

7. Shortnews

1. World Archery Championship 2025

India won its **maiden gold medal** in the men's compound team event at the **World Archery Championships** in **Gwangju, South Korea** (September 7, 2025).

Key Highlights

Men's Compound Team – Gold

Winners – Rishabh Yadav, Aman Saini, Prathamesh Fuge.

Final Result – India beat France (Nicolas Girard, Jean Philippe Boulch, Francois Dubois) 235–233.

Match Summary –

1. Lost 1st end (57–59), bounced back in 2nd (60–58).
2. 3rd end tied (59–59).
3. The final end sealed with three 10s, while France faltered (59–57).

Road to Final – Defeated Australia, USA, and Turkey.

Mixed Team – Silver

Pair – Rishabh Yadav & Jyothi Surekha Vennam.

Result – Lost to Netherlands (Sanne de Laat, Mike Schloesser) 155–157.

Match Breakdown – (39–38, 37–39, 40–40, 39–40).

2. SWIFT ISO 20022

Indian banks are accelerating efforts to implement SWIFT ISO 20022 by the November 2025 deadline, with partial migration already completed.

About SWIFT

Introduction – The Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) is a global provider of secure financial messaging services, connecting banks and institutions worldwide.

Establishment – 1973 in Brussels, Belgium.

Headquarter – La Hulpe, Belgium.

Operation – Overseen by a consortium of central banks from the G10 countries (including the U.S., UK, Japan, Germany, and others), the European Central Bank (ECB), and the National Bank of Belgium (NBB), which holds a lead oversight role.

Role – It facilitates cross-border payments, securities transactions, treasury operations, and trade-related communication. Over 11,000 institutions across 200+ countries rely on SWIFT for standardized, secure, and fast financial communication.

SWIFT ISO 20022

ISO 20022 is the new global standard for electronic data interchange between financial institutions.

Features – It enables richer, structured, and more detailed payment data compared to legacy MT (Message Type) standards. The standard supports automation, compliance checks, fraud detection, and real-time payments.

Global Compliance – The mandatory global migration deadline is November 2025.

Target – Indian banks must achieve 100% migration to SWIFT ISO 20022 by November 22, 2025, aligning with global requirements. Failure could disrupt international payment flows and attract penalties.

Achievements So Far – By August 2025, Indian banks had achieved around 40% implementation of the new standard. Major banks, including State Bank of India (SBI) and ICICI Bank, have already migrated key operations.

RBI's Direction on SWIFT ISO 20022

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in coordination with the Ministry of Finance, has mandated strict compliance with ISO 20022 timelines. RBI has directed banks to prioritize investment in IT systems, cybersecurity, and message validation tools to ensure error-free adoption.

3. Blood Moon

On September 8, 2025, Asia, Australia, and parts of Africa witnessed a Blood Moon, a total lunar

eclipse turning the moon red.

Lunar Eclipse – A lunar eclipse occurs when the earth blocks sunlight from reaching the moon, aligning the sun, earth, and moon in a straight line.

Types of Eclipse – If the moon passes through the umbra (darkest shadow), it causes a total eclipse; passing through the penumbra (outer shadow) causes a partial or subtle dimming. Unlike solar eclipses, lunar eclipses are safe to watch with the naked eye.

Blood Moon – A Blood Moon appears during a total lunar eclipse when only filtered red sunlight, scattered by earth's atmosphere, reaches the moon. The Rayleigh scattering phenomenon, also responsible for blue skies and red sunsets, makes the moon glow red.

Astronomical and Environmental Significance – The intensity of the red colour reflects atmospheric conditions; more pollutants or volcanic ash make the moon appear darker or deeper red. Historical records of Blood Moons have helped scientists link volcanic eruptions to atmospheric changes in medieval times.

4. Hockey Asia Cup 2025

On September 7, 2025, India defeated Korea 4-1 in the men's Hockey Asia Cup final at Rajgir, securing the title and a World Cup berth.

About Hockey Asia Cup 2025

Introduction – The 2025 Men's Hockey Asia Cup was the 12th edition of the tournament, organized by the Asian Hockey Federation. It is held every four years as Asia's premier men's field hockey competition. The previous edition was held in 2022, delayed from its original schedule due to the COVID-19 pandemic. South Korea entered 2025 as the defending champions.

Venue – The tournament was hosted at the Bihar Sports University Hockey Stadium in the Rajgir Sports Complex, India, from 29 August to 7 September 2025.

Participants in 2025 – A total of 8 teams; India, Korea, China, Malaysia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Bangladesh, and Uzbekistan competed in the tournament. Pakistan withdrew due to security and financial constraints, replaced by Bangladesh. Oman withdrew citing financial reasons, replaced by Kazakhstan.

Final Outcome – India remained unbeaten throughout the tournament, dominating the Super 4s stage with wins over Malaysia and China, and a draw with Korea. In the final, Sukhjeet Singh and Dilpreet Singh scored in the first half; Dilpreet added another, and Amit Rohidas sealed the 4-1 victory.

Qualification – With the triumph, India booked automatic qualification for the 2026 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup in Belgium and the Netherlands.

5. Sree Narayana Guru

Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi recalled the vision of Sree Narayana Guru on his 171st birth anniversary, praising his teachings of equality and compassion.

About Sree Narayana Guru

Sree Narayana Guru (1856–1928) was a saint, philosopher, poet, social reformer, and spiritual leader from Kerala.

Early Life – He was born on 22 August 1856 (1032 Chingam, Malayalam calendar) in a humble cottage at Chempazhanthi, near Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. From an early age, he questioned superstitions and social taboos, later undergoing penance and meditation before attaining enlightenment.

Social Contributions

Guiding principle – "One caste, one religion, one God for humanity", became the cornerstone of his reformist philosophy.

Breaking the Monopoly – In 1888, he consecrated a Shiva Lingam at Aruvippuram, breaking the Brahminical monopoly on temple rituals.

SNDP Yogam – In 1903, along with reformer Dr. P. Palpu co-founded the Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) Yogam to promote education and fight caste discrimination.

Spiritual Contributions – In 1904, he established the Sivagiri Matha near Varkallai, which later became a hub of reformist thought. In 1914, he founded an ashram at Aluva, where he organized inter-religious and

comparative religion conferences, encouraging harmony and dialogue.

Literary and Philosophical Works – He composed poems, hymns, and philosophical writings in Malayalam and Sanskrit such as Daiva Daśakam , contributing to spiritual and literary heritage. His works blended Vedantic philosophy with social reform ideals, making spirituality accessible to the masses.

Influence – Guru's vision attracted Mahatma Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore, and other reformers who admired his ideals. His life and teachings continue to inspire movements for social justice, equality, and education in India.

6. US Open 2025

Carlos Alcaraz defeated Jannik Sinner in the US Open men's singles final, securing his sixth Grand Slam title and regaining the World No. 1 ranking. SinCaraz Era – Alcaraz-Sinner duopoly dominates men's tennis, winning eight of last Major titles over two seasons.

Results of US Open 2025

Men's Singles – Carlos Alcaraz (Spain) defeated Jannik Sinner (Italy) to claim his second US Open and sixth Grand Slam title overall.

Women's Singles – Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus) defeated Amanda Anisimova (USA), defending her title and reinforcing her position atop the WTA rankings.

Men's Doubles – Marcel Granollers (Spain) and Horacio Zeballos (Argentina) beat Joe Salisbury and Neal Skupski (UK) to win the title.

Women's Doubles – Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) and Erin Routliffe (New Zealand) defeated Kateřina Siniaková (Czech Republic) and Taylor Townsend (USA) to clinch the championship.

Mixed Doubles – Sara Errani and Andrea Vavassori (Italy) triumphed over Iga Świątek (Poland) and Casper Ruud (Norway) to take the mixed doubles crown.

Grand Slam in Tennis – A Grand Slam in tennis refers to winning all four major championships—Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon, and US Open—in the same calendar year.

Common Misuse – The term is often loosely applied to players who win all four majors across different years, but this is not a true Grand Slam.

Grand Slam Title vs. Grand Slam – Winning any one of the four tournaments is called a Grand Slam title. A Grand Slam requires winning all four in a single season.

Players Who Have Achieved a Calendar-Year Grand Slam (Singles)

1. Don Budge (USA) – 1938
2. Maureen Connolly (USA) – 1953
3. Rod Laver (Australia) – 1962 and 1969 (only player to achieve it twice)
4. Margaret Smith Court (Australia) – 1970
5. Steffi Graf (Germany) – 1988