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## 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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## Publication Guide

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Issue

#D1

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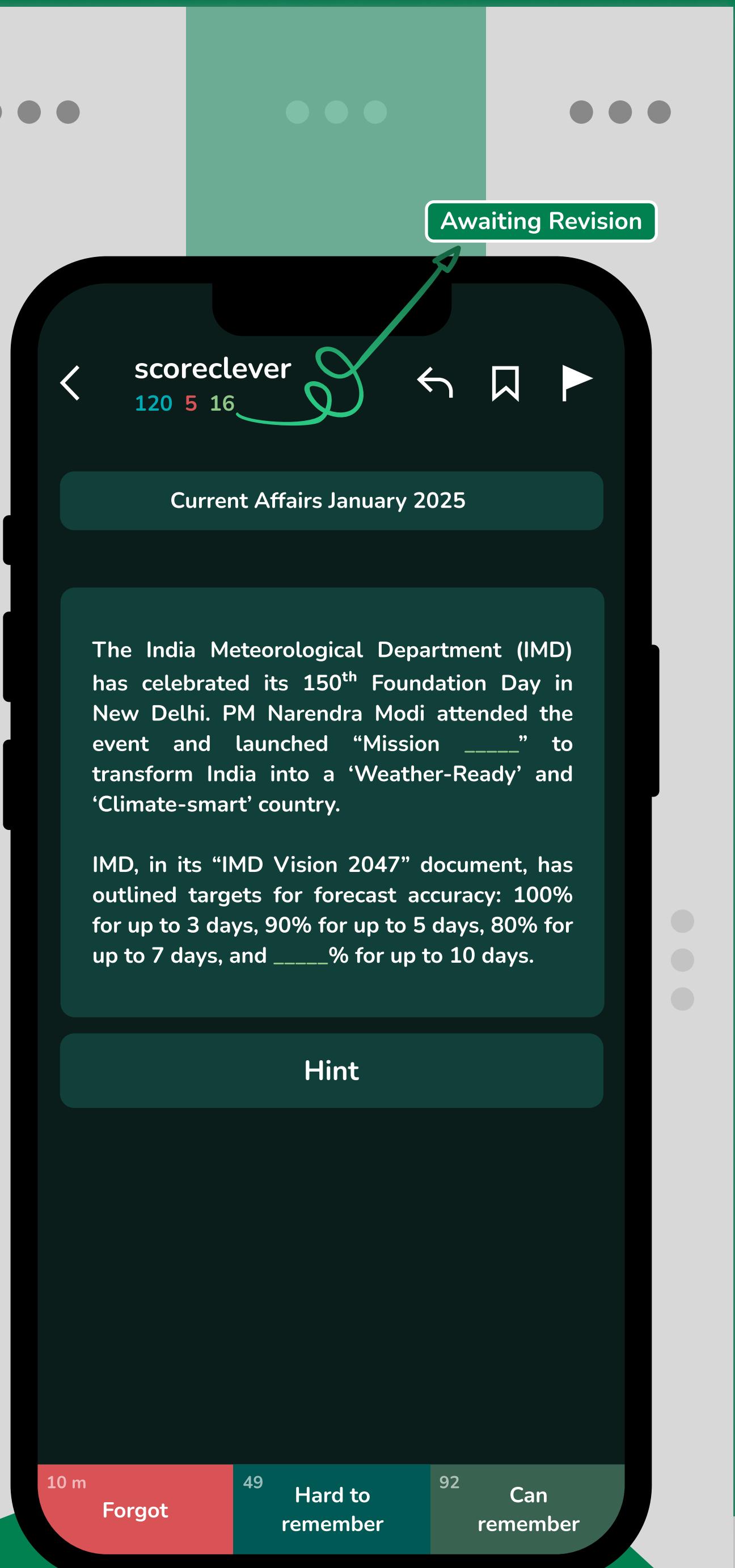
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