aatmanirbhar Bharat journey
- Context: exports 21% of GDP (FY24-25), employ 45 million people, MSMEs contribute 45% of total exports; sustained growth supports current account balance, macroeconomic stability

Watershed Mahotsav & Mission Watershed Revitalisation Launched in Guntur

- Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated 'Watershed Mahotsav' at Loyola Public School Grounds, Nallapadu, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh (11 Nov 2025)
- Event part of National Watershed Conference (10–11 Nov) organised by Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, in collaboration with Government of Andhra Pradesh
- Conference agenda: review Watershed Development Component (WDC) progress under PMKSY 2.0; deliberate on future roadmap beyond 2026; launch Mission Watershed Revitalisation restoring assets from previous projects
- Mahotsav activities: recognition of Watershed Jan Bhagidari Cup 2025 winners, inauguration of completed works, foundation laying, shramdaan (voluntary labour), tree plantation, participatory initiatives
- Mission Revitalisation: provides renewed direction for soil/water conservation structures maintenance and repair under WDC-PMKSY 1.0; implementation via MGNREGA funding support
- Attendees: Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani (MoS Rural Development), Konidela Pawan Kalyan (Deputy CM, AP), policymakers, scientists, NGO representatives

NHA Renews MoU with DHR and ICMR for Health Technology

Assessment

- National Health Authority (NHA) renewed MoU with Department of Health Research (DHR) and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) (10 Nov 2025)
- Renewed collaboration: strengthens technical cooperation for evidence-based decision-making optimizing healthcare resource allocation, enhancing quality across AB-PMJAY and Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)
- Signatories: Dr. Sunil Kumar Barnwal (CEO, NHA), Dr. Rajiv Bahl (Secretary DHR, DG ICMR); representatives from Red Cross Society present
- Original partnership: established November 2019; successfully leveraged Health Technology Assessment (HTA) principles optimizing Health Benefit Packages (HBPs) under AB-PMJAY
- Expanded scope: collaboration extends to ABDM evaluating digital health interventions (EHRs, telemedicine, AI diagnostics) ensuring affordability, efficiency, sustainability
- Key collaboration areas: Healthcare service costing (National Costing Initiative), Standard Treatment Workflows (STWs), operational research addressing implementation challenges, patient safety, healthcare delivery strengthening

Collins Aerospace Opens ₹830 Crore Manufacturing Facility in Bengaluru IN

- RTX subsidiary Collins Aerospace opened Collins India Operations Center (CIOC) at KIABD Aerospace Park, Bengaluru at \$100 million investment (14 Nov 2025)
- Advanced facility: spreads across 26-acre land, manufactures seats, lighting, cargo systems, temperature sensors, communication/navigation systems, water solutions, evacuation slides
- Technology integration: equipped with AI, additive manufacturing, robotics; will employ 2,200+ people by 2026
- Operational scope: drives operations for 70+ Collins products enhancing worldwide service transformation, operational excellence
- Investment context: part of RTX's ₹1,875 crore India investment plan announced 5 years ago; prior investments: ₹750 crore engineering/test centre, ₹375 crore Pratt & Whitney engineering centre
- Workforce: Collins Aerospace now employs 6,500+ across India (engineering, digital, manufacturing, operations, supply chain)

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Gateway of Guwahati: India's First Floating Terminal Inaugurated IN

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated Gateway of Guwahati Terminal and Jetty (11 Nov 2025), India's first-of-its-kind floating riverine terminal on Brahmaputra River
- Project cost: ₹304.95 crore by Assam Inland Water Transport Development Society
- Infrastructure: terminal building with integrated command & control centre, observatory lounge, STP, advanced fire safety systems
- Functions: vital multimodal hub enhancing connectivity, tourism promotion, water-based urban mobility
- Complementary project: Brahmaputra Riverfront (Guwahati Smart City) inaugurated on 1.2-km stretch featuring boulevard, landscaped gardens, cycling tracks, children's play areas, health parks, commercial zones
- Industrial synergy: TATA Semiconductor Assembly & Test project announced at Jagiroad, Morigaon alongside startup/entrepreneurship initiatives

India's First MWh-Scale Vanadium Redox Flow Battery Inaugurated IN

- Union Minister Manohar Lal inaugurated India's largest MWh-scale Vanadium Redox Flow Battery (VRFB) system of 3 MWh capacity at NTPC NETRA R&D Centre, Greater Noida (11 Nov 2025)
- Battery technology: contemporary alternative to lithium-ion batteries, diversifies element sourcing for battery systems, enables long-duration energy storage (LDES)
- Strategic importance: enhances renewable energy integration, grid resilience, addresses energy transition and security challenges
- NTPC innovation portfolio: also demonstrated Green Hydrogen Mobility Plant, STP Water-based Green Hydrogen Plant, Solid Oxide High-Temperature Electrolyzer, MSW-based Gasification Plant, AC Microgrid (4 MWp/1 MWh), NABL-accredited laboratories

IndiGo Signs Codeshare Partnership with China Southern Airlines CN

- IndiGo signed Memorandum of Understanding with China Southern Airlines (11 Nov 2025) to establish codeshare partnership and mutual cooperation agreement, subject to regulatory approvals
- Network expansion: China Southern gains ability to market seats on select IndiGo routes across India; IndiGo passengers access China Southern's network beyond Guangzhou hub
- Passenger benefits: single-ticket booking, seamless check-in, coordinated schedules, through check-in services, integrating India-China travel experiences
- Recent connectivity: IndiGo resumed direct flights Kolkata-Guangzhou (27 Oct 2025) and Delhi-Guangzhou (10 Nov 2025) after 5-year suspension; first Indian carrier to reinstate China services

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- Economic impact: eliminates 24-hour transit delays, cuts freight costs 15–20% vs. rerouting via Singapore/Bangkok/Hong Kong
- Regional growth: India becoming fastest-growing major aviation market from 2026; partnership unlocks tourism, trade, cultural exchanges

Shailesh Chandra Becomes OICA President: First from India IN

- Shailesh Chandra, MD & CEO of Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (EV arm), elected President of OICA (International Organisation of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers), becoming first OICA President from India
- Background: Mechanical Engineering graduate from IIT Varanasi, Executive-MBA from SP Jain, Fulbright-Nehru Fellow at Carnegie Mellon; 20+ years automotive experience including corporate strategy & EV leadership
- Leadership credentials: renowned for Tata Motors PV turnaround and pioneering EV vision propelling company to India's electric mobility forefront; honoured as Man of the Year 2020 and Automobile CEO of the Year
- Vice President: Hildegard Müller, President of VDA (German automotive association), former German State Minister and energy/water chairman
- OICA role: worldwide federation representing 36 national automotive associations influencing global mobility, environment, safety, economy policies; active in UN vehicle harmonisation, production/sales statistics, motor show coordination

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