



### Finance Minister introduces pension scheme for children

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday introduced NPS Vatsalya scheme, enabling parents to invest in a pension account for their children. Parents can enrol in the scheme either online or by visiting a bank or post office. To open a Vatsalya account, a minimum initial contribution of Rs 1,000 is required, followed by an annual contribution of Rs 1,000. This saving-cum-pension scheme is regulated and administered by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) and is designed to allow parents to invest in a pension account for their minor children. All Indian citizens below the age of 18 are eligible for the NPS Vatsalya scheme.

### Mohana Singh becomes the first woman fighter pilot in LCA Tejas fighter fleet

Squadron Leader Mohana Singh has become the first woman fighter pilot to join the Indian Air Force's prestigious 18 Flying Bullets squadron, operating LCA Tejas jets. Her involvement in the

'Tarang Shakti' exercise highlights India's 'Make in India' initiative and represents a significant step forward for women in combat roles within the IAF.

### ICC announces equal prize money for men and women in World Cups

The ICC has announced equal prize money for the men's and women's World Cups, starting with the Women's T20 World Cup in the UAE next month. Winners will receive \$2.34 million, a 134% increase from 2023. This move, ahead of schedule, aligns with the ICC's goal to prioritize and grow women's cricket by 2032.

The ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 will be the first ICC event where women will receive the same prize money as their male counterparts, marking a significant milestone in the sport's history,"

The Women's T20 World Cup begins in the UAE from October 3.

## Jafar Hassan as Jordan's new prime minister

King Abdullah II appointed Jafar Hassan as Jordan's new prime minister, effective September 2024. Jordan's King Abdullah has appointed Jafar Hassan as the new prime minister following the government's resignation. Hassan, a respected technocrat, faces challenges including the impact of the Gaza war on Jordan's economy. The Islamist opposition made gains in recent elections, potentially influencing future reforms and Policies.

## Richest and Poorest Indian States: GDP Contribution 2024.

The five southern states of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu collectively account for 30% of India's GDP as of March 2024, up from being below the national average in 1991. Maharashtra remains India's top

GDP contributor, but its share has declined from over 15% to 13.3% in recent years.

Maharashtra's per capita income has risen to 150.7% of the national average by March 2024.

## World Bank to Provide \$2 Billion for Bangladesh Reforms.

World Bank to Mobilize \$2 Billion for Bangladesh's Critical Reforms. World Bank Country Director Abdoulaye Seck on Tuesday said that the World Bank can mobilise about two billion US dollars in new financing in this fiscal year to support critical reforms, flood response, better air quality and health.



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