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**Banking**

**'Global Humanitarian Award**

**12 December 2025**





NATIONAL

SAHAKAR SARATHI LAUNCHED

Union Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated the “EARTH Summit 2025” and launched over 13 new services under the ‘Sahakar Sarathi’ initiative.

The Sahakar Sarathi initiative, developed by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), provides digital services to all rural banks across the country.

The launched services include Digi Kisan Credit Card (KCC), Campaign Sarathi, Website Sarathi, Cooperative Governance Index (CGI), electronic-Primary Agricultural Credit Society (ePACS), World’s largest Grain Storage Application, and Shiksha Sarathi.

He also stated that the Ministry of Cooperation is planning to develop a robust cooperative banking framework in partnership with the RBI. The government plans to launch ‘Cooperative Insurance’ which will integrate health, life, agriculture, and accidental insurance under the cooperative framework.

Bharat Organics and Amul will establish a national lab network to increase India’s share in the global organic market by 2035. He also announced that the 3rd edition of the EARTH Summit will be held in Delhi in 2026.

GLOBAL ENERGY LEADERS SUMMIT

The Global Energy Leaders’ Summit (GELS) 2025, India’s first dedicated summit on energy sufficiency, sustainability, and innovation, was held in Puri, Odisha. Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi inaugurated the summit, which was held under the theme “Powering India: Sufficiency, Balance, Innovation”.

The summit was organised by the Odisha government in collaboration with the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change (TBI). The Draft Puri Declaration was unveiled at the conclusion of the GELS 2025. The declaration is a framework for coordinated, equitable, and accelerated clean-energy transition across Indian states.

Four MoUs were signed during the GELS to enhance Renewable Energy (RE) deployment and technological development in Odisha, including two with IIT Bhubaneswar.

DGSP/IGSP CONFERENCE IN NAYA RAIPUR

The 60th All India Conference of Directors General and Inspectors General of Police (DGsP/IGsP) was held at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh. Union Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the conference, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the key sessions.

Discussions focused on critical national security concerns, including Left-Wing Extremism, counter-terrorism, and cybersecurity. During the event, PM Modi conferred the President’s Police Medals for Distinguished Service and presented awards to the top urban policing cities.

FIRST HYDROGEN FUEL-CELL VESSEL

Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has flagged off India’s first fully indigenous hydrogen fuel-cell passenger vessel in Varanasi. The vessel, built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), is a 24-metre catamaran designed to carry 50 passengers.

It uses a low-temperature proton exchange membrane (LT-PEM) fuel cell system. The vessel incorporates a hybrid power system (hydrogen fuel cells, batteries, and solar power) and provides an operational range of up to 8 hours on a single hydrogen fill.

WORLD SUMMIT ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

The World Summit on Disaster Management (WSDM), also referred to as the World Disaster Management Conference, was held in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. It was jointly inaugurated by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Dr Jitendra Singh and Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami.

The summit was held under the theme “**Strengthening International Cooperation for Building Resilient Communities**”. During the event, Dr Jitendra Singh announced that **three new advanced weather forecasting radars** would be commissioned in **Haridwar, Pantnagar, and Auli**.

BANKING

NEW NORMS FOR MERCHANT BANKERS

SEBI has overhauled **merchant banker (MB) regulations** by introducing a **capital adequacy framework** and mandatory requirements for **liquid net worth (NW)** and **minimum revenue**. SEBI has classified MBs into **two categories** based on their operational scope and financial capacity.

**Category I** entities must maintain a **minimum NW of ₹50 crore** and are permitted to undertake **all regulated activities**. **Category II MBs** must maintain a **minimum NW of ₹10 crore**, but they are **restricted from managing equity issues on the main board**.

All MBs must maintain a liquid net worth equivalent to at least **25% of their minimum required NW**, and their **underwriting obligations** are capped at **20 times their liquid net worth**. Regarding minimum revenue criteria, **Category I MBs** need **cumulative revenues of at least ₹12.5 crore** over the three preceding financial years, while **Category II MBs** require **at least ₹2.5 crore** over the same period.

AGREEMENTS

KARNATAKA SIGNS MOU FOR ITIP

The **Karnataka government** has signed an **MoU** with the **Taiwan-based Allegiance International Co Ltd (Allegiance Group)** to establish an **India-Taiwan Industrial Technology Innovation Park (ITIP)**. The Allegiance Group will invest about **₹1,000 crore (\$120 million)** in the project over the **next 5 years**.

DEFENCE

RECORDED ASCENT OF MOUNT KANGTO

The **Indian Army mountaineering team of the Eastern Command** has successfully completed the **first recorded ascent** of **Mount Kangto**, the **highest peak in Arunachal Pradesh**.

The mountain has an **altitude of 7,042 meters**. The 18-member expedition was from the **11 Para Special Forces team**, operating under the **Gajraj Corps**. The team was formally “flagged in” by **Lieutenant General RC Tiwari, the Army Commander of the Eastern Command**.

FIRST COMBAT TRAINING NODE

**Zen Technologies** has secured a contract **worth ₹120 crore** from the **Ministry of Defence** to establish **India’s first Combat Training Node (CTN)**. The CTN will be set up at the **Infantry School, Mhow in Madhya Pradesh**.

It is designed as a **fully integrated, simulation-based training ecosystem**, utilizing a **Live-Virtual-Constructive (LVC) framework**. The system incorporates **over 60 simulators** to deliver realistic battlefield environments by combining live firing ranges, virtual simulators, and computer-generated combat scenarios.

EXERCISE GARUDA SHAKTI

The **10th edition** of the **joint military exercise** named “**Garuda Shakti 2025**” between **India** and **Indonesia** has commenced at the **Special Forces Training School** in **Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh**.

The **Indian contingent** comprises **Special Forces troops from The Parachute Regiment**, while the **Indonesian side is represented by Special Forces personnel**.

BUSINESS

TCS ACQUIRES COASTAL CLOUD

**TCS** has signed a definitive agreement to **acquire 100% equity stake** in **Coastal Cloud**, a **US-based Salesforce Summit firm specializing in Salesforce Consulting services**. The acquisition is an **all-cash deal** valued at **\$700 million**.

STATE

WORLD BANK FINANCES AIR PROJECTS

The **World Bank** has approved financing for two large-scale **clean-air programmes** in **Uttar Pradesh** and **Haryana**. This is the **first time state governments have undertaken airshed-based and multi-sectoral programmes** to address pollution. Both programmes are part of the **World Bank’s Regional Air Quality Management Programme**.



The **Uttar Pradesh Clean Air Management Programme (UPCAMP)** is financed with **\$299.66 million** and has a final maturity of 10 years (including a two-year grace period).

The **Haryana Clean Air Project for Sustainable Development Operation** is worth **\$300 million** and has a final maturity of 23.5 years (including a six-year grace period). It is to be noted that the state government established **ARJUN**, a **special-purpose vehicle, to support coordination, implementation, and monitoring across agencies**.

AWARDS

GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

**Anant Ambani**, the **Founder of the wildlife conservation centre Vantara**, has been conferred the ‘**Global Humanitarian Award for Animal Welfare**’ by the **Global Humane Society (GHS)**.

The GHS is the **international brand of the American Humane Society (AH)**. He is the **youngest-ever and the first Asian** to receive this global honour.

SPORTS

ISSF WORLD CUP FINAL

**India finished second** in the medal tally, securing a **total of 6 medals (2 Gold, 3 Silver, 1 Bronze)** at the **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Final 2025**, held at the **Lusail Shooting Complex in Doha, Qatar**.

**China topped the medal standings** with **9 medals (4 Gold)**, followed by **USA at third place**. **Simranpreet Kaur** clinched the **gold medal** in the **Women’s 25 meter (m) Pistol event**. **Suruchi Singh** secured the **gold medal** in the **Women’s 10m Air Pistol event** with 245.1 points, **establishing a new ISSF junior world record**.

The **prize money awarded was €5,000 for first place and €4,000 for second place**. It is to be noted that the ISSF World Cup, an annual international shooting competition, was **introduced by the ISSF in 1986**.

**International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF):**  
**President – Luciano Rossi**  
**Headquarters – Munich, Germany**  
**Established in – 1907**

JERUSALEM MASTERS

**Arjun Erigaisi**, an **Indian Grandmaster**, has won the **Jerusalem Masters 2025 title** in **Israel**. He defeated **former world champion Viswanathan Anand** in the **all-Indian final**. The winner received a **prize money of \$55,000**.

MOHIT SHARMA RETIRES

**Mohit Sharma**, an **Indian fast bowler**, has **announced retirement from all forms of professional cricket**. He **represented India in 34 international matches**.

It is to be noted that he won the **Purple Cap (leading wicket-taker)** in the **2014 season** of the **Indian Premier League (IPL)** for **Chennai Super Kings (CSK)** after taking **23 wickets**.

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#1.8

Issue

#D1

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In the given example, the Volume tag is 23.8 and the Issue tag is D1. This indicates that the PDF is from the Day 1 of the Month 8 of the Year 2023 which is 01-08-2023.

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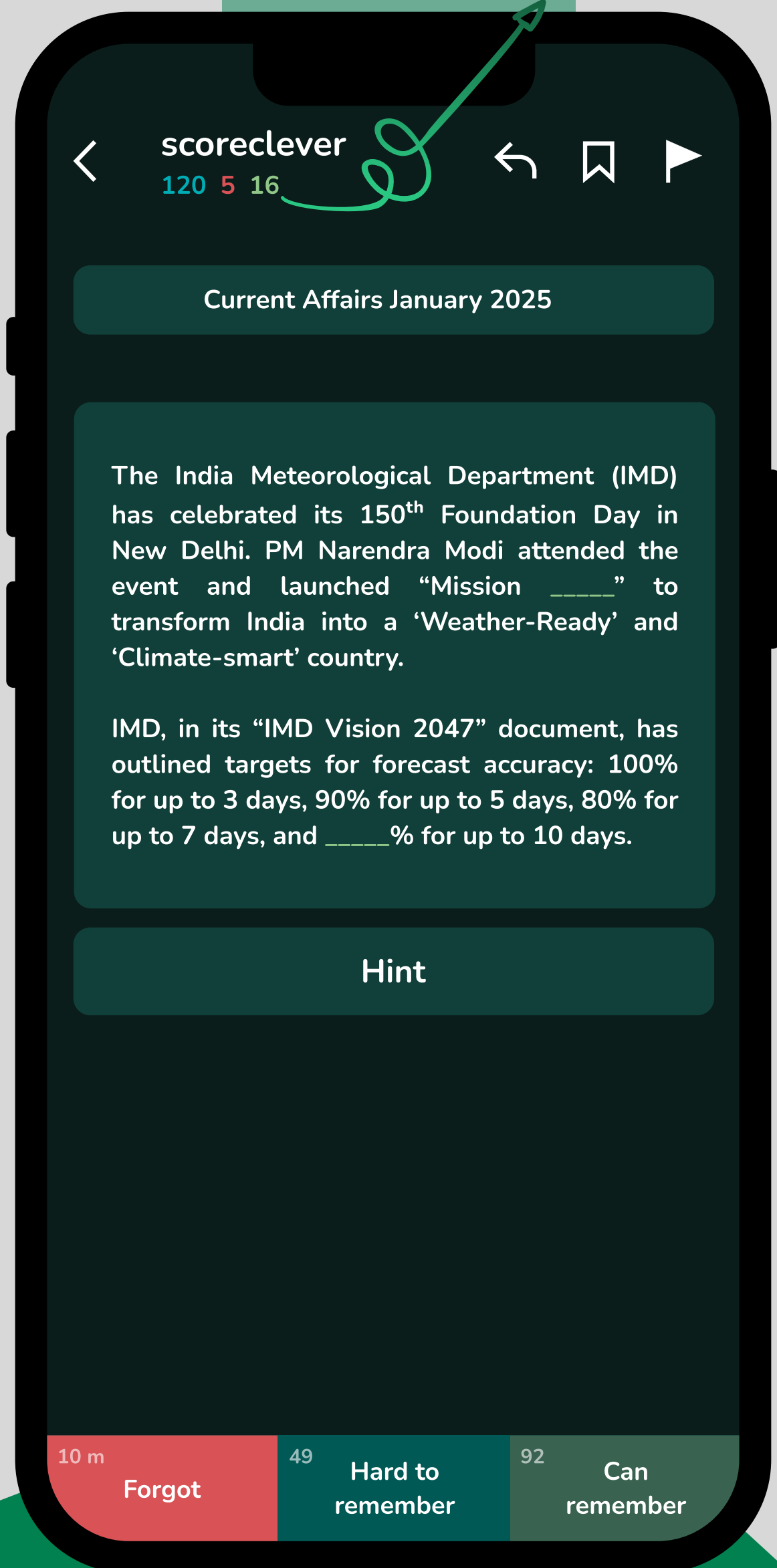
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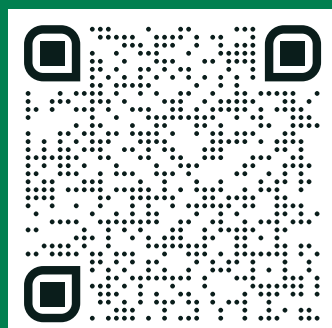
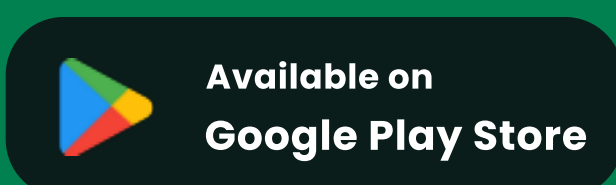
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