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National News

Economic and Financial News

New UPI Rules: New guidelines from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) have come into effect. These changes are aimed at improving the efficiency of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) system. Key changes include a cap on balance inquiry requests, restrictions on UPI autopay transactions during peak hours, and a limit on the use of the "list account" API.

U.S. Tariffs: The Trump administration has implemented a 25% tariff on Indian goods, effective from August 1. This move, which also includes a penalty for India's purchase of Russian oil and arms, has been announced despite ongoing trade negotiations between the two countries. India's government has stated it is examining the implications and will take steps to protect its national interests. The Congress party has criticized the government for its handling of the situation.

FASTag Annual Pass: The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways will introduce a new FASTag annual pass starting August 15. The pass, priced at Rs 3,000, will be valid for one year or up to 200 toll transactions.

Political and Social Events

Amarnath Yatra Suspended: The Amarnath Yatra from Jammu has been suspended for the second consecutive day due to inclement weather. No new pilgrims are being allowed to proceed to the cave shrine.

PM Modi's Independence Day Address: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has invited citizens to share their ideas and suggestions for his Independence Day speech on August 15. The public can submit their ideas through the MyGov platform and the NaMo App.

Government Initiatives:

The Bihar government has doubled the honorariums of cooks, watchmen, and health instructors at schools.

Punjab is set to launch India's first evidence-based anti-drug school curriculum.

Other Notable News

2008 Malegaon Blast Case: All accused in the 2008 Malegaon blast case have been acquitted by an NIA court after 17 years, with the court citing a lack of evidence.

Indian Army: Lieutenant General N.S. Raja Subramani has retired after 39 years of service, and Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh has been named the new Army Vice-Chief.

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d) A new government order

Answer: b) Inclement weather

The news explicitly says, "The Amarnath Yatra from Jammu has been suspended for the second consecutive day due to inclement weather."

3. What is the price and validity of the new FASTag annual pass?

- a) Rs 3,000 for one year or up to 200 toll transactions
- b) Rs 5,000 for one year with unlimited transactions
- c) Rs 1,500 for six months
- d) Rs 3,000 for a one-time use

Answer: a) Rs 3,000 for one year or up to 200 toll transactions

The news item specifies that the pass is "priced at Rs 3,000, will be valid for one year or up to 200 toll transactions."

4. What was the outcome of the 2008 Malegaon blast case?

- a) All accused were convicted and sentenced to prison.
- b) All accused were acquitted due to a lack of evidence.
- c) The case was dismissed on a technicality.
- d) The trial was postponed indefinitely.

Answer: b) All accused were acquitted due to a lack of evidence.

The news states that "All accused in the 2008 Malegaon blast case have been acquitted by an NIA court... with the court citing a lack of evidence."

5. Who has been appointed as the new Army Vice-Chief?

- a) Lieutenant General N.S. Raja Subramani
- b) Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh
- c) The position has not been filled yet.

MCQS

1. What is one of the new changes to the UPI system as of August 1, 2025?

- a) An increase in the daily transaction limit
- b) A cap on balance inquiry requests
- c) A new fee for all UPI transactions
- d) The removal of UPI Autopay functionality

Answer: b) A cap on balance inquiry requests
The news states, "Key changes include a cap on balance inquiry requests, restrictions on UPI autopay transactions during peak hours, and a limit on the use of the 'list account' API."

2. Why was the Amarnath Yatra suspended from Jammu?

- a) A security threat
- b) Inclement weather
- c) A logistical issue with transportation



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d) The Prime Minister has taken on the role temporarily.

Answer: b) Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh

The news clearly states that "Lieutenant General Pushpendra Singh has been named the new Army Vice-Chief."

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