

8. Short News

1. Parliamentary Elections in Japan

Landslide Victory- The Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), led by PM Sanae Takaichi, won a "supermajority" (over 316 seats) in the Lower House elections alongside its coalition partner, the Japan Innovation Party (Ishin).

Strategic Move- This was the third national election in 15 months, called early to secure a public mandate and political stability.

Historic Milestone- Sanae Takaichi is Japan's first female Prime Minister.

Impact- The supermajority allows the coalition to override the Upper House and easily pass legislation until 2028.

Political System of Japan

Structure- A constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary democracy.

Emperor- Serves as a ceremonial symbol of the state (currently Emperor Naruhito).

Executive- Power lies with the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Legislature (National Diet)- It is Bicameral (Two Houses).

House of Representatives (Lower House)- More powerful; appoints the PM and can override the Upper House.

House of Councillors (Upper House)- Functions as a revising body with fixed 6-year terms.

2. Amaravati To Become India's First Quantum Valley

Global Hub- Foundation stone laid at Uddandarayunipalem (Andhra Pradesh) to make Amaravati a global capital for quantum technologies, modelled after Silicon Valley.

Integrated Ecosystem- Aims to converge computing, sensing, communications, and materials research on one platform.

Infrastructure & Partnerships

133-Qubit Computer- Plans to host India's first 133-qubit quantum computer.

Innovation Hub- Will focus on AI, cybersecurity, defence, and healthcare.

Key Partners- Involves tech giants like IBM, TCS, L&T, and Wipro (for workforce development).

Goal- Train millions of students to create a future-ready workforce.

About Quantum Technologies-

Mechanism- Uses sub-atomic phenomena like superposition and entanglement.

Advantage- Solves complex problems (optimisation, simulations) much faster than traditional computers.

Applications- Critical for drug discovery, weather forecasting, and secure communications.

3. Chess at Esports Nations Cup (ENC) 2026

Inclusion- Chess is included as one of 16 titles at the inaugural Esports Nations Cup (ENC) 2026.

Host- Scheduled to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in November 2026.

About Esports Nations Cup (ENC)-

Format- A global tournament for national teams (unlike club-based events), featuring both Team and Solo formats.

Frequency- To be held once every two years.

Significance- Equal placement rewards and guaranteed prize money for all players.

Organizer- The Esports World Cup Foundation (EWCF), a non-profit based in Riyadh.

4. Moltbook- Social Media for AI

What is Moltbook?

AI-Only Platform- A Reddit-style social network designed exclusively for AI agents.

Human Role- Humans can view but cannot post or comment. Only AI bots (created by humans) interact autonomously.

Core Tech- Built on "Molbot," an open-source AI agent.

Key Features & Concerns

Activity- 1.5 million AI bots discussing topics like philosophy, geopolitics, and religion.

Emergent Behavior- Bots have started creating their own belief systems and collaborating.

Risks- Experts warn of cybersecurity risks like "prompt injection" and data misuse if agents get unrestricted access.

5. Thwaites Glacier ("Doomsday Glacier")

Melting Threat- Scientists have raised alarms about the Thwaites Glacier melting at an unprecedented rate due to climate change.

Key Facts

Location- West Antarctic Ice Sheet (WAIS), flowing into the Amundsen Sea.

Significance- It is a "climate tipping element."

Potential Impact- Complete collapse could raise global sea levels by half a meter.

consequences- This would lead to severe coastal flooding, erosion, and storm surges worldwide, affecting low-lying cities and islands.

6. Eritrea

Tension- Ethiopia has demanded the immediate withdrawal of Eritrean troops from its territory, escalating tensions in the Horn of Africa.

Country Profile

Location- Northeast Africa (Horn of Africa).

Capital- Asmara (UNESCO World Heritage Site).

Strategic Importance- Controls the coast of the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, a critical maritime choke point connecting the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

7. Sardinia Island

Prison Transfer- Italy plans to move 750 high-risk mafia inmates to facilities in Sardinia under the strict "41bis" regime (near-total isolation).

Geography

Location- Second-largest island in the Mediterranean Sea, west of Italy and south of Corsica.

Terrain- Mountainous (granite/schist) with a subtropical Mediterranean climate.

Economy- Known for sheep/goat farming and cultural festivals.

8. Impacts of India-US Trade Pact on GPUs

New Deal- India and the US agreed to boost trade in technology, specifically removing barriers for importing Graphics Processing Units (GPUs).

About GPUs

Function- Specialized processors designed for parallel processing (handling multiple tasks simultaneously).

Evolution- Originally for gaming/graphics, now essential for AI training, crypto mining, and large-scale data analysis.

Vs. CPUs- While CPUs handle serial tasks (logic), GPUs excel at the massive calculations needed for AI.

Significance of the Pact-

Capacity Boost- India aims to triple GPU capacity (38,000 to 100,000) by 2026.

Investments- A tax holiday until 2047 for data centers is expected to attract \$200 billion from giants like Google and Microsoft.

AI Ambitions- Supports the "IndiaAI Mission" and sovereign compute capacity (e.g., NIC's Meghraj).