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Daily Current Affairs

23 October 2026

Important Days

1. The International Day of the Snow Leopard is observed annually on which date?

अंतरराष्ट्रीय हिम तेंदुआ दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस तारीख को मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 23 October
- (b) 21 October
- (c) 24 October
- (d) 29 July
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) 23 October

1. The **International Day of the Snow Leopard** is observed on **23 October**. It draws attention to the protection of snow leopards and their mountain habitats.
2. The species is scientifically known as **Panthera uncia** and is often called the Ghost of the Mountains. Its natural range covers high-altitude landscapes across Central and South Asia.
3. The reported conservation category is **Vulnerable** under the IUCN Red List. Major pressures include habitat loss, poaching, declining prey and conflict with people.
4. The Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Programme (GSLEP) supports international cooperation. Remember the date, species name and conservation objective together.

Government Schemes & Policies

2. Khet Bachao Abhiyan-Rabi 2026 was launched from which city on 22 October 2026?

खेत बचाओ अभियान-रबी 2026 की शुरुआत 22 अक्टूबर 2026 को किस शहर से की गई?

- (a) Jaipur
- (b) Lucknow
- (c) Bhopal
- (d) Karnal
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) Karnal

1. **Khet Bachao Abhiyan-Rabi 2026** was launched in **Karnal, Haryana**, on **22 October 2026** by Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, according to the daily roundup.
2. The campaign is scheduled to run until **30 November 2026**. It promotes soil health, balanced fertiliser application and sustainable farming practices.
3. Activities include soil testing, crop diversification, productive use of fallow land, management of crop residues and natural farming. These activities address farm productivity as well as environmental pressures.
4. Implementation involves state agriculture departments, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, ICAR institutions and agricultural universities. KVKs provide location-specific advice and demonstrations to farmers.

State News

3. In which year did UNESCO inscribe Jaipur's historic walled city on the World Heritage List?

यूनेस्को ने जयपुर के ऐतिहासिक परकोटा शहर को किस वर्ष विश्व विरासत सूची में शामिल किया?

- (a) 2010
- (b) 2019
- (c) 2014
- (d) 2023
- (e) None of these

Answer: (b) 2019

1. Jaipur's **historic walled city** received **UNESCO World Heritage status in 2019**. This is separate from Jaipur's inclusion in the travel list discussed in the October 2026 roundup.
2. **Sawai Jai Singh II founded Jaipur in 1727**. Vidyadhar Bhattacharya is associated with planning the city.
3. Important landmarks include City Palace, Hawa Mahal and Jantar Mantar. Jaipur is also known for crafts such as blue pottery, block printing and meenakari.
4. The source's state-affairs item repeats heritage and snow-leopard facts covered elsewhere. This question focuses specifically on the UNESCO in-

scription year, avoiding repetition of the travel-list question.

National News

4. Which organisation signed an MoU with OpenAI to expand AI learning through the iGOT platform?

iGOT प्लेटफॉर्म के माध्यम से AI प्रशिक्षण बढ़ाने हेतु किस संगठन ने OpenAI के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) Digital India Corporation
- (c) Karmayogi Bharat
- (d) National Skill Development Corporation
- (e) None of these

Answer: (c) Karmayogi Bharat

1. **Karmayogi Bharat and OpenAI** signed an MoU to support artificial-intelligence education and capacity building among Indian government personnel.
2. The arrangement provides access to learning resources from **OpenAI Academy through iGOT Karmayogi**. The objective is practical AI literacy and responsible adoption in public administration.
3. Karmayogi Bharat is a **government-owned, not-for-profit SPV** established under the Department of Personnel and Training. SPV means Special Purpose Vehicle.
4. The supplied report cites more than 1.7 crore government employees registered across the Centre, states and Union Territories. Platform registrations indicate potential reach, rather than the number who have completed AI training.

5. What is the primary purpose of the National Strategic Trade Command Centre launched by Piyush Goyal?

पीयूष गोयल द्वारा शुरू किए गए राष्ट्रीय रणनीतिक व्यापार कमांड केंद्र का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्या है?

- (a) Trade monitoring and evidence-based policymaking
- (b) Setting the monetary policy rate
- (c) Conducting stock-exchange settlements
- (d) Issuing crop-insurance policies
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Trade monitoring and

evidence-based policymaking

1. Commerce and Industry Minister **Piyush Goyal** launched the **National Strategic Trade Command Centre (NSTCC)** in New Delhi to strengthen trade monitoring and policy decisions.
2. The initiative uses **integrated data analytics** to improve oversight of international-trade processes. Evidence-based policymaking means using relevant data to guide administrative decisions.
3. The related organisation is **DGFT**, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade. Areas mentioned include IEC, Advance Authorisation, EPCG and Certificates of Origin.
4. The coverage also includes SCOMET: Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies. This concerns specified controlled items and should not be confused with a general ban on exports.

6. Which institution coordinated India's first national snow-leopard population assessment, released in 2024?

2024 में जारी भारत के पहले राष्ट्रीय हिम तेंदुआ जनसंख्या आकलन का समन्वय किस संस्था ने किया?

- (a) Forest Survey of India
- (b) Botanical Survey of India
- (c) Central Zoo Authority
- (d) Wildlife Institute of India
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) Wildlife Institute of India

1. The **Wildlife Institute of India** coordinated the **Snow Leopard Population Assessment in India (SPAII)**, whose results were released in **2024**.
2. The assessment estimated **718 snow leopards** in India. Ladakh recorded the largest estimate at 477, followed by Uttarakhand at 124.
3. The other reported estimates were Himachal Pradesh 51, Arunachal Pradesh 36, Sikkim 21, and Jammu and Kashmir 9. Together these figures total 718.
4. This is an earlier assessment revisited in the October 2026 roundup, not a newly completed 2026 census. Distinguish the publication date of a daily news item from the date of the underlying assessment.

International News

7. India and Poland agreed to double bilateral trade by which target year during the October 2026 visit?

अक्टूबर 2026 की यात्रा के दौरान भारत और पोलैंड ने किस वर्ष तक द्विपक्षीय व्यापार दोगुना करने पर सहमति जताई?

- (a) 2028
- (b) 2030
- (c) 2032
- (d) 2035
- (e) None of these

Answer: (b) 2030

- India and Poland set a target to **double bilateral trade by 2030** during discussions involving Prime Minister **Narendra Modi and Donald Tusk**.
- The official visit covered **21-23 October 2026**. The two countries had established a Strategic Partnership in 2024.
- A proposed Defence Industry Dialogue seeks industrial collaboration, co-development and co-production. Other cooperation areas include semiconductors, cybersecurity, space, critical minerals and battery recycling.
- India also invited Poland to join the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative. A trade target is a future goal; it should not be described as a trade increase already achieved.

8. Which country reported the first human case of Shamonda virus in the 23 October 2026 roundup?

23 अक्टूबर 2026 के समाचार संकलन के अनुसार शमोंडा वायरस का पहला मानव मामला किस देश ने रिपोर्ट किया?

- (a) Germany
- (b) Japan
- (c) France
- (d) Nigeria
- (e) None of these

Answer: (c) France

- The roundup reports that **France** announced a **human case of Shamonda virus** on **22 October 2026**. The question concerns the country named in that report.
- The virus belongs to the **Orthobunyavirus**

genus and the Peribunyaviridae family. It had previously been associated primarily with live-stock infections.

- Its earlier geographical history includes identification in Nigeria in the mid-1960s and detection in animals in parts of Africa and Japan.
- The report states that the precise route of infection in the human case had not been established. Do not infer a confirmed route of human transmission from the virus's known association with animal hosts and biting midges.

Appointments

9. Who received ACC approval to become the next Chairman of ONGC, as reported on 23 October 2026?

23 अक्टूबर 2026 की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार ONGC का अगला अध्यक्ष बनने के लिए ACC की मंजूरी किसे मिली?

- (a) Sunil Kumar
- (b) Arun Kumar Singh
- (c) Sandeep Kumar Gupta
- (d) Shrikant Madhav Vaidya
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Sunil Kumar

- The **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)** approved **Sunil Kumar** as the next ONGC Chairman, according to the daily roundup.
- He was serving as an Executive Director at the **Oil and Natural Gas Corporation**. ONGC operates under the administrative Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- He was expected to assume charge on or after **7 December 2026**, succeeding Arun Kumar Singh. Approval and assumption of office are separate stages.
- The reported regular tenure extends to superannuation on 31 December 2028, with subsequent contractual engagement subject to the appointment order. Avoid describing him as already holding the new office on the date of the announcement.

Reports & Rankings

10. Which Indian city was included in National Geographic's Best of the World 2027 list?

नेशनल ज्योग्राफिक की बेस्ट ऑफ द वर्ल्ड 2027 सूची में भारत के किस शहर को शामिल किया गया?

- (a) Udaipur
- (b) Varanasi
- (c) Kochi
- (d) Jaipur
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) Jaipur

1. **Jaipur, Rajasthan**, was included in **National Geographic's Best of the World 2027** list, announced on **20 October 2026**, according to the supplied report.
2. The list features 25 destinations across six continents. It is a travel recommendation list, rather than a formal UNESCO designation.
3. Jaipur's attractions include the historic walled city, City Palace, Hawa Mahal and Jantar Mantar. Its cultural identity also includes blue pottery, block printing and meenakari.
4. The roundup mentions the Jaipur Literature Festival scheduled for 14-18 January 2027. Keep the list's 2027 edition distinct from its October 2026 announcement date.

Summits & Conferences

11. What was the theme of the 7th Agri-voltaics World Conference held in New Delhi in October 2026?

अक्टूबर 2026 में नई दिल्ली में आयोजित 7वें एग्रीवोल्टाइक्स वर्ल्ड कॉन्फ्रेंस की थीम क्या थी?

- (a) Solar Energy for Every Ocean
- (b) Powering the Global South
- (c) Green Hydrogen for All
- (d) One Earth, One Battery
- (e) None of these

Answer: (b) Powering the Global South

1. The announced theme was **Powering the Global South**. The **7th Agri-voltaics World Conference** took place at **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on 21-23 October 2026**.
2. The host ministry was MNRE, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. Ministers Pralhad

Joshi and Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated the event, according to the roundup.

3. **Agri-voltaics, or AgriPV**, combines agricultural production and solar photovoltaic generation on the same land. The approach explores productive use of land for both food and electricity.
4. Resources included an AgriPV Policy Handbook, a decision tool and a Book of Abstracts. PM-KUSUM is a related scheme promoting the use of solar energy in agriculture.

Sports & Games

12. Which England batter scored a men's ODI double century in 114 balls against Sri Lanka on 22 October 2026, according to the roundup?

समाचार संकलन के अनुसार इंग्लैंड के किस बल्लेबाज ने 22 अक्टूबर 2026 को श्रीलंका के विरुद्ध 114 गेंदों में पुरुष ODI दोहरा शतक बनाया?

- (a) Joe Root
- (b) Ben Stokes
- (c) Harry Brook
- (d) Jos Buttler
- (e) None of these

Answer: (c) Harry Brook

1. The roundup credits **Harry Brook** with reaching a men's ODI double century in **114 balls** against **Sri Lanka** at Rawalpindi on 22 October 2026.
2. His completed innings was reported as **202 from 116 balls**, including 21 fours and 10 sixes. The balls taken to reach 200 differ from the balls faced in the entire innings.
3. The report compares his 114-ball milestone with Shubman Gill's stated previous 117-ball mark and describes Brook as England's first men's ODI double-centurion.
4. England's reported total was 429/4, while Sri Lanka reached 433/8 to win by two wickets. An individual batting record and the match result are separate facts.

13. Who won India's women's individual W1 archery silver at the 2026 Asian Para Games?

2026 एशियाई पैरा खेलों में महिलाओं की व्यक्तिगत W1 तीरंदाजी स्पर्धा का रजत पदक भारत के लिए किसने जीता?

- (a) Swati Chaudhary
- (b) Sheetal Devi
- (c) Suvarna Raj
- (d) Jyothi Surekha Vennam
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Swati Chaudhary

1. **Swati Chaudhary** won silver in the **women's individual W1 archery** event at the 2026 Asian Para Games in **Aichi-Nagoya, Japan**.
2. She lost the final to China's Mengkan Cen by 4-6. The roundup describes this as India's first Asian Para Games medal in the W1 archery category.
3. The same news item reports compound mixed-team gold for Sheetal Devi and Toman Kumar, who defeated Indonesia 151-148. Their qualification score was reported as 1,402.
4. Suvarna Raj's women's discus F54 gold belongs to para-athletics, not archery. Distinguish the athlete, event classification and sport when revising this combined medal update.

14. Which Indian pair assured a mixed-doubles medal at the 29th ITTF-ATTU Asian Table Tennis Championships?

29वीं ITTF-ATTU एशियाई टेबल टेनिस चैंपियनशिप में किस भारतीय जोड़ी ने मिश्रित युगल का पदक सुनिश्चित किया?

- (a) Manika Batra and Sathiyan Gnanasekaran
- (b) Sreeja Akula and Sharath Kamal
- (c) Ayhika Mukherjee and Manav Thakkar
- (d) Yashaswini Ghorpade and Harmeet Desai
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) Yashaswini Ghorpade and Harmeet Desai

1. **Yashaswini Ghorpade and Harmeet Desai** assured a medal in **mixed doubles** at the **29th ITTF-ATTU Asian Championships**, as reported on 23 October 2026.
2. The host city was Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan. Match the championship with table tennis rather than tennis or badminton.
3. ATTU stands for Asian Table Tennis Union, while ITTF means International Table Tennis Federation, the international governing body for the sport.
4. A mixed-doubles pair consists of one male and one female player from the same national association. Assuring a medal does not establish that the eventual medal is gold.

Books & Authors

15. Who authored The Evolution of TV News in India: From Doordarshan to Digital Disruption - An Insider's Account?

द इवोल्यूशन ऑफ टीवी न्यूज इन इंडिया: फ्रॉम दूरदर्शन टू डिजिटल डिसरप्शन - एन इनसाइडर्स अकाउंट की लेखिका कौन हैं?

- (a) Nidhi Razdan
- (b) Harsaran Bir Kaur Pandey
- (c) Barkha Dutt
- (d) Sagarika Ghose
- (e) None of these

Answer: (b) Harsaran Bir Kaur Pandey

1. **Harsaran Bir Kaur Pandey** authored **The Evolution of TV News in India: From Doordarshan to Digital Disruption - An Insider's Account**.
2. The book was launched by former Prasar Bharati Chairman Surya Prakash at the **India International Centre, New Delhi**. The publisher is Om Books International.
3. It examines the development of television journalism from Doordarshan to satellite broadcasting, round-the-clock news channels and digital media.
4. The author began her broadcasting career at Doordarshan's Mandi House headquarters in the early 1970s and later worked in international communications, including UNICEF and WHO. Remember the author-title pair and the book's subject.