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Daily Current Affairs

21 October 2026

Important Days

1. Police Commemoration Day, observed on 21 October, recalls the sacrifice of which personnel in 1959?

21 अक्टूबर को मनाया जाने वाला पुलिस स्मृति दिवस, 1959 में किन कर्मियों के बलिदान की स्मृति में मनाया जाता है?

- (a) Ten CRPF personnel at Hot Springs
- (b) Ten BSF personnel at Kargil
- (c) Twenty army personnel at Rezang La
- (d) Ten ITBP personnel at Nathu La
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Ten CRPF personnel at Hot Springs

1. **Police Commemoration Day** is observed annually on **21 October** to honour police personnel who died in the line of duty.
2. Its historical reference is the killing of **10 CRPF personnel** by Chinese troops at **Hot Springs, Ladakh**, on 21 October 1959. Remember the location and force together.
3. The 2026 report places the principal ceremony at the National Police Memorial, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, with a joint parade and wreath-laying tributes.
4. The reported motorcycle rally carries the theme "Fight Against Drugs." Treat this rally theme separately from the permanent purpose of the commemorative day.

2. World Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day is observed on which date?

विश्व आयोडीन अल्पता विकार निवारण दिवस किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 October
- (b) 20 October
- (c) 24 October
- (d) 21 October
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) 21 October

1. **21 October** is observed to build awareness about

iodine deficiency disorders and their prevention through adequate iodine intake.

2. Iodine is needed to make **thyroid hormones**, which support metabolism, growth and brain development. Deficiency can cause goitre and hypothyroidism and impair development.
3. India began the **National Goitre Control Programme in 1962**. It was renamed the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP) in **1992**.
4. Salt iodisation is a major preventive strategy. The source cites NFHS-5 (2019-21): 94.3% of households used adequately iodised salt; this is a household-use indicator, not a direct measure of disease prevalence.

Economy & Finance

3. According to the 21 October report, India and the UAE aim to raise bilateral trade to what level by 2032?

21 अक्टूबर की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत और संयुक्त अरब अमीरात ने 2032 तक द्विपक्षीय व्यापार को किस स्तर तक बढ़ाने का लक्ष्य रखा है?

- (a) US\$100 billion
- (b) US\$200 billion
- (c) US\$150 billion
- (d) US\$300 billion
- (e) None of these

Answer: (b) US\$200 billion

1. The reported **2032 target is US\$200 billion**. Bilateral trade in FY 2025-26 was stated at approximately US\$101.25 billion.
2. The **India-UAE CEPA** entered into force on **1 May 2022**. CEPA means Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement and provides a framework for closer economic and trade relations.
3. The update followed talks in Mumbai on 20 October 2026 between S. Jaishankar and UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan. Investment, defence, energy and technology also featured.
4. Keep three facts separate: the financial-year trade figure, the agreement's commencement date and the future target. Crossing US\$100 billion does not mean the US\$200-billion target has

already been achieved.

Govt. Schemes & Policies

4. What is the central purpose of the up-graded Agri Welfare Portal described in the report?

रिपोर्ट में वर्णित उन्नत एग्री वेलफेयर पोर्टल का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?

- (a) Replacing all agricultural credit with grants
- (b) Restricting scheme applications to KVK of-fices
- (c) Integrated digital access to agricultural welfare services
- (d) Providing only crop export licences
- (e) None of these

Answer: (c) Integrated digital access to agricultural welfare services

1. The **Agri Welfare Portal** brings **schemes, financial assistance and agricultural information** into one digital interface, reducing the need to search separate service channels.
2. Reported features include eligibility checks, on-line applications, weather information, market prices and scientific farming guidance. These combine welfare access with information useful for farm decisions.
3. Mobile access, support for low-connectivity conditions and screen-reader compatibility aim to improve **digital inclusion**. Screen readers assist users who need spoken access to on-screen text.
4. **Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)** will help farmers use the platform. Their facilitation role should not be confused with a requirement that every application must be filed physically at a KVK.

State News

5. Which state will use the Kartavya app to verify night-time attendance of government doctors through geofencing?

कौन-सा राज्य जियोफेंसिंग के माध्यम से सरकारी डॉक्टरों की रात्रिकालीन उपस्थिति सत्यापित करने के लिए कर्तव्य ऐप का उपयोग करेगा?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Tamil Nadu

- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Karnataka

1. **Karnataka** has announced stricter attendance monitoring. Doctors at taluk hospitals and Primary Health Centres are to mark attendance after **9 pm from 1 November 2026**.
2. The **Kartavya app** uses **geofencing**: a virtual geographical boundary helps establish whether a device is within an authorised location. The measure links attendance to presence at designated headquarters.
3. The report gives separate milestones: registration by 25 November and exclusive app-based attendance from 1 December 2026. District Health Officers will examine monthly attendance reports.
4. From **1 January 2027**, salary payments and agency bills are to depend on app-generated attendance. Do not interchange the November, December and January implementation milestones.

National News

6. Which Chhattisgarh site was included among the three Indian additions to UNESCO's World Heritage Tentative List reported on 20 October 2026?

20 अक्टूबर 2026 को रिपोर्ट की गई यूनेस्को विश्व धरोहर की अस्थायी सूची में तीन भारतीय स्थलों में छत्तीसगढ़ का कौन-सा स्थल शामिल था?

- (a) Dholavira Archaeological Site
- (b) Rani-ki-Vav
- (c) Santiniketan
- (d) Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape

1. The Chhattisgarh entry is the **Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape**, associated with archaeological remains, historical trade and diverse religious traditions.
2. The two other reported additions are the **Karst-Mud-Volcano Complex of Baratang** and the **Andaman Subduction Volcanoes**, both in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
3. A **Tentative List** is a country's inventory of potential nominations. Entry is a preliminary step towards a possible nomination; it does not itself

confer World Heritage inscription.

- For revision, connect Sirpur with Chhattisgarh and the volcanic/geological entries with the islands. Distinguish a tentative nomination pipeline from the final UNESCO World Heritage List.

7. Which institution is preparing the reported national assessment of India's four bear species?

भारत की चार भालू प्रजातियों का रिपोर्ट किया गया राष्ट्रीय आकलन कौन-सा संस्थान तैयार कर रहा है?

- Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata
- Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
- Zoological Survey of India, Chennai
- Forest Survey of India, Bhopal
- None of these

Answer: (b) Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

- The **Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun**, is preparing the assessment to strengthen information for bear conservation and management.
- India's four bear species listed in the source are the **Himalayan brown bear, Asiatic black bear, sloth bear and sun bear**. Retain the complete set rather than only the initially targeted species.
- The initial emphasis is **human-sloth bear conflict** in protected areas. Assessing conflict-prone locations can guide preventive measures alongside population monitoring.
- Proposals for the other species are also planned. The cited official expects final population estimates within five years; this is a forward-looking estimate, not a completed nationwide census result.

International News

8. Which country announced export controls on tunnel-boring machines effective 18 November 2026?

किस देश ने 18 नवंबर 2026 से टनल-बोरिंग मशीनों पर निर्यात नियंत्रण की घोषणा की?

- Japan
- Germany
- China
- South Korea

(e) None of these

Answer: (c) China

- China's Ministry of Commerce** announced the controls, with an effective date of **18 November 2026**. Exporters will require licences under the applicable export-control framework.
- Tunnel-boring machines** excavate tunnels for metros, roads, high-speed rail and other underground infrastructure. Equipment availability therefore matters for large construction projects.
- The announcement also revises restrictions concerning drone-related products and dredgers. **Dual-use** describes items with both civilian and military applications.
- A licensing requirement is not automatically a total export ban. Effects on importing countries, including India, will depend on licence decisions and access to relevant equipment.

9. Which country confirmed the imported Ebola Bundibugyo case with 44 contacts identified for monitoring in the report?

रिपोर्ट के अनुसार किस देश ने इबोला बुंडीबुग्यो के एक आयातित मामले की पुष्टि की और निगरानी के लिए 44 संपर्कों की पहचान की?

- Nigeria
- Kenya
- Ghana
- Senegal
- None of these

Answer: (a) Nigeria

- Nigeria** reported the imported case in its **Federal Capital Territory** and identified **44 contacts** for monitoring.
- The patient had travelled from Uganda. The source gives symptom onset as 7 October and a positive test on 20 October 2026; she was receiving care in isolation.
- The response includes **contact tracing, surveillance and infection prevention**, supported by WHO technical assistance and supplies. Contacts under observation are not the same as confirmed infections.
- The report links this development to an outbreak declared in the Democratic Republic of the Congo on 15 May 2026. Preserve the distinction between the outbreak's originating report and the location of this imported case.

Appointments

10. Who was appointed MD and CEO of IndusInd General Insurance on 20 October 2026, subject to statutory approvals?

वैधानिक अनुमोदनों के अधीन, 20 अक्टूबर 2026 को इंडसइंड जनरल इंश्योरेंस के एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया?

- (a) Tapan Singhel
- (b) Ritesh Kumar
- (c) Bhargav Dasgupta
- (d) Sharad Mathur
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) Sharad Mathur

1. **Sharad Mathur** was named **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer** of IndusInd General Insurance, subject to statutory approvals. The approval qualification is part of the announcement.
2. He brings approximately three decades of insurance and financial-services experience and previously led **Universal Sompo General Insurance** for over six years.
3. His earlier leadership experience includes SBI General Insurance and ICICI Lombard. The stated priorities include digital innovation, insurance inclusion, customer service and profitable growth.
4. The source says the insurer joined the IndusInd International Holdings Limited Group following the **Reliance Capital resolution in March 2025**. Separate the group ownership development from the October 2026 leadership announcement.

Reports & Rankings

11. What was India's rank in the Ipsos Quality of Care Perception Index 2026?

इप्सोस क्वालिटी ऑफ़ केयर परसेप्शन इंडेक्स 2026 में भारत का स्थान क्या था?

- (a) First
- (b) Third
- (c) Second
- (d) Fifth
- (e) None of these

Answer: (b) Third

1. **India ranked third**, behind **Malaysia and Singapore**, in the reported 2026 perception index.
2. The survey covered **32 countries and 22,528 adults**, with fieldwork from 13 July to 7 August 2026. Its findings reflect respondents' views rather than a direct clinical audit of every health facility.
3. Among Indian respondents, 68% rated healthcare quality positively and 64% trusted the system to offer the best treatment when needed. Reported ease of access was 73% for doctor appointments and 81% for pharmacies.
4. **Affordability** remained a concern: 74% agreed that many Indians could not afford quality health-care. Positive perceptions of quality can coexist with concerns about the cost of accessing it.

Summits & Conferences

12. Where did the 7th Agrivoltaics World Conference begin on 21 October 2026?

21 अक्टूबर 2026 को सातवाँ एग्रीवोल्टाइक्स विश्व सम्मेलन कहाँ शुरू हुआ?

- (a) HITEX, Hyderabad
- (b) BIEC, Bengaluru
- (c) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- (d) Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar
- (e) None of these

Answer: (c) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

1. The **7th Agrivoltaics World Conference** began at **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi**, for 21-23 October 2026 under the theme **"Powering the Global South."**
2. The source reports over 1,500 participants from more than 40 countries, including around 400 farmers. Farmer participation connects technology discussions with practical agricultural use.
3. **Agrivoltaics (Agri-PV)** combines agricultural production and solar power generation on the same land. This differs from using an entire parcel exclusively as a conventional solar installation.
4. The approach can improve land-use efficiency and add farm income while supporting climate resilience. The benefit depends on the local crop, layout and operating conditions; co-location is the core identifying feature.

13. Which city is the expected venue of the next Quad leaders' summit, ac-

cording to the 21 October 2026 report?

21 अक्टूबर 2026 की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार अगले क्वाड नेताओं के शिखर सम्मेलन का संभावित आयोजन किस शहर में है?

- (a) Manila
- (b) Tokyo
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Canberra
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Manila

1. The report identifies **Manila, Philippines**, as the expected venue before the end of 2026, following remarks by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio.
2. The meeting is planned alongside the ASEAN summit scheduled for **16-18 November 2026**. The exact Quad summit date remained undecided in the source.
3. The **Quad** comprises **India, the United States, Japan and Australia**. The host location in this report does not change its four-country membership.
4. Areas of cooperation include maritime security, critical technologies, infrastructure, health and economic resilience. The Quad is not a collective-defence treaty; an expected summit should not be presented as already held.

14. Which country will host the 61st International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML) Meeting from 26 to 28 October 2026?

26 से 28 अक्टूबर 2026 तक अंतरराष्ट्रीय विधिक माप विज्ञान समिति (CIML) की 61वीं बैठक की मेजबानी कौन-सा देश करेगा?

- (a) France
- (b) Switzerland
- (c) Japan
- (d) India
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) India

1. **India** will host the **61st CIML Meeting in New Delhi**, organised by the Department of Consumer Affairs with the International Organization of Legal Metrology.
2. **Legal metrology** concerns measurements and measuring instruments subject to legal requirements. Reliable measurements support fair

trade, healthcare and public safety.

3. The **OIML** was established in **1955** and is headquartered in **Paris, France**. CIML is its International Committee of Legal Metrology; do not treat the two abbreviations as unrelated organisations.
4. More than 100 international delegates and experts are expected. Emerging technology, digitalisation and the future of legal metrology are reported discussion areas.

Science & Technology

15. Fossils of Vasuki indicus were discovered at which location?

वासुकी इंडिकस के जीवाश्म किस स्थान पर खोजे गए थे?

- (a) Neyveli Lignite Mine, Tamil Nadu
- (b) Panandhro Lignite Mine, Kutch, Gujarat
- (c) Talcher Coalfield, Odisha
- (d) Raniganj Coalfield, West Bengal
- (e) None of these

Answer: (b) Panandhro Lignite Mine, Kutch, Gujarat

1. **Vasuki indicus** was identified from fossils found at the **Panandhro Lignite Mine in Kutch, Gujarat**. The remains were unearthed in 2005 and described by IIT Roorkee researchers in 2024.
2. The study examined **27 vertebrae** and estimated a body length of **10.9-15.2 metres**. This is a reconstructed range from fossil evidence rather than a directly measured complete living animal.
3. The snake lived about **47 million years ago**, in the Middle Eocene, and belonged to the extinct family Madtsoiidae. It may have been a slow-moving ambush predator.
4. The research appeared in Scientific Reports in 2024. Although included in the 21 October 2026 news roundup, the formal description itself is a 2024 development.

16. The reported DCGI approval of Zytorvi with cisplatin and paclitaxel concerns first-line treatment of which cancer?

सिस्प्लैटिन और पैक्लिटेक्सेल के साथ ज़ाइटोर्वी की रिपोर्ट की गई DCGI स्वीकृति किस कैंसर के प्रथम-पंक्ति उपचार से संबंधित है?

- (a) Renal cell carcinoma

- (b) Hepatocellular carcinoma
- (c) Esophageal squamous cell carcinoma
- (d) Basal cell carcinoma
- (e) None of these

Answer: (c) Esophageal squamous cell carcinoma

1. The approval concerns adults with **unresectable advanced, recurrent or metastatic esophageal squamous cell carcinoma (ESCC)**. "Unresectable" means the cancer cannot be removed through surgery in the relevant clinical situation.
2. **Zytorvi is toripalimab**, a monoclonal antibody targeting the **PD-1 immune checkpoint**. The reported regimen combines it with cisplatin and paclitaxel.
3. Dr. Reddy's Laboratories announced the 21 October 2026 approval, citing the **Phase 3 JUPITER-06 trial**. Reported median overall survival was 17.7 months with the combination versus 12.9 months with chemotherapy alone.
4. The reported Indian indication does not require selection based on PD-L1 expression. Remember the drug, indication and trial together; a trial's median survival is a group statistic, not a guaranteed individual outcome.

17. GSAT-7B, targeted for launch in mid-2028, is intended primarily for which service?

मध्य-2028 में प्रक्षेपण के लिए लक्षित GSAT-7B मुख्य रूप से किस सेवा के लिए है?

- (a) Indian Army
- (b) Indian Navy
- (c) Indian Coast Guard
- (d) Indian Air Force
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Indian Army

1. **GSAT-7B** is intended as a dedicated military communication satellite for the **Indian Army**, with ISRO targeting **mid-2028** for launch.
2. It is designed to provide secure, round-the-clock links to formations, forward-deployed troops and weapon systems. Beyond-line-of-sight connectivity is especially useful in remote borders and high-altitude areas.
3. The Ministry of Defence signed the **Rs.2,963-crore contract with NSIL on 29 March 2023**. NSIL stands for NewSpace India Limited.

4. The procurement falls under **Buy (Indian-IDDM)**: Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured. A target launch date is a plan and should not be described as a completed launch.

Defence

18. Exercise AUSTRALIND 2026 is a bilateral army exercise between India and which country?

अभ्यास ऑस्ट्राहिंद 2026 भारत और किस देश की सेनाओं का द्विपक्षीय अभ्यास है?

- (a) Austria
- (b) New Zealand
- (c) United States
- (d) Australia
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) Australia

1. **AUSTRALIND** is the **India-Australia** bilateral military exercise. Its fifth edition began on **19 October 2026** at the Foreign Training Node, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
2. The reported schedule runs until 1 November, with approximately 240 personnel split equally between the two armies. India's contingent includes the Garhwal Rifles; Australia is represented by its 13 Brigade.
3. Training covers tactical planning, surveillance, reconnaissance, coastal and island operations and disaster relief under a UN mandate. These activities support coordination between participating forces.
4. **New Zealand participates as an observer for the first time**, according to the report. An observer delegation does not change the bilateral identity of the exercise.

Sports & Games

19. Ayush Verma won the reported Asian Para Games 2026 gold medal in which event?

आयुष वर्मा ने रिपोर्ट के अनुसार एशियाई पैरा खेल 2026 में किस स्पर्धा में स्वर्ण पदक जीता?

- (a) Men's high jump T64
- (b) Men's shot put F53
- (c) Men's javelin F64
- (d) Men's discus throw F56

(e) None of these

Answer: (b) Men's shot put F53

1. **Ayush Verma** won the **men's shot put F53** event with **8.16 metres**, achieved on his fifth attempt, in the report dated 21 October 2026.
2. The source places the event in Nagoya, Japan. Iran's Alireza Hemami took silver and Kazakhstan's Makhambet Serikkaliyev bronze.
3. Ayush had earlier earned bronze in the men's javelin F53/54 event. Keep the shot-put gold and the earlier javelin bronze separate when matching athletes with events.
4. The roundup reports that this result took India to 10 gold medals and 38 medals overall. Medal tallies are snapshots that can change later in the same competition; retain the report's timing.

20. Who won the reported men's high jump T64 gold with a 2.05-metre Asian Para Games record on 21 October 2026?

21 अक्टूबर 2026 को रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 2.05 मीटर के एशियाई पैरा खेल रिकॉर्ड के साथ पुरुष हाई जंप T64 का स्वर्ण पदक किसने जीता?

- (a) Banti
- (b) Suhas Yathiraj
- (c) Praveen Kumar
- (d) Ayush Verma
- (e) None of these

Answer: (c) Praveen Kumar

1. **Praveen Kumar** won gold with **2.05 metres**, improving the previous reported Games record of 1.95 metres.
2. Fellow Indian **Banti** secured silver with a **1.92-metre personal best**. Uzbekistan's Temurbek Giyazov took bronze with 1.86 metres.
3. The result produced an Indian gold-silver finish in the men's high jump T64. A personal best describes an athlete's own highest performance; a Games record is a competition-specific benchmark.
4. The source describes this as India's 11th gold, with athletics contributing 10 golds at that point. This is a later tally snapshot than the 10-gold figure attached to the Ayush Verma report.

21. Which countries are reported as joint hosts of the ICC U19 Women's T20

World Cup 2027?

ICC अंडर-19 महिला T20 विश्व कप 2027 के संयुक्त मेजबान देशों के रूप में किन देशों की जानकारी दी गई है?

- (a) Bangladesh and Nepal
- (b) India and Sri Lanka
- (c) Malaysia and Thailand
- (d) Australia and New Zealand
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Bangladesh and Nepal

1. The report names **Bangladesh and Nepal** as joint hosts of the **third ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup**, beginning on **21 January 2027**.
2. It lists **16 teams and 41 matches** across four venues in Chattogram, Sylhet and Kathmandu. Match count and number of teams are separate tournament facts.
3. Defending champions India are placed in **Group A with Ireland, West Indies and Nepal**, according to the source. The stated structure is group stage, Super Six, semifinals and final.
4. The report schedules the semifinals for **4 February** and final for **6 February 2027**. These are future fixtures in this daily roundup; preserve the distinction between an announced schedule and results.

Awards & Honours

22. Which initiative of the Coal Controller Organisation received the SKOCH Gold Award 2026 for mine repurposing?

खान पुनःउपयोग के लिए कोयला नियंत्रक संगठन की किस पहल को स्कॉच गोल्ड अवॉर्ड 2026 मिला?

- (a) PARIVESH Clearance Portal
- (b) PM GatiShakti National Master Plan
- (c) UDAY Distribution Reform Scheme
- (d) SUVIKALP Mine Repurposing Tool
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) SUVIKALP Mine Repurposing Tool

1. The **Coal Controller Organisation (CCO)** received the **SKOCH Gold Award 2026** for **SU-VIKALP**. CCO functions under the Ministry of Coal.
2. The award, presented on 26 September 2026, recognised digital operational efficiency and

data-driven decision-making. SUVIKALP evaluates post-mining land reuse through technical, environmental, social and economic criteria.

3. Its complementary framework is **PRISM: Post-Mining Repurposing Implementation Strategy Model**. It supports implementation with project ideas, case studies and sample Detailed Project Reports.
4. The broader purpose is scientific mine closure, ecological restoration and sustainable reuse of mining land. Distinguish SUVIKALP's evaluation role from PRISM's implementation support.