

## Cricket critic Dwarkanath Sanzgiri passes away



**MUMBAI:** Renowned Marathi cricket critic, columnist, and author Dwarkanath Sanzgiri passed away at the age of 74 yesterday. He had been receiving treatment at Lilavati Hospital but succumbed to his illness. His passing has left a deep void in the world of sports journalism and literature. Sanzgiri, a civil engineer by profession, retired in 2008 as the Chief Engineer (Water Supply Projects) from the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC). Despite his engineering career, he became well-known for his work as a cricket critic, writer, and travelogue author.

Sanzgiri covered every One-Day International Cricket World Cup since 1983, with his insightful columns being featured in prominent publications like Lokprabha, Sakal, Maharashtra Times, and Loksatta. His writing was celebrated for its depth, engaging style, and thorough analysis. He also authored several books on cricket, travel, social issues, and cinema, which were widely appreciated by Marathi readers.

# India outclass England

**NAGPUR:** A dominant batting display led by Shubman Gill and Shreyas Iyer helped India clinch a four-wicket victory over England in the first ODI at the Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium here on Thursday. Chasing 249 for victory, India lost both openers early but Gill (87 off 96 balls, 14x4s) anchored the chase with a composed knock, while Iyer's blistering 59 off 36 deliveries (9x4s, 2x6s) provided the required acceleration. India eventually reached the target in just 38.4 overs with 11.2 overs to spare. With this defeat, England's woes in ODIs continued, having now lost seven of the eight matches in which they batted first post

the 2023 World Cup. Jofra Archer, playing his first ODI in over a year, bowled with pace and control but found little support from his teammates. Gill reached his half-century off 60 balls, guiding India's chase in the absence Virat Kohli. As he brought up his fifty against England, a loud cheer erupted. Iyer, who came in at No. 4, played a counterattacking innings, reaching his fifty in just 30 balls, his second fastest in ODIs. His fastest remains a 28-ball fifty against the West Indies in Vizag in 2019. India captain Rohit Sharma's struggles with the bat persisted, as he managed only eight runs. In the 2024/25 season across formats, Rohit has amassed just 166 runs in 16 innings

at an average of 10.37, raising concerns about his form ahead of Champions Trophy. Despite England's defeat, Archer's record against left-handers around the wicket in ODIs continued to impress. In 201 deliveries, he has claimed 10 wickets at an average of 17.90, with a strike rate of 20.1 and an economy rate of 5.34. Earlier, India's bowlers produced a spirited performance to restrict England to 248. England, after opting to bat first, got off to a flying start with Phil Salt hammering a 26-ball 43. However, an unfortunate run-out triggered a collapse, as England slumped from 75/0 to 77/3 in quick succession. Captain Jos Buttler (52)

and Jacob Bethell (51) steadied the innings, but India's disciplined bowling ensured wickets fell at regular intervals. Jofra Archer's unbeaten 21 at the end helped England cross 240, though they would have expected more. Debutant Harshit Rana had an eventful outing, claiming 5/53. Despite conceding 26 runs in an over—the most by an Indian debutant in ODIs—he bounced back strongly to pick up key wickets, becoming the first Indian bowler to claim three or more wickets on debut in all three formats. **Brief scores: India 251/6** (Gill 87, Shreyas 59, Axar 52, Rashid 2-49) beat **England 248** (Buttler 52, Bethell 51, Jadeja 3-26) by four wickets

## Stoinis makes shock retirement

**MELBOURNE:** Marcus Stoinis has called time on his ODI career on the eve of the Champions Trophy, media reports said. World Cup-winning squad member Marcus Stoinis has made the shock decision to retire from one-day international cricket effective immediately but will continue to be available for national representation in the T20I format. Stoinis had been named in Australia's preliminary 15-man squad for the ICC Champions Trophy ODI tournament beginning in Pakistan and the UAE later this month, but will be replaced in the final squad to be named by February 12, according to a Cricket Australia media release. The 35-year-old all-

rounder has been playing for Durban's Super Giants in the



ongoing South African T20 franchise competition where he reportedly sustained a mild hamstring injury while bowling in recent days. However, it was a desire to devote the latter stage of his career to the T20 format, for Australia and at franchise level, that prompted his decision to call time on his ODI playing days.

## ICC Player of Month nominees revealed

**DUBAI:** The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Thursday announced the players in contention for the ICC Men's and Women's Player of the Month awards for January, highlighting the top performers from a busy month of international cricket. Three talented spinners comprise the shortlist of candidates for the ICC Men's Player of the Month, after all enjoyed a prolific start to 2025 in both long and short formats.

Noman Ali seeks to win his second ICC Men's Player of the Month award after wicket-taking feats and a historic hat-trick in Pakistan's World Test Championship series against the West Indies. First-time nominee Jomel Warrican topped the bowling charts in that series and led the tourists to their first Test win in the Pakistan for 34 years.

Varun Chakravarthy completes the trio, after a string of stellar displays in India's T20I triumph over England. The ICC Women's Player of the Month

nominees feature two senior stars of the short formats, alongside a promising young



star fresh from U19 Women's T20 World Cup success.

Beth Mooney was one of the primary architects of Australia's dominant Ashes triumph over England in January, most notably in the T20I encounters, while the West Indies' spinner Karishma Ramharack was among the wickets as her side claimed victory over Bangladesh in a competitive ODI series.

## MCG to host annual NFL game from 2026

**MELBOURNE:** The NFL's international growth has continued with Australia being confirmed as the sixth overseas country to be awarded a regular-season game. The league had carried out site visits to Melbourne and Sydney to explore the viability of playing in Australia, the BBC reported.

And the Melbourne Cricket Ground was selected to host the first game in the Asia-Pacific region during the 2026 season, the report said. According to reports, the Los Angeles Rams will be the designated 'home' team for the first game of a multi-year commitment at the MCG, which has a capacity of about 100,000. "International games are one of the most impact-

ful elements of our global strategy," said NFL executive vice-president Peter O'Reilly. "We've seen that in recent years. The games really serve as a catalyst for growing the game at every level and year round."

The NFL has rapidly been expanding its global reach in recent years, playing its first game in South America this season, in Sao Paulo, Brazil. O'Reilly said the Melbourne game would "likely" be scheduled for week one of the 2026 season - like the Brazil game was - making it easier for teams to acclimatise. The Melbourne announcement was made in New Orleans during Super Bowl week, with further news expected on next season's international games, the report said.

## NATIONAL GAMES

# Uttarakhand & Kerala win semi-finals

**HALDWANI:** The men's football semi-finals at the 38th National Games in Uttarakhand were held in a high-powered atmosphere where the decisive victories of Kerala and Uttarakhand eventually led the two teams to the final.

Kerala saw a fiercely contested battle in the first semi-final against Assam. Both teams displayed exceptional defensive resilience, resulting in a goalless draw at the end of regulation time.

The game went to the penalty shootout, with Kerala pulling a 3-2 victory. Assam's Akhram Narzary and Pranjal Bhumij had

their penalties converted, while Kerala's lock Ajay Alex, Sachil Sunil C., and Brijesh T. Balan scored and booked themselves a place in the final.

The second semi-final between Delhi and Uttarakhand was an equally thrilling contest.

Delhi's Mohammad Ejaz Ahmed broke the deadlock in the 21st minute, putting his team ahead. However, Uttarakhand fought back, with Ayush Bisht netting a crucial equalizer in the 72nd minute.

With the match ending in a 1-1 draw, the winner was determined via a pen-

alty shootout. Uttarakhand held their nerve, sealing a 5-3 victory.

Delhi's Mahip Adhikari, Lamlalian, and Mohammad Mehmud Sami duly converted their spots, but there was no stopping Uttarakhand through Praveesh Bisht, Nirmal Singh Bisht, Anurag Singh

Rawat, Wajid Ali, and Ayush Bisht to give them glory.

With both teams in top form, the highly anticipated final between Kerala and Uttarakhand promises to be an electrifying contest, as they battle for the prestigious National Games title.

## Sensex down

**MUMBAI:** The BSE Sensex on Thursday lost further by 213.12 points to settle at 78,058.16 as selling was witnessed in realty, consumer durable and telecommunication stocks. Investors await the RBI's Monetary policy to be announced today, February 7.

The National Stock Exchange (NSE) fell 92.95 points at 23,603.35.

The BSE Sensex surged 242 points to open at 78,513.36. During the day, it rallied 280 points at 78,551.66, a day high.

In late trade, it erased earlier gains, and tumbled down 428 points at 77,843.99, day's low, before closing at 78,058.16, sliding 213.12 points from its previous close.

The Nifty registered day's high and low at

23,773.55 and 23,556.25 points respectively.

The stocks that fell were realty by 2.15 pc, consumer durable by 2.04 pc, telecommunications by 1.73 pc, and consumer discretionary goods and services by 1.34 pc. The Mid-cap fell 0.87 pc. In 30 scrips, 11 advanced, while 19 declined.

The losers were Bharti Airtel by 2.33 pc to Rs 1621.95, Titan by 2.20 pc to Rs 3413.80, NTPC by 1.78 pc to Rs 313.85, SBI by 1.58 pc to Rs 754 and ITC by 1.27 pc to Rs 442.55.

The gainers were Adani Ports by 1.99 pc to Rs 1167, Infosys by 0.94 pc to Rs 1915, Tech Mahindra by 0.86 pc to Rs 1675 and Axis Bank by 0.82 pc to Rs 1027.75.

## India & South Asia airplane fleet to quadruple by 2043: Boeing

**NEW DELHI:** Global aerospace company, Boeing has said in a forecast that India and South Asia's commercial airplane fleet will grow nearly four-fold over the next 20 years, building on sustained fleet growth throughout the last decade.

Continued growth will be fuelled by greater demand and a rise in the region's air traffic, which will grow more than 7 per cent annually through 2043 driven by sustained economic growth, improved connectivity and policies that support air travel liberalization, according to Boeing's current Commercial Market Outlook (CMO).

Domestic air traffic is expected to remain the largest and fastest-growing segment in India's travel market, according to the CMO. This projected traffic growth will be enabled by further low-cost carrier expansion

and network diversification as airlines offer more routes and destinations throughout the region.

Fuel-efficient single-aisle airplanes, such as the 737 MAX, will account for nearly nine out of 10 commercial jet deliveries in the forecast period, providing airlines with greater network flexibility and better economics on fast-growing short- and medium-haul routes.

The region's widebody fleet will quadruple as carriers leverage airplanes like the 787 Dreamliner and 777X to further develop long-haul networks, particularly from India to North America, where capacity has doubled in the past decade.

"The India and South Asia region continues to be the world's fastest-growing commercial aviation market due to strong economic and trade growth, rising household incomes

and investments in infrastructure and development," said Ashwin Naidu, Boeing managing director of Commercial Marketing for India and South Asia. "As our CMO shows, people will have greater access to air travel, and the region's airlines will require a modern fuel-efficient fleet to meet increased demand over the next two decades."

The CMO also forecasts India and South Asia's cargo freighter fleet, including new and converted models, will grow five-fold as the region expands its role in global supply chains, advanced manufacturing and e-commerce.

Demand for pilots, cabin crew and technicians will quadruple to 129,000 along with commercial airplane fleet expansion — representing the fastest growth rate of any region globally.

## Hexaware Technologies IPO to open on Feb 12

**NEW DELHI:** Hexaware Technologies Limited has proposed to open an initial public offering (IPO) of its equity share of the face value of Rs. 1 each on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 and. The offer will close on Friday, February 14. The anchor investor bidding date is one working day prior to bid/offer opening date, being Tuesday, February 11, 2025.

The price band of the offer has been fixed from Rs. 674 per equity share to Rs.

708 per equity share. Bids can be made for a minimum of 21 equity shares and multiples of 21 equity shares thereafter.

Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited, Citigroup Global Markets India Private Limited, J.P. Morgan India Private Limited, HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited and IIFL Capital Services Limited (formerly known as IIFL Securities Limited) are the Book Running Lead Managers to the offer.

## Dhruv Consultancy reports 32% growth

**MUMBAI:** Dhruv Consultancy Services Ltd. (BSE - 541302; NSE - DHRUV), a leading infrastructure consultancy firm in India, has reported strong financial results for Q3 and the first nine months of FY25.

For Q3 FY25, the company achieved a total income of Rs. 22.56 crore, with an EBITDA of Rs. 4.47 crore, reflecting an EBITDA margin of 19.81%. The net profit for the quarter was Rs. 2.15 crore, with a net profit margin of 9.52%. The diluted earnings per share (EPS) stood at Rs. 1.20.

For the nine-month period, Dhruv Consultancy reported total revenue of Rs. 75.49 crore, marking a 31.51% year-on-year growth.

## Tata Play collaborates with Salesforce

**MUMBAI:** Salesforce, the #1 CRM, has announced a strategic collaboration with Tata Play, India's leading Direct-to-Home and content distribution company, to accelerate relevant and customized experiences to its user base nationwide. This collaboration marks a significant leap for Tata Play in delivering hyper-personalized offers, redefining customer engagement, and driving business growth. By leveraging Salesforce's AI-powered solutions, Tata Play will unify customer data—including subscriptions, interactions, and viewership patterns—creating a comprehensive, single view of its customers to enhance targeting, optimize campaigns, and deliver seamless, personalized experiences across platforms.

Commenting on the new collaboration, Harit Nagpal, Managing Director & CEO,

Tata Play said, "By partnering with Salesforce, we are unlocking the power of AI and data to better understand our subscribers and deliver relevance at every interaction. We will now have a deeper understanding of each subscriber and their individual needs, enabling us to provide tailored solutions to everyone without disturbing others during the process."

Arundhati Bhattacharya, Chairperson & CEO of Salesforce India, said, "At Salesforce, we are committed to empowering businesses with advanced technology that drives innovation and enhances customer experiences. Our partnership with Tata Play marks a significant step in leveraging the transformative power of Generative AI and data-driven insights to deliver hyper-personalized, meaningful interactions."

## EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

# Formulation of synergy committee: Mamata Baerjee

**KOLKATA:** West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday announced formation of a state-level Synergy Committee, headed by the chief secretary, to facilitate ease of doing business in the state. Announcing this at the 8th Bengal Global Business Summit at Biswa Bangla in New Town, Banerjee said the state is investment friendly and highlighted its achievements in past BGBS which fetched over 12 lakh crore investments in the state.

She said to make business easier, the state has formulated a state-level Synergy Committee, headed by chief secretary Manoj Pant, to make everything under one umbrella. She said the state has the highest-level manpower and adding not a single manpower was lost as 'bandh' and strike bygone era.

Banerjee pointed out that the state Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) has grown at a faster pace than the national GDP in the last financial year.

She also highlighted the state's economic progress and ongoing infrastructure development, including the construction

of six economic corridors along national highways. Earlier, the 8th Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) was unveiled by Banerjee in the presence of industry leaders from across India and delegations of 40 countries.

Business captains as Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani, JSW Group chairman Sajjan Jindal, ITC chairman and CII president Sanjiv Puri, Emami Limited vice-chairman and FICCI president Harsha Vardhan Agarwal, RPSG Group Sanjeev Goenka, Ambuja Neotia Group Harshvardhan Neotia, who also spoke and announced their investment plans.

ITC chief Puni announced the opening of a global centre of excellence for artificial intelligence (AI) in this metropolis.

He said the centre will serve clients from around the globe. This will be the hub of artificial intelligence. This has been chosen because of the strength Kolkata has.

Jindal announced two 800 MW power plants worth Rs 16,000 crore at Salboni in the West Midnapore district where JSW also runs a cement plant.



## CHANGE IN NAME

I have changed my NAME. My OLD NAME was SWAPNIL SUBHASHCHANDJI SAKHALA. Now my NEW NAME is SWAPNIL SUBHASH SAKHALA As Aadhar No 721521345297. (9863)

My old name SUHAYB FERAZ KHAN has been changed to my new name SOHAYB FERAZ PATHAN as per Gazeete No. M-24338565. Dated: 6/2/25 (9864)

MY OLD NAME RAVINDRA NABU DHOMASE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO MY NEW NAME RAVINDRA NABURAO DHOMSE AS PER ADHAR CARD NO 667864590810 (9865)

My name before marriage was Pradnya Arun Patil. After marriage name is Pradnya Rupesh Borse. The person with both these names is the same as per aadhar No. 580464972794. (9866)

MY OLD NAME PRADIP SOBHRAJMAL WADHWANI HAS BEEN CHANGED TO MY NEW NAME PRADEEP SOBHRAJ WADHWANI AS PER ADHAR CARD. (9867)

My old name Dipak Motiram Thorat has been changed to new name Deepak Motiram Thorat as per Aadhar No. 8213 6230 7745 (9868)

My old name SHABBIR HUSAIN FIDA HUSAIN KANCHWALA has been changed to my new name SHABBIR MULLA FIDA HUSAIN KANCHWALA as per Aadhaar No. 837180785162 (9870)