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DISTANCE BETWEEN DREAM AND REALITY

02-11-2026





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TODAY NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- World Boxing U19 Championship 2026: India's Aditya wins gold, country bags 4 medals in total
- Sanmar Group Chairman Vijay Shankar elected President-elect of FICCI
- Sunil Bharti Mittal was awarded France's highest civilian honour, the Legion of Honour.
- NASA astronaut Anil Menon completes fourth spacewalk, America's 100th spacewalk on the ISS
- ISRO successfully launches NVS-03 satellite from GSLV-F18, strengthening India's indigenous NavIC system
- Renowned British actor Sir Patrick Stewart dies at 86
- Ganges River Dolphin Conservation Project included in UN World Restoration Flagship in UNEP's 'Nature's Comeback' report
- The Central Government has constituted the National Social Security Board for gig and platform workers.

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1. World Boxing U19 Championships 2026: India's Aditya Wins Gold; Nation Secures a Total of 4 Medals



The World Boxing U19 Championships 2026 were held in Budva, Montenegro, featuring 474 participants. India secured a total of 4 medals (1 gold, 1 silver, and 2 bronze). Aditya won the gold medal in the men's 55kg category by defeating Russia's Islam Magomedov 4-1, while Megha Shyokand earned a silver medal in the women's 80kg category. Harshika and Prachi Tokas won bronze medals. Russia topped the medal tally with 5 gold medals.

2. Vijay Sankar, Chairman of the Sanmar Group, Named President-Elect of FICCI



On October 29, 2026, FICCI appointed Vijay Sankar, Chairman of the Sanmar Group, as President-Elect for the year 2026-27. Currently serving as the Senior Vice-President of FICCI, he will succeed Anant Goenka following the Annual General Meeting (AGM) scheduled for November 18–19, 2026. Established in 1927 through the efforts of G.D. Birla and Purushottamdas Thakurdas, FICCI is headquartered in New Delhi. It is a non-governmental, non-profit industry organization that fosters industrial development, investment, trade, and entrepreneurship by acting as a bridge between the government and the industrial sector.

3. Sunil Bharti Mittal Honored with France's Highest Civilian Award, the 'Legion of Honour'



Sunil Bharti Mittal, Founder and Chairman of Bharti Enterprises, has been awarded France's highest civilian honor, the 'Legion of Honour' (Chevalier rank), for his contributions to economic and technical relations between India and France. The honor was presented by Dr. Thierry Mathou, Ambassador of France to India. The Legion of Honour was established by Napoleon Bonaparte on May 19, 1802, and the President of France serves as its Grand Master. Sunil Bharti Mittal received this recognition for his contributions to the fields of telecommunications, digital and satellite communications, and for fostering business collaborations with French companies.

4. NASA Astronaut Anil Menon Completes Fourth Spacewalk; Marks 100th U.S. Spacewalk at the ISS



On October 29, 2026, NASA astronaut Anil Menon—an American of Indian-Ukrainian descent—conducted his fourth spacewalk alongside Canadian astronaut Joshua Kutryk. This mission marked the 100th U.S. spacewalk at the International Space Station (ISS). The primary objective of the mission was to install new Roll-Out Solar Arrays (ROSA) on the ISS, which convert sunlight into electrical energy. In scientific terminology, a spacewalk is known as an Extravehicular Activity (EVA), during which astronauts perform tasks outside of a spacecraft or space station.

5. ISRO Successfully Launches NVS-03 Satellite via GSLV-F18; India's Indigenous NavIC System to be Strengthened



On October 30, 2026, ISRO successfully launched the second-generation navigation satellite, NVS-03, using a GSLV-F18 rocket from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. The NVS-03 has been developed to enhance the capability and reliability of India's indigenous satellite navigation system, NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation). It incorporates technologies such as L1, L5, and S frequency bands, as well as an indigenous rubidium atomic clock, which facilitate precise Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) services.

6. Renowned British Actor Sir Patrick Stewart Passes Away at Age 86



Renowned British actor Sir Patrick Stewart passed away on October 28, 2026, at the age of 86. He was best known for his roles as Captain Jean-Luc Picard in *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and Professor Charles Xavier in the *X-Men* film series. Born on July 13, 1940, in West Yorkshire, England, he joined the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) in 1966. He received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1996 and was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2010. He was also the recipient of two Laurence Olivier Awards and a Grammy Award.

7. Ganga River Dolphin Conservation Project Included as a UN World Restoration Flagship in UNEP's 'Nature's Comeback' Report



India's Ganga River Dolphin Conservation Project has been included among 35 UN World Restoration Flagships in the UNEP report, "Nature's Comeback: Scaling Ecosystem Restoration for People and Planet." The Ganga River Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*) is a freshwater species classified as 'Endangered' on the IUCN Red List; it was declared India's National Aquatic Animal in 2009. India's Dolphin Conservation Action Plan (2022–2047) focuses on habitat conservation, population monitoring, pollution control, and supporting the livelihoods of local communities.

8. Central Government Constitutes National Social Security Board for Gig and Platform Workers



On October 30, 2026, the Ministry of Labour and Employment issued a notification for the constitution of a National Social Security Board for unorganized, gig, and platform workers, under the Code on Social Security, 2020. The Board will be chaired by the Union Minister for Labour and Employment and will include representatives from the central and state governments, aggregators, employers, trade unions, and workers' organizations. The primary functions of the Board include recommending social security schemes for workers, monitoring their implementation, and providing policy advice to the central government.

1. How many medals did India win in total at the 2026 World Boxing U19 Championships?

A - 2 B - 3

C - 4 D - 5



The 2026 World Boxing U19 Championships were held in Budva, Montenegro, where India won a total of 4 medals—1 gold, 1 silver, and 2 bronze. Aditya won gold in the men's 55 kg category, Megha Shyokand won silver in the women's 80 kg category, and Harshika and Prachi Tokas won bronze medals. Russia topped the tally with 5 gold medals.

2. Whom has FICCI appointed as President-elect for the year 2026-27?

A - Anant Goenka B - Vijay Sankar

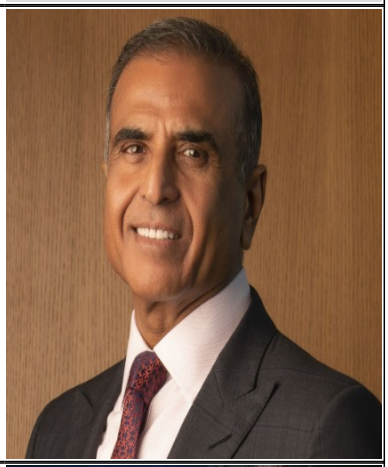
C - Sanjiv Mehta D - Sanjay Nayar

On October 29, 2026, FICCI appointed Vijay Sankar, Chairman of the Sanmar Group, as President-elect for the year 2026-27; he will succeed Anant Goenka following the Annual General Meeting. FICCI was established in 1927 through the efforts of G.D. Birla and Purushottamdas Thakurdas, and its headquarters is located in New Delhi.

3. Which of France's highest civilian honors was Sunil Bharti Mittal awarded?

A - Order of Merit B - Legion of Honour

C - Order of the British Empire D - Grand Cross of Merit



Sunil Bharti Mittal, founder and chairman of Bharti Enterprises, was awarded the 'Chevalier' (Knight) rank of the 'Legion of Honour'—France's highest civilian honour—for his contributions to Indo-French economic and technical relations. This honour was established by Napoleon Bonaparte on May 19, 1802, and the President of France serves as its Grand Master.

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4. Which spacewalk did NASA astronaut Anil Menon perform on October 29, 2026?

A - Second B - Third

C - Fourth D - Fifth



On October 29, 2026, NASA astronaut Anil Menon, alongside Canadian astronaut Joshua Kutryk, performed his fourth spacewalk—which also marked the 100th American spacewalk at the International Space Station (ISS). The objective was to install new Roll-Out Solar Arrays (ROSA); once all eight solar arrays are installed, the ISS's power generation capacity will increase from 160 kilowatts to approximately 215 kilowatts.

5. Which navigation satellite did ISRO launch on October 30, 2026?

A - NVS-01 **B - NVS-02**

C - NVS-03 **D - GSAT-03**



On October 30, 2026, ISRO successfully launched the second-generation navigation satellite, NVS-03, using a GSLV-F18 rocket from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. This satellite will strengthen India's indigenous navigation system, NavIC, and incorporates an indigenous rubidium atomic clock along with L1, L5, and S frequency bands.

6. Which character did Sir Patrick Stewart portray in the 'X-Men' film series?

A - Magneto **B - Wolverine**

C - Professor Charles Xavier **D - Mr. Fantastic**

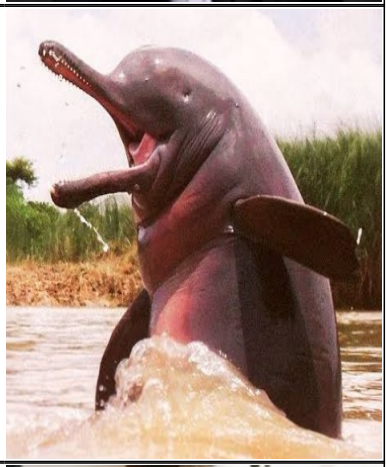


Renowned British actor Sir Patrick Stewart passed away on October 28, 2026, at the age of 86. He was well-known for his roles as Captain Jean-Luc Picard in *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and Professor Charles Xavier in the *X-Men* film series. He received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1996 and was knighted in 2010; he was also a recipient of two Laurence Olivier Awards and a Grammy Award.

7. India's Ganges River Dolphin Conservation Project has been included as one of the 35 'World Restoration Flagship' projects by which organization?

A - UNESCO **B - UNEP**

C - WWF **D - IUCN**



In the UNEP report titled "Nature's Comeback: Scaling Ecosystem Restoration for People and Planet," India's Ganges River Dolphin conservation project has been included among the 35 UN World Restoration Flagship projects. The Ganges River Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*) is classified as 'Endangered' on the IUCN Red List and was declared India's National Aquatic Animal in 2009.

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8. Who will chair the National Social Security Board?

A - Union Finance Minister **B - Union Home Minister**

C - Union Minister of Labour and Employment **D - Union Minister of Social Justice**



On October 30, 2026, the Ministry of Labour and Employment issued a notification for the constitution of a National Social Security Board for unorganized, gig, and platform workers, under the Code on Social Security, 2020. This board will be chaired by the Union Minister of Labour and Employment, and its objective is to recommend and monitor schemes aimed at providing social security benefits—such as health insurance, accident insurance, and old-age security—to these workers.

One Liner

1. Whom did FICCI elect as its President-elect for the year 2026-27? - Vijay Sankar, Chairman of the Sanmar Group

2. Which spacewalk did NASA astronaut Anil Menon perform on October 29, 2026? - His fourth spacewalk, which was also the 100th American spacewalk at the ISS

3. Which rocket did ISRO use to launch the NVS-03 navigation satellite on October 30, 2026? - GSLV-F18 rocket

4. How many medals did India win in total at the 2026 World Boxing U19 Championships? - 4 medals (1 gold, 1 silver, and 2 bronze)

5. Who will be the chairperson of the National Social Security Board constituted for gig and platform workers under the Code on Social Security, 2020? - Union Minister of Labour and Employment

6. What is the full form of India's indigenous satellite navigation system, NavIC? - Navigation with Indian Constellation

7. Which of France's highest civilian honors was awarded to Sunil Bharti Mittal? - Legion of Honour (Chevalier rank)

8. In which year was FICCI established, and where is its headquarters located? - In the year 1927; in New Delhi

9. Which Indian species conservation project was included as a 'UN World Restoration Flagship' in a UNEP report? - Ganges River Dolphin (Platanista gangetica) Conservation Project

10. Which Indian athlete won the gold medal in the men's 55 kg category at the 2026 World Boxing U19 Championships? - Aditya