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HIGHLIGHTS

- INTERNATIONAL NEWS
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TODAY NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- Cristiano Ronaldo announces retirement from international football, ending a historic 23-year journey
- Edmund Richardson wins the 2026 Baillie Gifford Non-Fiction Prize for 'Alexander: God, King, Man'
- Sharjah Best International Non-Fiction Book Award 2026 to Nirmala Laxman for The Tamils: A Portrait of a Community
- NPCI sets up NPCI Tech Solutions Limited (NTSL) to promote AI and Blockchain technology
- Chhattisgarh Assembly to become the country's 'zero-paper assembly', complete digitization through NeVA
- JNCASR scientists develop terahertz silicon chip, paving the way for 100 Gbps data transfer in 6G communications
- India and Guyana strengthen strategic partnership, with India announcing a $500 million line of credit and cooperation in digital payment systems such as UPI.
- National Cancer Awareness Day 2026: Emphasis on awareness towards prevention, early detection and effective treatment of cancer

1. Cristiano Ronaldo Announces Retirement from International Football, Ending a Historic 23-Year Journey



Portuguese football star Cristiano Ronaldo announced his retirement from the Portugal national team on November 5, 2026, following a 23-year international career. He scored 146 goals in 234 international matches, becoming the all-time leading goalscorer in men's international football. Under his leadership, Portugal won the UEFA Euro title in 2016, as well as the UEFA Nations League titles in 2019 and 2025. Despite his retirement from international football, he will continue to play club football for the Saudi Arabian club Al-Nassr.

2. Edmund Richardson Wins 2026 Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction for 'Alexander: God, King, Man'



On November 4, 2026, British historian Edmund Richardson was awarded the 2026 Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction for his book, 'Alexander: God, King, Man,' receiving a prize of £50,000. Established in 1999, this is the first time the award has been presented to a book focused on ancient history. The work provides a historical analysis of Alexander the Great's military campaigns, political life, and the expansion of his empire. Notably, in 326 BCE, Alexander fought the Battle of the Hydaspes against King Porus on the banks of the Jhelum River.

3. Nirmala Lakshman Wins Sharjah's Best International Non-Fiction Book Award 2026 for 'The Tamils: A Portrait of a Community'



Indian author and journalist Nirmala Lakshman was awarded the 2026 Sharjah Best International Non-Fiction Book Award on November 4, 2026, for her book, 'The Tamils: A Portrait of a Community.' Published by Aleph Book Company in January 2025, the book explores the history, literature, culture, and social identity of the Tamil community. The 45th edition of the Sharjah International Book Fair is being held in the UAE from November 4 to 15, 2026. It is noteworthy that Tamil belongs to the Dravidian language family and was granted the status of India's first 'classical language' in 2004.

4. NPCI Establishes NPCI Tech Solutions Limited (NTSL) to Promote AI and Blockchain Technology



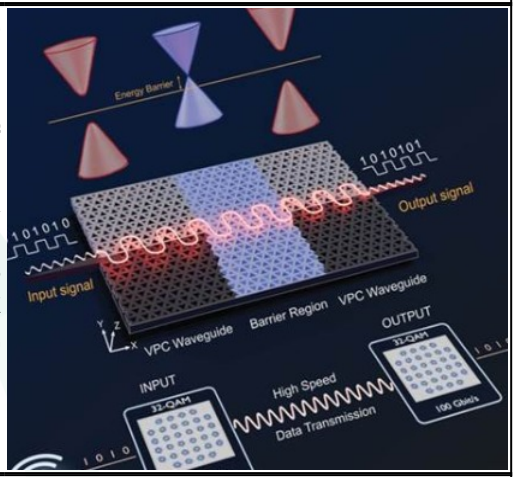
The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) announced the establishment of its fourth wholly-owned subsidiary, NPCI Tech Solutions Limited (NTSL), on November 4, 2026. Vishal Kanvaty, the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of NPCI, has been appointed as its Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The company will focus on the development of Artificial Intelligence (AI), blockchain, digital financial infrastructure, and Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI). This initiative by NPCI—which was established in 2008—will help foster digital payments, financial inclusion, and technological innovation in India.

5. Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly to Become a 'Zero-Paper' House; Full Digitization via NeVA



Under the Central Government's 'Digital India' initiative, the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly will be transformed into a 'zero-paper' assembly within three months through the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA). The Chhattisgarh Infotech Promotion Society (CHiPS) will serve as the nodal agency for this project, with the National Informatics Centre (NIC) and NIC Services Incorporated (NICSI) providing technical support. NeVA is a 'mission mode' project under the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, based on the concept of 'One Nation, One Application.' Its objective is to enhance transparency, efficiency, and accountability in legislative proceedings, while improving citizens' access to information.

6. JNCASR Scientists Develop Terahertz Silicon Chip, Paving the Way for 100 Gbps Data Transfer in 6G Communication



Scientists at the Bengaluru-based JNCASR have developed a specialized silicon chip based on topological photonics technology, capable of guiding terahertz waves through artificial obstacles with minimal signal loss. By utilizing "photonic Klein tunneling," the team achieved a data transfer rate of up to 100 Gbps in laboratory settings. This research could prove instrumental in developing high-speed, compact photonic circuits for future 6G communication technology. The study, led by Dr. Abhishek Kumar, was published in the journal *Advanced Materials* on October 11, 2026.

7. Strategic Partnership Between India and Guyana Strengthened; India Announces $500 Million Line of Credit and Cooperation on Digital Payment Systems Like UPI



On November 5, 2026, India's External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar, met with the President of Guyana, Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, during the 28th Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM). India and Guyana signed three key agreements covering manufacturing, 'Quick Impact Projects,' and digital public infrastructure. India announced a line of credit of $500 million (USD) for road, healthcare, and defense projects in Guyana. Furthermore, both nations agreed to develop a digital payment system—modeled after India's UPI—in Guyana and to strengthen their bilateral cooperation.

8. National Cancer Awareness Day 2026: Emphasizing Awareness on Cancer Prevention, Early Detection, and Effective Treatment



National Cancer Awareness Day is observed annually in India on November 7. It was initiated in 2014 by the then Union Health Minister, Dr. Harsh Vardhan. The date also commemorates the birth anniversary of scientist Marie Curie (born November 7, 1867), who contributed to the discovery of the elements radium and polonium. The day aims to raise awareness about cancer risk factors, prevention, early detection, and treatment.

1. From which country's national football team did Cristiano Ronaldo announce his retirement?

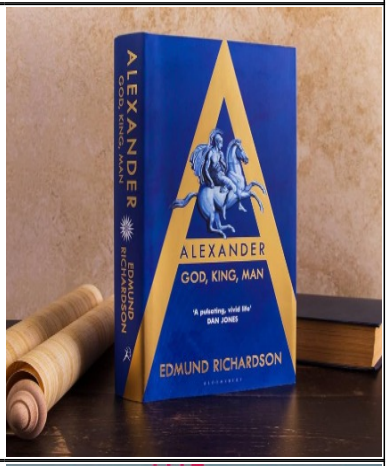


A - Spain **B - Portugal**

C - Brazil **D - Argentina**

Portuguese football star Cristiano Ronaldo announced his retirement from the Portugal national team on November 5, 2026, following a 23-year international career. He scored 146 goals in 234 matches and led Portugal to titles in the UEFA Euro 2016, as well as the 2019 and 2025 Nations League. He will continue to play for Al-Nassr in club football.

2. Who was awarded the 2026 Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction?

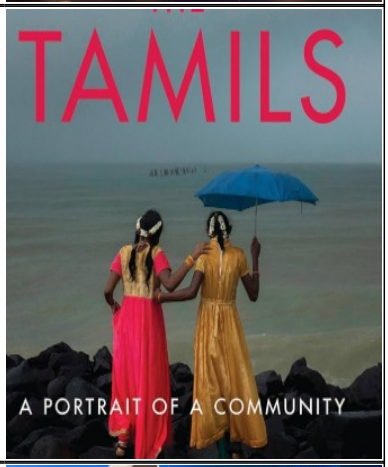


A - Edmund Richardson **B - Richard Flanagan**

C - David Olusoga **D - William Dalrymple**

On November 4, 2026, British historian Edmund Richardson was awarded the 2026 Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction for his book *Alexander: God, King, Man*, receiving a prize purse of £50,000. This marks the first time in the history of the award—established in 1999—that a book based on ancient history has been honored.

3. Who was awarded the 2026 Sharjah Award for the Best International Non-Fiction Book?



A - Arundhati Roy **B - Nirmala Lakshman**

C - Sudha Murty **D - Geetanjali Shree**

On November 4, 2026, Indian author and journalist Nirmala Lakshman was awarded the Sharjah Best International Non-Fiction Book Award for her book, *The Tamils: A Portrait of a Community*. The 45th edition of the Sharjah International Book Fair is being held in the UAE from November 4 to 15, 2026. Notably, Tamil is India's first classical language, having been granted this status in 2004.

4. Which new subsidiary did the NPCI announce the establishment of on November 4, 2026?



A - NPCI Digital Services Limited **B - NPCI Tech Solutions Limited**

C - NPCI Financial Technologies Limited **D - NPCI Payment Solutions Limited**

On November 4, 2026, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) announced the establishment of its fourth wholly-owned subsidiary, NPCI Tech Solutions Limited (NTSL), and appointed Vishal Kanvaty as its MD and CEO. NTSL will focus on the development of Artificial Intelligence (AI), blockchain, digital financial infrastructure, and Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI).

5. Through which application will the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly be transformed into a 'zero-paper' assembly?

A - DigiLocker **B - NeVA**

C - UMANG **D - e-Sansad**



Under the 'Digital India' initiative, the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly will be transformed into a 'zero-paper' assembly within three months using the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA). CHiPS will serve as the nodal agency, while NIC and NICSI will provide technical support. NeVA is a mission-mode project of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, based on the concept of 'One Nation, One Application'.

6. Scientists from which institution developed a special silicon chip based on topological photonics technology?

A - IISc, Bengaluru **B - JNCASR, Bengaluru**

C - IIT Madras **D - TIFR, Mumbai**



Scientists at the Bengaluru-based JNCASR have developed a silicon chip based on topological photonics technology. Through 'photonic Klein tunneling,' this chip allows terahertz waves to pass through barriers with minimal signal loss. This technology has achieved a data transfer rate of 100 Gbps, which could prove instrumental in the development of future 6G communication technology.

7. On November 5, 2026, India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar met with the President of which country?

A - Suriname **B - Guyana**

C - Brazil **D - Mauritius**

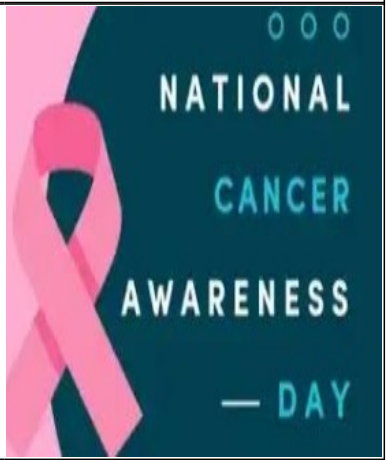


India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S. On November 5, 2026, during the 28th Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), Jaishankar met with the President of Guyana, Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali. India announced a line of credit of US$ 500 million to Guyana for projects in the sectors of roads, healthcare, and defense, and also pledged support for the development of a digital payment system similar to UPI.

8. Who initiated the National Cancer Awareness Day in India?

A - Dr. Harsh Vardhan **B - Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**

C - Dr. Bharati Pawar **D - Dr. J. P. Nadda**



National Cancer Awareness Day is observed annually in India on November 7. It was initiated in 2014 by the then Union Health Minister, Dr. Harsh Vardhan. The objective is to raise awareness about cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment; this day is also associated with the birth anniversary of the scientist Marie Curie.

One Liner

1. On which date is National Cancer Awareness Day observed annually in India? - November 7

2. Which organization will act as the nodal agency for the ‘zero-paper’ project of the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly? - Chhattisgarh Infotech Promotion Society (CHiPS)

3. How many international goals has Cristiano Ronaldo scored for the Portugal national football team? - 146 goals

4. What is the value (in US dollars) of the line of credit announced by India for development projects in Guyana? - 500 million US dollars

5. Who is the author of the book ‘The Tamils: A Portrait of a Community’, which won the 2026 Sharjah Award for the Best International Non-Fiction Book? - Nirmala Lakshman

6. Which specific phenomenon is utilized in the terahertz silicon chip developed by scientists at JNCASR? - Photonic Klein Tunneling

7. Which author was awarded the 2026 Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction? - Edmund Richardson

8. What is the maximum data transfer rate achieved by the silicon chip developed by scientists at JNCASR? - 100 gigabits per second (Gbps)

9. Who has been appointed as the MD and CEO of NPCI’s new subsidiary, NPCI Tech Solutions Limited (NTSL)? - Vishal Kanvaty

10. The National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) is a mission-mode project under which Union Ministry? - Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs