OCTOBER 2026 CURRENT AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- **India–Switzerland:** State visit of Swiss President Guy Parmelin; marked 1st anniversary of India–EFTA TEPA (in force 1 Oct 2025); 5 agreements signed (EFTA- European Free Trade Association; TEPA- Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement)
- **India–New Zealand FTA:** Came into force; NZ removes duty on 100% of Indian exports; India gives concessions on 70% tariff lines; temporary employment visas for up to 5,000 Indian professionals (stay up to 3 yrs); NZ to facilitate $20 bn FDI in 15 yrs (FTA- Free Trade Agreement)
- **India–Uzbekistan:** Ties upgraded to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership; 10th JWG on Counter-Terrorism (New Delhi); trade target $5 bn by 2030 (from $1 bn); long-term uranium supply framework (JWG- Joint Working Group)
- **India–Sri Lanka:** Houses handed over in Galle (Model Village Housing Project, 2017 MoU); e-motorbikes for fisheries officers under new MoU
- **Ateshgah Fire Temple:** Surakhani, Baku (Azerbaijan); visited by S. Jaishankar; built 17th–18th century; used by Hindu & Sikh merchants
- **India–Saudi Arabia Electrical Interconnection:** Proposed 3 GW undersea HVDC power link of about 2,100 km; (HVDC- High Voltage Direct Current)
- **India–Poland:** PM Donald Tusk's India visit; target to double bilateral trade (now $6.3 bn) by 2030; Strategic Partnership since PM Modi's 2024 Poland visit
- **25th SCO Heads of Government Meeting:** Dushanbe, Tajikistan; India represented by Rajnath Singh; India to host 1st SCO Civilisational Dialogue Forum, New Delhi
  - **SCO:** Est. 2001 (Shanghai); 10 members (China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India, Pakistan, Iran, Belarus); Observers- Afghanistan, Mongolia; Dialogue Partners- 14+ incl. Turkiye, Azerbaijan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Egypt, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE; Secretariat- Beijing; RATS- Tashkent (SCO- Shanghai Cooperation Organisation; RATS- Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure)
  - **SCO Council of National Coordinators:** Islamabad (Pakistan chair); theme- "Turning Vision into Action: Connectivity, Innovation and Shared Prosperity"; 1st Indian delegation visit since Operation Sindoor
- **7th CICA Summit:** Baku, Azerbaijan; Laos became 29th member; India- MoS Kirti Vardhan Singh; Baku Declaration adopted; CICA proposed by Nursultan Nazarbayev (Kazakhstan) at UNGA 1992; Secretariat- Astana; 29 members, 9 observers (CICA- Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia)
- **12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum:** Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi; inaugurated by Om Birla; delegations from 21 nations; theme- "Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development"; India is BRICS Chair 2026
- **BRICS:** "BRIC" coined by Jim O'Neill (2001); 1st summit Yekaterinburg, Russia 2009; South Africa joined 2010; 2024- Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, UAE (Saudi Arabia invited, not formally joined); Indonesia- 2025
- **BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting (1st):** New Delhi; BIMSTEC est. 1997 (Bangkok Declaration); 7 members (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand); Secretariat- Dhaka (BIMSTEC- Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation)
  - **BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise (1st):** Hosted by India at Sri Vijaya Puram (A&N Islands); navies & coast guards of all 7 members
- **153rd IPU Assembly:** Arusha, Tanzania; Indian delegation led by Harivansh (RS Dy. Chairman); Arusha Communique adopted; IPU founded 1889 (Paris), HQ Geneva; 183 Member Parliaments + 15 Associate Members (IPU- Inter-Parliamentary Union)
- **Badr Defence Pact:** MoU on defence-industry & military cooperation between Qatar, Turkiye, Pakistan & Indonesia; signed in Doha; Badr = "full moon" (Arabic)
- **Alliance for the Future:** EU–Canada; launched at EU–Canada Summit, Montreal; critical minerals, supply chains, defence
- **Ukraine:** Joined NSPA's Security Cooperation Support Partnership (SCSP); 1st & only non-NATO country with separate SCSP (NSPA- NATO Support and Procurement Agency)
- **Nepal:** 1st country to get money from UN FRLD; $21.6 million for flood recovery; FRLD agreed at COP27 (Sharm el-Sheikh 2022), operationalised at COP28; World Bank is interim trustee (FRLD- Fund for responding to Loss and Damage; COP- Conference of the Parties)

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- **World Bank Digital Strategy:** 1st ever; launched in Seoul, South Korea; pillars- affordable connectivity, practical AI, jobs
- **Sakharov Prize 2026:** Awarded to ICC & its officials; given by European Parliament since 1988 (EU's top human rights prize); ICC: Est. 2002 (Rome Statute 1998); HQ The Hague; tries genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, aggression; principle of complementarity; India not a member (ICC- International Criminal Court)
- **IMF World Economic Outlook:** Global growth 3.1% (2026), 3.4% (2027); India 7.0% for both years (fiscal-year basis); IMF–World Bank Annual Meetings 2026 held in Bangkok
- **Pakistan:** To chair Boards of Governors of IMF & World Bank Group in 2027; 1st time since 1953
- **World Health Summit 2026:** Berlin, Germany; theme- "From Crisis to Resilience: Innovating for Health"
- **IWC-70:** Hobart, Australia; IWC set up 1946 under ICRW (Washington); 88 members; commercial whaling moratorium 1986; India member since 1981 (IWC- International Whaling Commission; ICRW- International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling)
- **Bangkok Blueprint:** Launched by IMF & World Bank with Bank of Thailand; reference framework to fight cyber-enabled financial fraud; Asia = 67% of global fraud losses (2024); fraud about $1 tn/yr (about 3% of world GDP)
- **WHIP:** Launched by US Justice Department; rewards for reporting fraud against the government (WHIP- Fraud Whistleblower Incentive Program)
- **Greece:** Social media banned for under-15s from 2027; Australia- 1st country to ban social media for under-16s (2025)
- **'Be Ready' Campaign:** By UK; 1st phase of 3-year national preparedness initiative
- **Operation Inherent Resolve:** US completed troop withdrawal from Iraq; ended 12-year mission (since 2014) against Islamic State
- **US–Russia Diesel Deal:** US eased sanctions on Russian diesel after Trump–Putin call; Russia to supply diesel to US market
- **US Super Intelligence Force (SIF):** Formed by Donald Trump to coordinate federal AI policy & keep US AI lead; Jay Clayton named AI czar to lead it
- **Brazil Election 2026:** Lula da Silva re-elected; defeated Flavio Bolsonaro in runoff after trailing him in 1st round
- **Kaliningrad:** Russia's westernmost exclave on Baltic Sea (borders Lithuania, Poland); flashpoint in Russia–NATO tensions
- **South Korea:** 1st test of indigenous hypersonic missile (Mach 5+, manoeuvrable in flight)
- **Shamonda Virus:** Livestock virus spread by biting midges; France reported 1st human case (patient died); Orthobunyavirus genus, Simbu serogroup
- **Zam-2.0:** North Korea's AI-guided underwater torpedo
- **Port of Constanta:** Romania; western Black Sea; links Black Sea–Danube
- **Rogun Dam:** Tajikistan (Vakhsh River, Amu Darya basin); to be world's tallest dam at 335 m; target completion by 2035
- **Mahatma Gandhi:** 1st life-size statue in North Dakota (Peace Park, Bismarck)
- **Diwali Stamp:** US Postal Service released new Diwali Forever stamp; rangoli design by Sangita Bhutada (Houston); 1st USPS Diwali stamp- 2016 (USPS- United States Postal Service)
- **61st CIML Meeting:** New Delhi; 1st time in India; Organiser- Department of Consumer Affairs with OIML (est. 1955, HQ Paris) (CIML- International Committee of Legal Metrology; OIML- International Organisation of Legal Metrology)

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

- **PM Narendra Modi:** Completed 25 years as head of a government; sworn in as Gujarat CM on 7 Oct 2001; Union Cabinet passed a resolution to mark it
- **14th International Tourism Mart:** Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh)
- **7th Agrivoltaics World Conference:** Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi; theme- "Powering the Global South"; inaugurated by Pralhad Joshi & Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- **Cyclone Arnab:** 1st named cyclone of 2026 (N. Indian Ocean); formed in Bay of Bengal; landfall near Yanam/Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh); named by Bangladesh (Arnab = sea/ocean); VSCS range 118-166 km/h (IMD); next name- Murasu (by India) (VSCS- Very Severe Cyclonic Storm)
- **DRISHTI Project:** GIS property survey of Delhi's unauthorised colonies (DRISHTI- Delhi Revenue and Imaging Survey, Spatial Technology Initiative; GIS- Geographic Information System)
- **Gujarat–Scotland:** MoU on renewable energy, trade, education, skills, sports, culture

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- **Jantar Mantar:** Denotified as protest site by Delhi Police; alternatives- Ramlila Ground, Burari Ground, CBD Ground (Shahdara); built 1724 by Sawai Jai Singh II (5 observatories- Delhi, Jaipur, Ujjain, Varanasi, Mathura; Jaipur's is UNESCO site 2010)
- **Kerala Cooperative Airline (Co-Keralam):** India's 1st cooperative-sector airline approved (Kerala Civil Aviation Development Cooperative Society)
- **'Speak Up' Task Force:** By Kerala Police against domestic violence
- **Ladakh:** Sankoo notified 8th district (Leh, Kargil, Sham, Nubra, Changthang, Zanskar, Drass, Sankoo); LAHDC (Amendment) Regulation 2026 extends Hill Councils to all 8 districts; notified by LG Vinai Kumar Saxena; LAHDC Act 1995 (Leh council 1995, Kargil 2003) (LAHDC- Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council)
- **Ladakh High Court Bench:** Inaugurated in Leh; India's highest-altitude HC bench (3,500 m)
- **India's 1st 100% organic UT:** Ladakh (Sikkim- 1st fully organic state, 2016)
- **Lakshadweep:** Declared 100% literate UT under ULLAS–Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram; Ladakh- 1st fully literate UT (2024); Mizoram- 1st fully literate state (2025) (ULLAS- Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society)
- **Maharashtra:** 1st Annapurti Grain ATM of state inaugurated at Nashik
- **Mission Karmayogi:** Northern region assessment- UP 1st, Rajasthan 2nd, J&K 3rd; launched 2020 (NPCSCB); platform- iGOT Karmayogi (NPCSCB- National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building; iGOT- Integrated Government Online Training)
- **Mission Murghas:** Maharashtra; to address severe fodder shortage during drought
- **Mysuru Dasara Drone Show:** Set Guinness World Record for the largest drone light-show formation (a dancing peacock) during Dasara celebrations
- **Nagaland SAY-SOBLOK:** Samaveshi Aajeevika Yojana under DAY-NRLM; with BRAC International; for extremely vulnerable households (DAY-NRLM- Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana–National Rural Livelihoods Mission)
- **Narendra Modi International Airport:** UP Cabinet renamed Noida International Airport (Jewar, Gautam Buddh Nagar)
- **National SARAS Aajeevika Mela 2026:** Vijayawada; inaugurated by President Murmu; Ministry of Rural Development (DAY-NRLM); 1st outside Delhi-NCR (SARAS- Sale of Articles of Rural Artisans Society)
- **Odisha:** Launched India's 1st dedicated incentive portal for MICE tourism (MICE- Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions)
- **Paschim Banga:** WB govt to bring bill to rename state as 'Paschim Banga'; Art. 3- Parliament changes name by simple majority on President's recommendation; State's views not binding
- **Raksha Expo 2026:** Telangana; India's 1st state-organised defence & aerospace expo; Bharat Future City, Hyderabad
- **Sikkim:** 1st Himalayan Yak Festival; Gnathang Valley
- **Bathukamma:** Telangana's 9-day floral festival
- **Sagarmanthan 2026:** Global maritime summit, New Delhi
- **India Chem 2026 (14th):** Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai; theme- "Advantage Bharat: An Emerging Global Chemicals Hub"; partner country- Japan; by Dept. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals with FICCI (FICCI- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry)

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

- **Supreme Court Judges:** Sunita Agarwal, Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya, Aparesh Kumar Singh sworn in by CJI Surya Kant; working strength 37 (sanctioned 38 incl. CJI)
- **Constitution:** Art. 124- SC judges; 217- HC judges; 126- Acting CJI; 127- ad hoc SC judges; 128- retired judges at SC sittings
- **Right to Internet:** SC held access & use of internet a fundamental right of every individual incl. children under Art. 21 read with Art. 19(1)(a); case on online CSEAM (Just Rights for Children Alliance); earlier- Faheema Shirin (Kerala HC 2019), Anuradha Bhasin (SC 2020) (CSEAM- Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Material)
- **Gujarat UCC:** 2nd state after Uttarakhand to get Presidential assent; Art. 44 (DPSP); Uttarakhand UCC in force 2025; Goa- common civil code since Portuguese era (UCC- Uniform Civil Code; DPSP- Directive Principles of State Policy)
- **New Governors:** Tamil Nadu- R.V. Arlekar (from Kerala); Kerala- Om Prakash Mathur (from Sikkim); Odisha- Braj Mohan Ram; Karnataka- Dr. Sudha Yadav; Uttarakhand- Dr. Dhal Singh Bisen; Sikkim- Dushyant Gautam
- **Governor (Articles):** 153- Governor for each State; 155- appointed by President; 156- holds office during pleasure of President; 157- citizen, 35+ yrs; 163- Council of Ministers to aid & advise; 200- options on Bills
- **FNTA Bill 2026:** President's assent; autonomous authority for 6 eastern Nagaland districts (Tuensang, Mon, Longleng, Kiphire, Noklak, Shamator); Art. 371A (FNTA- Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority)

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- **National Social Security Board:** Notified under Code on Social Security 2020 for unorganised, gig & platform workers; Chair- Union Labour Minister (Mansukh Mandaviya)
- **Ramesh Chand Committee:** Set up by Centre to examine sugarcane farmers' issues (prices, weighment, recovery); FRP fixed by Centre on CACP advice, SAP by states (FRP- Fair and Remunerative Price; CACP- Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices; SAP- State Advised Price)
- **National Conference on e-Governance Reforms 2026:** DARPG + Himachal Pradesh govt; Dharamshala (HP); 29th National Conference on e-Governance- Jaipur (DARPG- Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances)
- **Central Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Rules 2026:** MoRTH allows E85 & E100 fuel in flex-fuel vehicles (MoRTH- Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; E85- 85% ethanol blend)
- **54th PRAGATI Meeting:** Chaired by PM Modi at Seva Teerth (new PMO complex); PRAGATI launched 2015 (PRAGATI- Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation)
- **Vigilance Awareness Week 2026:** Week of Sardar Patel's birthday (31 Oct); by CVC; theme- "Probity for Prosperity" (CVC- Central Vigilance Commission)

SCHEMES & INITIATIVES

- **PM-KISAN:** 24th instalment released from Bhildi, Banaskantha (Gujarat); ₹6,000/yr in 3 instalments; Central Sector Scheme (2019) (PM-KISAN- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi)
- **PM Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana:** Centrally Sponsored; 2026-27 to 2030-31; strengthens Panchayati Raj Institutions
- **Tamil Nadu Annan Seer Scheme:** 8 g 22-carat gold coin (1 sovereign) + silk saree for brides; income limit ₹2.5 lakh
- **Khelo India Sports Goods Manufacturing Scheme:** ₹1,856.67 cr for 8 years (2026-27 to 2033-34)
- **National Coastal Mission 2.0:** Central Sector; 2026-27 to 2030-31; MoEFCC; guidelines launched by Bhupender Yadav (MoEFCC- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change)
- **Digital Agriculture Mission:** 11 crore Farmer IDs achieved, 5 months before Mar 2027 target
- **UDAN:** 10 years (launched Oct 2016); 1st flight Shimla–Delhi (Apr 2017); Modified UDAN- 2026 (UDAN- Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik)
- **JOSH Teams:** Health Ministry with Youth Affairs & Defence (MY Bharat volunteers + NCC cadets); 55 districts in 11 States/UTs in phase 1; under TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan (JOSH- Joint Squad for Health)
- **Brihattar Bharat Programme (2026-31):** Ministry of Culture; on India's cultural links abroad; centenary of Greater India Society (est. 1926, Calcutta); international conference at Vigyan Bhawan
- **Khet Bachao Abhiyan–Rabi 2026:** 40-day campaign launched in Karnal, Haryana
- **Punah Bharan App:** Launched by Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil; uses geospatial data to find artificial groundwater recharge zones within 3 km radius
- **Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (CMPS):** To cut container imports
- **RELIEF Initiative:** Under Export Promotion Mission (Dept. of Commerce); Component II (ECGC war-risk cover) extended till 31 Mar 2027 (RELIEF- Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation; ECGC- Export Credit Guarantee Corporation)
- **Science on Wheels:** IIT Mandi, Himachal Pradesh; hands-on science learning for rural students
- **NSAP renamed PM Samajik Sahayata Yojana:** For 2026-27 to 2030-31; disability pension ₹375 (up to 79 yrs; from ₹300), ₹625 (80+; from ₹500); disability threshold cut from 80% to 40%; parts renamed- PM Vridhavastha Pension, PM Vidhawa Pension, PM Divyangjan Pension, PM Parivar Labh Yojana; NSAP launched 15 Aug 1995 (Art. 41) (NSAP- National Social Assistance Programme)
- **Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana:** Ministry of Social Justice; launched 2017; assistive devices for needy senior citizens
- **National SC-ST Hub (NSSH):** Implemented by NSIC; launched 2016 (NSIC- National Small Industries Corporation)
- **PRASHAST App:** Ministry of Education (2023); screening of children with disabilities in schools (PRASHAST- Pre-Assessment Holistic Screening Tool)
- **Kerala Olympic Talent Pathway:** To identify & train young athletes for 2036 Olympic Games
- **SANGAT Mental Health Clubs:** Punjab; in colleges to promote youth mental well-being

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- **NVS-03 (GSLV-F18):** Launched by ISRO from Sriharikota; 3rd satellite of 2nd-gen NavIC series; carries indigenous atomic clock; NavIC covers India + 1,500 km around (NavIC- Navigation with Indian Constellation; GSLV- Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle)

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- **TRISHNA:** ISRO–CNES thermal infrared satellite (3rd Indo-French after Megha-Tropiques 2011 & SARAL 2013); monitors land temperature, water stress (TRISHNA- Thermal infraRed Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural resource Assessment; CNES- French space agency)
- **NASA PUFFINS Mission:** Small telescope to study interstellar dust; Dr. Ramya Manjunath Anche (Bengaluru-born) is Principal Investigator; launch 2030
- **Japan MMX Mission:** JAXA; to study Mars moons Phobos & Deimos; Phobos sample return (MMX- Martian Moons eXploration; JAXA- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency)
- **AATAL:** World's 1st regional air-pollution analysis lab (Delhi-NCR); under MoES Mission Mausam; inaugurated by Dr. Jitendra Singh (AATAL- Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosol Toxicity Analysis Laboratory; MoES- Ministry of Earth Sciences)
- **Tesla Roadster 2:** Unveiled by Elon Musk; gas-thruster aerial manoeuvres; production 2028
- **TAPAS-1:** India's 1st commercial private thermal-imaging mission; by Ahmedabad-based SatLeo Labs; flew on SpaceX Falcon 9
- **CERVAVAC:** India's 1st indigenous HPV vaccine to get WHO prequalification (Serum Institute); quadrivalent- HPV 6, 11, 16, 18 (HPV- Human Papillomavirus)
- **ICMR-CHAMP:** India's 1st high-altitude health research centre; Keylong, Lahaul-Spiti (HP); foundation laid by J.P. Nadda (CHAMP- Centre for High Altitude Medicine & Public Health Research)
- **Tumaini Trial:** WHO-backed Phase 2/3 trial of vaccine against Bundibugyo virus (a strain of Ebola) in Democratic Republic of the Congo
- **Kufri Jamunia:** Biofortified purple-fleshed potato rich in anthocyanin; ICAR-CPRI Shimla (released 2024); for North Indian plains (CPRI- Central Potato Research Institute)
- **EyeROV TROUT:** India's 1st indigenous military-grade underwater ROV; by Kochi-based EyeROV; delivered to Indian Navy (ROV- Remotely Operated Vehicle)
- **Rongtong Solar Project:** HP's 1st battery-backed solar project near Kaza, Spiti
- **Cyber Trojan Project:** India's 1st installation at c0c0n 2026 cybersecurity conference, Kochi; Trojan- malware disguised as a genuine file or app to enter a device and steal data
- **SUVIKALP:** In-house mine repurposing tool of Coal Controller Organisation; won SKOCH Gold Award 2026
- **AVNI:** AI agriculture learning app for children (IIT Ropar)
- **Team AgniRath (IIT Madras):** 3rd in Sasol Solar Challenge 2026, South Africa; solar car Aagneya
- **Magnesium hydridomethylzincate:** By IISER Thiruvananthapuram; solid material that stores & releases two fuel gases- hydrogen and methane (IISER- Indian Institute of Science Education and Research)
- **Glacial Lake Early Warning System:** Uttarakhand's 1st; at Vasundhara Tal, Chamoli (GLOF monitoring; solar + satellite) (GLOF- Glacial Lake Outburst Flood)

DEFENCE & SECURITY

- **FSS 'Surya':** India's 1st indigenous Fleet Support Ship (1st of 5); launched at HSL, Visakhapatnam by Rajnath Singh (HSL- Hindustan Shipyard Ltd)
- **INS Samarthak:** 1st indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel (75% indigenous); commissioned at Karwar by Vice President
- **INS Mangrol:** 3rd Mahe-class ASW-SWC; commissioned at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai (ASW-SWC- Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft)
- **NGOPVs:** Shreyas- 3rd NGOPV launched by GRSE, Kolkata; Srishti- 4th NGOPV launched by GSL; total 11 (GSL 7, GRSE 4) (NGOPV- Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel; GRSE- Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers; GSL- Goa Shipyard Ltd)
- **29th Chief of Air Staff:** Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit (succeeds A.P. Singh)
- **ALH Mk-III (CG 875):** 1st of five indigenous multi-role helicopters (by HAL) for Coast Guard's Ratnagiri (Maharashtra) squadron (ALH- Advanced Light Helicopter; HAL- Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd)
- **JWALA-Mk1:** By IG Defence; India's 1st private-sector micro-missile; counter-drone
- **Project Seabird:** INS Kadamba Naval Base, Karwar, Karnataka
- **Cambrian Patrol 2026:** Assam Regiment won Gold; Wales, UK (British Army patrol exercise)
- **Swavlamban 2026:** Navy's innovation & indigenisation seminar; Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
- **Project Arunank:** BRO; 19th Raising Day (Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh); raised 2008 (BRO- Border Roads Organisation)
- **Operation Trident:** NCB with ED & Northeast police against transnational drug & money-laundering networks in NE states (NCB- Narcotics Control Bureau; ED- Enforcement Directorate)

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- **INS Sahyadri:** Reached Busan (South Korea) for maiden India–ROK bilateral naval exercise (IN-RoKN) (ROK- Republic of Korea)
- **Misagh-2:** Iran's MANPADS (Man-Portable Air-Defence System)
- **FP-7:** Ukraine's (Fire Point) tactical ballistic missile; 1st combat use

Military Exercises

Exercise	Participants	Place
AUSTRAHIND 2026 (5th)	India–Australia (Army)	Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
KONKAN-26	India–UK naval exercise (INS Trishul)	Off Plymouth, UK
SIMBEX 2026 (33rd)	Singapore–India Maritime Bilateral Exercise	Visakhapatnam
IBSAMAR IX 2026	India–Brazil–South Africa trilateral maritime exercise (INS Tarkash)	Simon's Town, South Africa
KAZIND 2026	India–Kazakhstan	Oskemen, Kazakhstan
Mountain Guardian 2026	India–UAE	Chaubatia, Uttarakhand
Garuda Shakti 2026 (12th)	India–Indonesia Special Forces	Banyuwangi, East Java, Indonesia
AIME 2026 (2nd)	ASEAN–India Maritime Exercise (INS Sahyadri, Kulish)	Subic Bay, Philippines
SAREX-2026 (12th)	National Maritime Search & Rescue Exercise by Indian Coast Guard; observers from 30 countries (SAREX- Search and Rescue Exercise)	Off Paradip (Odisha)
INDRA 2026	India–Russia naval exercise (INS Sahyadri)	Vladivostok, Russia
IN-RoKN (maiden)	India–South Korea naval exercise (INS Sahyadri) (IN-RoKN- Indian Navy–Republic of Korea Navy)	Busan, South Korea
Akhand Prahar-II	Indian Army	Jaisalmer, Rajasthan

ENVIRONMENT & GEOGRAPHY

- **Ramsar Sites:** Sukhna Wetland (Chandigarh's 1st) & Sauj Jheel (Mainpuri, UP) added; India total 103; Ramsar Convention 1971 (Iran), in force 1975; India joined 1982
- **IBCA:** Ghana joined; 7 big cats (tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, cheetah, jaguar, puma); launched 2023 (Mysuru, 50 yrs of Project Tiger); HQ New Delhi (IBCA- International Big Cat Alliance)
- **Ganges River Dolphin:** Recovery Programme named UN World Restoration Flagship (UNEP report "Nature's Comeback"); National Aquatic Animal (2009) (UNEP- UN Environment Programme)
- **Blackbuck Translocation:** Moved from Barnawapara to Gomarda (Chhattisgarh)
- **Jawahar Dweep:** Mumbai Port; India's 1st marine oil terminal free of single-use plastic
- **VOC Port:** Tuticorin International Container Terminal declared Green Terminal (100% electrification) (VOC- V.O. Chidambaranar)
- **UNESCO Tentative List:** 3 Indian sites added, total 81- Baratang Karst–Mud Volcano (A&N), Andaman Subduction Volcanoes (Narcondam, Barren), Sirpur Landscape (Chhattisgarh); India has 44 World Heritage Sites
- **UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2026:** 17th edition "The Point of Return"; cuts needed vs 2025- 18% (2030), 45% (2035), 69% (2040); G20- 76% of emissions; only 6 G20 members on track for 2030 NDCs (India, China, Indonesia, Russia, South Africa, Turkiye); India per capita emissions less than half global average (NDC- Nationally Determined Contribution)
- **Snow Leopard Safari:** India's 1st high-altitude; Ladakh (Rumbak, Shang, Uley)
- **Plan Bee:** NFR acoustic honeybee deterrent to keep elephants off railway tracks (NFR- Northeast Frontier Railway)
- **Janakikkad Forest:** Kozhikode (Kerala); Spot-bellied Eagle-Owl photographed 1st time
- **Bud Rot:** Coconut disease by fungus-like Phytophthora palmivora
- **Korattur Lake:** Chennai; invasive Prosopis juliflora cleared
- **Transport Mela:** By MoRTH & Delhi Govt to shift old commercial vehicles to cleaner options under PARIVARTAN Scheme
- **Green Diwali Campaign 2026:** By WWF-India's EIACP Centre to promote cracker-free celebrations (WWF- World Wide Fund for Nature; EIACP- Environmental Information, Awareness, Capacity Building and Livelihood Programme)

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ECONOMY

- **RBI MPC (63rd):** Repo hiked 25 bps to 5.50% (from 5.25%); SDF 5.25%; MSF/Bank Rate 5.75%; fixed Reverse Repo 3.35%; stance changed from neutral to "calibrated tightening"; Governor- Sanjay Malhotra (MPC- Monetary Policy Committee; SDF- Standing Deposit Facility; MSF- Marginal Standing Facility; bps- basis points)
- **RBI Projections 2026-27:** GDP 7.1% (Q2 7.2, Q3 6.9, Q4 6.8); CPI 5.2% (Q2 4.9, Q3 6.0, Q4 5.7) (CPI- Consumer Price Index)
- **Auto Industry:** India ahead of Japan; world's 3rd-largest market (after China, US)
- **SBI:** World's Best Consumer Bank 2026 (Global Finance); 2nd consecutive year
- **World Development Report 2026 (on AI):** By World Bank; launched in India under IndiaAI Mission
- **SIOFA:** India became full Contracting Party (earlier CNCP status); for sustainable use of fishery resources of Southern Indian Ocean high seas; signed 2006 (Rome, FAO), in force 2012 (SIOFA- Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement; CNCP- Cooperating Non-Contracting Party)
- **RBI Data Centre & Cybersecurity Training Institute:** Inaugurated at Info Valley-II, Jatni, near Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- **Project Jagrook:** Awareness & financial literacy campaign by SEBI; theme- "Samajh Se Investing Simple"; during World Investor Week 2026 (SEBI- Securities and Exchange Board of India)
- **NABKISAN Finance Ltd:** NABARD subsidiary; 1st WASH social bond listed on NSE (NABARD- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development; WASH- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene; NSE- National Stock Exchange)
- **India's 1st 3D-Printed Rural Housing Pilot:** Andhra Pradesh, under PMAY-G (PMAY-G- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana–Gramin)
- **Bharat Rice:** Army ration quality initiative; 5-year MoU with FCI (FCI- Food Corporation of India)
- **Mormugao Port:** 1st major port with CNPN authorisation for private 5G network (CNPN- Captive Non-Public Network)

INDEX & REPORTS

- **Global Innovation Index 2026:** WIPO (19th edition); India 38th/139 (Inputs 49th, Outputs 25th); 1st among 36 lower-middle-income & 11 Central-Southern Asia economies; overperformer 16 yrs; Top- Switzerland, Sweden, USA (WIPO- World Intellectual Property Organization)
- **Henley Passport Index:** India 84th/199 (shared with Algeria, Mauritania); visa-free access to 55 destinations; Singapore 1st (193)
- **WJP Rule of Law Index 2026:** India 88th/143; Denmark 1st; Venezuela last (WJP- World Justice Project)
- **Ipsos Quality of Care Index 2026:** India 3rd/32 (Malaysia 1st, Singapore 2nd); healthcare quality 68%; trust 64%; appointment ease 73% (1st); pharmacy 81%
- **Jaipur (Rajasthan):** In National Geographic's 'Best of the World 2027' list of 25 travel destinations
- **Living Planet Report 2026:** By WWF & ZSL; biennial (ZSL- Zoological Society of London)
- **Global Hunger Index 2026:** India 100th/122 (tied with Ethiopia); score 24.1 ('serious'); undernourishment 9.8%, child stunting 29.3%, wasting 19% (highest in South Asia), child mortality 2.7%; by Welthungerhilfe & Concern Worldwide

AWARDS & HONOURS

- **Nobel Prize 2026:**
  - **Peace:** Navi Pillay (South Africa; Indian Tamil origin); ex-UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (2008-14), ex-ICC judge & ICTR President (ICTR- International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda)
  - **Physics:** Francis Halzen; IceCube Neutrino Observatory (South Pole) & discovery of high-energy astrophysical neutrinos
  - **Chemistry:** Henri B. Kagan & Kenso Soai; non-linear effects & autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis
  - **Medicine:** Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann & Georg Nagel; light-gated ion channels & optogenetics
  - **Literature:** Anne Carson (Canada); works- Eros the Bittersweet (1986), Autobiography of Red (1998), Men in the Off Hours (2000), Nox (2010)
  - **Economics:** Robert E. Hall & Michael Woodford (USA); microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation
- **SASTRA Ramanujan Prize 2026:** Mahesh Kakde (IISc); algebraic number theory; for mathematicians aged 32 or below (SASTRA- Shanmugha Arts, Science, Technology & Research Academy; IISc- Indian Institute of Science)
- **Oskar Klein Medal 2026:** Ashoke Sen; 1st Indian; string theory
- **Sunil Bharti Mittal:** Founder of Bharti Enterprises; awarded France's highest civilian honour, Chevalier de l'Ordre national de la Légion d'Honneur

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- **Smit Machchhar:** Flydubai captain; saved 174 passengers on flight FZ1073 (Dubai–Tel Aviv) after a co-pilot attack; Vishisht Gujarat Garima Award, Israel's Presidential Award for Civilian Heroism, UAE's Order of Zayed II
- **Dr. Bhupen Hazarika National Award:** Instituted by Assam govt; 1st recipient Usha Mangeshkar
- **Lalit Kala Akademi Awards:** Presented by President at 65th National Exhibition of Art; Akademi est. 1954, inaugurated by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad
- **Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2026:** Federico Veronesi (Italy) for 'The Aftermath' (elephant carrying dead calf); Young- Oscar Whitfield ('Labour of Love'); by Natural History Museum, London
- **India at WPY:** Sitaram Dinkar Raul (Maharashtra) won Behaviour: Invertebrates category ('Shifting Sand') (WPY- Wildlife Photographer of the Year)
- **TIME100 Next 2026:** Indians/Indian-origin- Vaibhav Sooryavanshi (youngest on list), Pawan Kumar Chandana (Skyroot), Swapna Reddy, Himesh Patel, Rati Sahi Levesque
- **Ballon d'Or 2026 (70th year; London):** Harry Kane (Men), Alexia Putellas (Women, 3rd time); Kopa- Lamine Yamal; Yashin- Unai Simon; Socrates Award- Bukayo Saka (humanitarian work)
- **Reema Nanavaty:** Director of SEWA; received Hillary Rodham Clinton Award for advancing women's rights, peace & security (SEWA- Self Employed Women's Association)
- **Jindal Steel Ltd.:** Won 2026 worldsteel Steelie Award, "Excellence in People" category, for Dakshata Engineering Safety programme
- **Princess of Asturias Award for Sports 2026:** Lionel Messi; 1st footballer as individual laureate (Spain)
- **Shabari Naturals:** Maharashtra govt initiative; won Japan's G-Mark (Good Design) Award 2026 for tribal-art-inspired packaging
- **Ameena Nazreen A.S. (Kerala):** Won Global Youth Institute Award 2026, Des Moines, USA
- **Pi ZT Lalrithangi:** Mizoram strawberry grower; among FAO's 100 Women Heroes in Agrifood Systems and Rural Development 2026 (FAO- Food and Agriculture Organization)
- **Radhakrishnan M.S. (Kochi):** Won 28th Charles Correa Gold Medal 2026 for project 'Energy Commons'
- **Lingampalli Himaja (Andhra Pradesh):** Voice-enabled Braille printer RUDHRA in Global Top 20 of James Dyson Award 2026

SPORTS

- **Asian Games 2026 (20th; Aichi-Nagoya, Japan):** India 4th- 85 medals (21G, 27S, 37B)
  - **Hockey:** Both men's & women's teams won gold; qualified for LA Olympics 2028
  - **Cricket & Kabaddi:** India won gold in both men's & women's events; Vaibhav Sooryavanshi- youngest Indian Asian Games gold medallist
  - **Archery:** 9 medals (5 gold); Kumkum Mohod- India's 1st women's individual recurve gold; women's recurve team also won gold
  - **Shooting:** 15 medals (3 gold); Neeru Dhanda won women's trap individual gold
  - **Athletics:** 24 medals (1 gold); women's 4×400 m relay won gold
  - **Boxing & Wrestling:** 6 medals each (3 & 2 gold)
  - **Golf:** Pranavi Urs- 1st Indian woman to win individual Asian Games golf gold
  - **Medal Tally:** China 1st, Japan 2nd, South Korea 3rd, India 4th; Doha (Qatar) got OCA flag for 2030 Games (OCA- Olympic Council of Asia)
  - **MVP:** Yu Zidi (China, swimmer) & Puripol Boonson (Thailand sprinter); India's MVPs- Kumkum Mohod (Jaspal Rana Award) & Sujeet Kalkal (Raja Randhir Singh Award) (MVP- Most Valuable Player)
  - **Flag bearers:** Opening- Manu Bhaker (shooting) & Pawan Sehrawat (kabaddi); Closing- trap shooter Neeru Dhanda
- **Asian Para Games 2026 (Aichi-Nagoya):** India 4th with record 114 medals (30G, 35S, 49B); para athletics- 65 medals
  - **Sumit Antil:** Gold in men's javelin; Indian podium sweep
  - **Mona Agarwal:** Gold in para-shooting with world record
  - **Pranav Soorma:** Gold in men's club throw with Games record
  - **Sandeep:** World record in men's 400 m T64
  - **Flag bearers:** Opening- Pramod Bhagat (para-badminton) & Bhavina Patel (para-table tennis); Closing- Mona Agarwal & Nishad Kumar
- **Shubman Gill:** Fastest ODI double century (117 balls; 223) vs West Indies, Guwahati (ODI- One Day International)
- **Harry Brook:** Fastest ODI double century (114 balls; 202) vs Sri Lanka, Rawalpindi tri-series; broke Gill's record; 1st England batter with ODI 200

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- **Rohit Sharma:** 12,000 ODI runs (3rd Indian after Sachin Tendulkar & Virat Kohli; 2nd fastest); 1st to hit 200 ODI sixes in one country (India), beat Chris Gayle's 147
- **Harmanpreet Kaur:** Stepped down as women's captain (all formats); Smriti Mandhana new captain
- **Lionel Messi:** Retired from international football; 208 caps, 126 goals (both Argentina records); 8 Ballon d'Or; FIFA WC 2022, Copa América 2021 & 2024
- **Novak Djokovic:** Record 7th China Open title; 102nd tour-level title
- **Pankaj Advani:** 29th world title (WBL World Billiards Championship)
- **Chinmay Sutar:** 400* for Mizoram vs Nagaland (Ranji Trophy); only 2nd Indian with 400 in first-class cricket; record 443* by B.B. Nimbalkar (1948); world record- Brian Lara 501*
- **Bodhana Sivanandan:** England (Indian-origin); youngest female International Master in chess history; broke Judit Polgar's record (1988)
- **World Wrestling Championships (Astana, Kazakhstan):** Manisha Bhanwala (59 kg)- 1st Indian woman senior world champion; India's 2nd senior world champion after Sushil Kumar (2010); Kajal Dhochak (76 kg) & Neelam Sirohi (50 kg) won silver- 1st time 3 Indian women in finals of same edition
- **World Boxing U-19:** Budva, Montenegro; India 8th (1G, 1S, 2B); Aditya- gold (55 kg)
- **Yuki Bhambri & Ryan Seggerman:** Won men's doubles at ATP 250 Almaty Open 2026 (Kazakhstan) (ATP- Association of Tennis Professionals)
- **Manush Shah & Diya Chitale:** 1st Indian mixed doubles pair to reach WTT Grand Smash semifinals (WTT- World Table Tennis)
- **Ekta Vishnoi:** IRS officer; 3 golds at World Masters Classic & Equipped Powerlifting Championships 2026 (USA) (IRS- Indian Revenue Service)
- **Arshi Gupta:** World's youngest Rotax MAX Challenge Mini category champion
- **Vishvajit Ramchandra More:** Silver in men's 55 kg Greco-Roman at U-23 World Wrestling Championships (USA); 1st Indian to reach the final
- **World Skate Games (Paraguay):** Anandkumar Velkumar won silver (1000 m)
- **Commonwealth Kabaddi Championship:** Ahmedabad; inaugural; India won both men's & women's gold
- **Men's Asian Champions Trophy 2026 (Hockey):** Jalandhar & Mohali, Punjab
- **Ahmedabad (Gujarat):** To host 2029 Senior World Weightlifting Championships; 1st time in India
- **ICC Women's U-19 T20 World Cup 2027:** Bangladesh & Nepal; 16 teams (ICC- International Cricket Council)
- **FIFA Women's Club World Cup 2028:** USA; inaugural

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- **Rag Rag Mein Cricket:** On Sanjay Jagdale; by Kiran Waikar & Sunil Dudhale; launched by Sunil Gavaskar

PERSONS IN NEWS

- **Smriti Mandhana:** Appointed UNICEF India Celebrity Advocate
- **David Robinson:** OpenAI safety transparency lead resigned; essay in The Atlantic- "I Quit OpenAI Because Its Culture Is Broken"
- **Dr. Achyuta Samanta:** 1st President, Indian Unisport Federation (founder of KIIT, KISS) (KIIT- Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology; KISS- Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences)
- **Mata Sahib Hasi Devi Ji:** ₹200 coin & stamp released by President Murmu in Raipur (200th birth anniversary; born 1826, Sindh)
- **Mithun Chakraborty:** Appointed WB govt advisor (Cabinet rank), Information & Cultural Affairs
- **Prakash Rajpurohit:** Deputy Election Commissioner
- **Rajesh Kumar Singh:** Defence Secretary; tenure extended till 2027
- **Sudhakar Dalela:** India's new Ambassador to Nepal (1993-batch IFS) (IFS- Indian Foreign Service)

OBITUARY

- **Jeffrey Archer:** British novelist & ex-Conservative MP; works- Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less, Kane and Abel; final novel- Adam and Eve
- **Deva:** South Indian music composer
- **Jogen Chowdhury:** Painter & ex-RS member (TMC, 2014-20); Padma Bhushan 2020 (TMC- Trinamool Congress)
- **Yasuo Fukuda:** Ex-Japan PM (2007-08); Japan's 1st second-generation PM (son of PM Takeo Fukuda)
- **Neeraj Yadav:** Para-athlete; 3-time Asian Para Games gold medallist
- **Margaret Hamilton:** Apollo software pioneer (NASA); coined term "software engineering"

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- **'Socio' Vasu:** Freedom fighter; Kozhikode, Kerala
- **B. Madhusoodana Kurup:** Fisheries scientist
- **Cheruvayal Raman:** Padma Shri tribal farmer from Kerala (seed saver)
- **Nana Patekar:** Veteran actor; debut film Gaman (1978); 3 National Film Awards; 4 Filmfare Awards; Padma Shri (2013)

IMPORTANT DAYS & EVENTS

Date	Day	Details
1 Oct	Int'l Day of Older Persons	UNGA 1990
2 Oct	International Day of Non-Violence	Gandhi Jayanti; UN declared 2007
2–8 Oct	Wildlife Week	"Connecting Habitats, Thriving Wildlife"
4 Oct	World Animal Day	Feast day of St. Francis of Assisi
4–10 Oct	World Space Week	Sputnik-1 launch (4 Oct 1957)
5 Oct	World Teachers' Day	"Standing with teachers: 60 years of protecting the profession, advancing its status and shaping our futures" (1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation) (ILO- International Labour Organization)
5 Oct	World Habitat Day	1st Monday of Oct; "Adequate Housing for All"; global host- Muscat, Oman
7 Oct	World Cotton Day	"Cotton for Good: Building Prosperity Through Trade, Transformation and Partnership"
8 Oct	Indian Air Force Day (94th)	Est. 1932; theme- "Indian Air Force – Infallible, Impervious and Precise"
8 Oct	World Sight Day	2nd Thursday of Oct; #LoveYourEyes
9 Oct	World Post Day	UPU founded 1874, Bern; "One Postal Network, Infinite Possibilities" (UPU- Universal Postal Union)
10 Oct	World Day Against Death Penalty	Since 2003; "Stories for Life"
10 Oct	World Mental Health Day	"Lived Experiences Heard: Real Voices, Real Change"; Tele-MANAS helpline 14416
11 Oct	Int'l Day of the Girl Child	UNGA 2011
13 Oct	Int'l Day for Disaster Risk Reduction	"Resilience Starts at Home"
14 Oct	World Standards Day	ISO, IEC, ITU (ISO- International Organization for Standardization; IEC- International Electrotechnical Commission; ITU- International Telecommunication Union)
15 Oct	Int'l Day of Rural Women	"Rural Women Farmers Caring for Mother Nature"
15 Oct	World Students' Day	Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's birth anniversary
16 Oct	World Food Day	"Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow."; FAO founded 16 Oct 1945
17 Oct	Int'l Day for Eradication of Poverty	"Safe Homes for All"
21 Oct	Police Commemoration Day	Remembers 10 CRPF personnel killed by Chinese troops at Hot Springs, Ladakh (1959) (CRPF- Central Reserve Police Force)
21 Oct	World Iodine Deficiency Day	Iodine awareness
23 Oct	Int'l Day of the Snow Leopard	UN-declared; snow leopard- Vulnerable (IUCN) (IUCN- International Union for Conservation of Nature)
24 Oct	UN Day	UN Charter came into force (1945)
24 Oct	World Polio Day	"Together, We End Polio"
29 Oct	Int'l Day of Care and Support	"Building Sustainable Care and Support Systems through Decent Work"
29 Oct	International Internet Day	1st electronic message (ARPANET) 1969 (ARPANET- Advanced Research Projects Agency Network)
30 Oct	World Thrift Day (India)	Savings awareness
31 Oct	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's birth anniversary (since 2014)
31 Oct	World Cities Day	UN-Habitat (UN Human Settlements Programme)

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