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Daily Current Affairs

26 October 2026

Important Days

1. What is the theme of Vigilance Awareness Week 2026?

सतर्कता जागरूकता सप्ताह 2026 की थीम क्या है?

- (a) Probity for Prosperity
- (b) Integrity for Innovation
- (c) Transparency for Transformation
- (d) Vigilance for Victory
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Probity for Prosperity

1. The **Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)** is observing Vigilance Awareness Week from **26 October to 1 November 2026**. The theme is **Probity for Prosperity**.
2. Probity means integrity and upright conduct, especially in public affairs. The observance promotes transparency, accountability and prevention of corruption in public administration.
3. Government departments, public enterprises, public sector banks and other institutions are encouraged to take the **Integrity Pledge**. Activities include workshops, public outreach and grievance-redressal initiatives.
4. The CVC received statutory status under the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003. For revision, connect the organising institution, dates, theme and emphasis on ethical public service.

RBI, SEBI & Banking News

2. Where were the RBI Data Centre and Cybersecurity Training Institute inaugurated on 25 October 2026?

25 अक्टूबर 2026 को RBI डेटा सेंटर और साइबर सुरक्षा प्रशिक्षण संस्थान का उद्घाटन कहाँ किया गया?

- (a) Pune, Maharashtra
- (b) Hyderabad, Telangana
- (c) Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- (d) Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) Bhubaneswar, Odisha

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **RBI Data Centre and Cybersecurity Training**

Institute in **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**, on **25 October 2026**, according to the roundup.

2. The facilities strengthen digital financial infrastructure, payment-system reliability and cybersecurity capabilities. Reliable infrastructure is essential as the volume of digital transactions increases.
3. The data centre will support critical payment platforms, including **RTGS and NEFT**. RTGS means Real Time Gross Settlement; NEFT means National Electronic Funds Transfer.
4. The institute will build expertise in cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and emerging technologies. Infrastructure resilience and personnel training are complementary measures for secure banking operations.

Government Schemes & Policies

3. Until which date has Component II of the RELIEF initiative for exporters been extended?

निर्यातकों के लिए RELIEF पहल के घटक II को किस तारीख तक बढ़ाया गया है?

- (a) 31 December 2026
- (b) 31 March 2027
- (c) 30 June 2027
- (d) 31 March 2028
- (e) None of these

Answer: (b) 31 March 2027

1. The Department of Commerce extended **Component II of RELIEF until 31 March 2027**. It supports exporters affected by geopolitical tensions and maritime disruption in West Asia.
2. **RELIEF** stands for Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation. It was launched on **19 March 2026** under the Export Promotion Mission.
3. The reported framework provides 95% risk coverage and protection against eligible increases in insurance premiums above pre-disruption levels. Support operates within the notified eligibility and coverage conditions.
4. ECGC implements the initiative. Its purpose is continuity of export trade by reducing the impact of shipping and insurance risks; the extension concerns Component II specifically.

State News

4. Which region was declared India's first fully organic Union Territory in October 2026?

अक्टूबर 2026 में किस क्षेत्र को भारत का पहला पूर्णतः जैविक केंद्रशासित प्रदेश घोषित किया गया?

- (a) Chandigarh
- (b) Puducherry
- (c) Ladakh
- (d) Lakshadweep
- (e) None of these

Answer: (c) Ladakh

1. **Ladakh** was declared India's first **fully organic Union Territory** on **25 October 2026**, according to the daily roundup. The declaration followed restrictions on chemical fertilisers and certification efforts.
2. The **Mission Organic Development Initiative (MODI)** began in 2020 and aims to bring all 666 villages under certified organic farming.
3. The report cites a Rs 500-crore budget for the transition. Organic cultivation seeks to protect fragile Himalayan ecosystems, improve soil and water health and reduce synthetic input dependence.
4. Sikkim became India's first fully organic state in 2016. Keep the distinction between a state and a Union Territory clear when answering questions about these milestones.

5. Which state approved a proposal for a cooperative-sector airline in October 2026?

अक्टूबर 2026 में सहकारी क्षेत्र की एयरलाइन के प्रस्ताव को किस राज्य ने मंजूरी दी?

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Kerala

1. **Kerala** approved a proposal by the **Kerala Civil Aviation Development Cooperative Society** to launch flight services, according to the **25 October 2026** announcement reported in the roundup.
2. The proposal seeks to extend the cooperative

model into civil aviation. C N Vijayakrishnan, associated with MVR Cancer Centre, is linked with the initiative.

3. An earlier proposal used the name **Co-Keralam** and envisaged leasing two aircraft with 72 seats each. Proposed destinations included Kozhikode, Kannur, Bengaluru and Chennai from Kochi.
4. Approval of a proposal does not establish that commercial services have begun. The source states that operational launch details remain unconfirmed; distinguish proposed routes from an active flight schedule.

National News

6. Which coast did the IMD forecast Cyclone Arnab would reach on 28 October 2026?

IMD के पूर्वानुमान के अनुसार चक्रवात अर्नब 28 अक्टूबर 2026 को किस तट पर पहुँच सकता है?

- (a) Gujarat and Daman coasts
- (b) Kerala and Lakshadweep coasts
- (c) West Bengal and Bangladesh coasts
- (d) Andhra Pradesh and Yanam coasts
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) Andhra Pradesh and Yanam coasts

1. The **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** forecast landfall of **Cyclone Arnab** along the **Andhra Pradesh and Yanam coasts on 28 October 2026**, according to the 26 October report.
2. The system intensified over the east-central and adjoining west-central Bay of Bengal. The likely landfall zone was reported between Bapatla and Visakhapatnam.
3. The forecast cited sustained winds of **115-125 kmph**, gusting to 140 kmph, and a possible storm surge of 1-1.5 metres above astronomical tide in low-lying areas.
4. These are forecast conditions reported on 26 October, rather than confirmed observations of a completed landfall. Cyclone forecasts can change as the system develops; the MCQ tests the stated forecast geography.

7. At which institution was the AATAL air-pollution laboratory inaugurated in October 2026?

अक्टूबर 2026 में AATAL वायु प्रदूषण प्रयोगशाला का उद्घाटन किस संस्थान में किया गया?

- (a) IIT Bombay
- (b) Delhi branch of IITM
- (c) Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru
- (d) National Physical Laboratory, Lucknow
- (e) None of these

Answer: (b) Delhi branch of IITM

- The **AATAL laboratory** was inaugurated at the **Delhi branch of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM)** on **24 October 2026** by Union Minister Jitendra Singh.
- AATAL stands for **Integrated Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosol Toxicity Analysis Laboratory**. The facility operates under Mission Mausam.
- It examines pollutant composition, toxicity and sources such as vehicles, industry, biomass burning and dust. It integrates with AIRWISE, which provides 72-hour forecasts at approximately 400-metre resolution.
- The evidence can support targeted measures by the Commission for Air Quality Management, including actions under GRAP. Measuring pollution sources helps identify where interventions can be most effective.

8. Which institute was designated to co-ordinate ICIMOD activities across India's Himalayan region?

भारत के हिमालयी क्षेत्र में ICIMOD गतिविधियों के समन्वय के लिए किस संस्थान को नामित किया गया?

- (a) Wildlife Institute of India
- (b) Indian Institute of Forest Management
- (c) G B Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment
- (d) National Institute of Oceanography
- (e) None of these

Answer: (c) G B Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment

- The Environment Ministry designated **G B Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (GBPNIE)** to coordinate **ICIMOD activities** across India's Himalayan region.
- GBPNIE is headquartered in **Almora, Uttarakhand**, and will establish a dedicated ICIMOD cell. It will connect Himalayan states, universities and research institutions.
- Cooperation covers glacier melt, water security, biodiversity, pollution and disaster-risk reduction. Projects will undergo initial screening, scientific

assessment and final approval through the stated ministry-level mechanism.

- ICIMOD**, established in 1983, is headquartered in Kathmandu, Nepal, and serves eight regional member countries. It stands for International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development.

9. Which traditional weaving initiative from Punjab was highlighted in the 139th Mann Ki Baat episode?

मन की बात के 139वें एपिसोड में पंजाब की किस पारंपरिक बुनाई पहल का उल्लेख किया गया?

- (a) Nav-Trinjan
- (b) Pochampally Revival
- (c) Kani Heritage Mission
- (d) Paithani Cluster Initiative
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Nav-Trinjan

- The **139th episode of Mann Ki Baat**, broadcast on **25 October 2026**, highlighted Punjab's **Nav-Trinjan** traditional weaving initiative, according to the roundup.
- The programme also discussed revival of Ut-tarakhand's Heval River and millet cultivation in Meghalaya and Nagaland. These examples connect community action with heritage and sustainability.
- Healthcare coverage included the **e-Sanjeevani telemedicine platform**. Other references included brain-mapping research at IIT Madras and fibre-optics pioneer Narinder Singh Kapany.
- Mann Ki Baat began in 2014; the reported episode marked 12 years of the programme. For revision, link each local initiative to its state rather than treating all examples as one scheme.

International News

10. The SAMHiTA manuscript digitisation project at Gangaramaya Temple involves India and which country?

गंगारामया मंदिर में SAMHiTA पांडुलिपि डिजिटलीकरण परियोजना भारत और किस देश से संबंधित है?

- (a) Nepal
- (b) Bhutan
- (c) Thailand
- (d) Sri Lanka
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) Sri Lanka

1. The **SAMHiTA Project** strengthens cultural co-operation between **India and Sri Lanka**. Its Sri Lankan institutional partner is **Gangaramaya Temple in Colombo**.
2. SAMHiTA stands for **South Asian Manuscript Histories and Textual Archive**. The India International Centre, New Delhi, undertakes the initiative with Government of India grant assistance.
3. An MoU signed in July 2026 provides for local experts to digitise 100 manuscripts, with completion expected by November. The manuscripts preserve Buddhist traditions, philosophy, languages and cultural knowledge.
4. Digitisation supports preservation and access without replacing the original manuscripts. Gangaramaya Temple is identified as the first Sri Lankan institution to partner with this project.

11. Who won Brazil's presidential runoff on 25 October 2026?

25 अक्टूबर 2026 को ब्राजील के राष्ट्रपति चुनाव के दूसरे दौर में किसने जीत हासिल की?

- (a) Flavio Bolsonaro
- (b) Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva
- (c) Jair Bolsonaro
- (d) Fernando Haddad
- (e) None of these

Answer: (b) Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva

1. **Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva** won re-election in Brazil's **25 October 2026 presidential runoff**, securing a fourth presidential mandate.
2. Brazil's **Superior Electoral Court (TSE)** reported **51.79% of valid votes** for Lula and 48.21% for Flavio Bolsonaro. These percentages concern valid votes, rather than the entire eligible electorate.
3. The election result and the start of the next term are separate events. The daily report schedules the new term for January 2027; the question tests the winner of the runoff.
4. The main policy areas identified include economic management, social programmes and environmental protection, particularly the Amazon. Brazil is a South American country and a member of BRICS.

Summits & Conferences**12. What is the theme of the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum hosted by India in October 2026?**

भारत द्वारा अक्टूबर 2026 में आयोजित 12वें ब्रिक्स संसदीय मंच की थीम क्या है?

- (a) One Earth, One Family, One Future
- (b) Building Resilient Oceans
- (c) Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development
- (d) Digital Trade for Shared Growth
- (e) None of these

Answer: (c) Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development

1. The theme of the **12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum** is **Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development**. It is being held on **26-27 October 2026**.
2. The venue is the **Parliament House Complex, New Delhi**, with the Parliament of India as host institution. India is hosting under its BRICS Presidency.
3. Discussions centre on resilience, innovation, co-operation and sustainability. Plenary sessions and bilateral meetings provide opportunities for parliamentary diplomacy.
4. Agenda areas include terrorism, climate change and reform of global institutions. A parliamentary forum involves legislators and parliamentary co-operation; it is distinct from a BRICS leaders' summit.

Science & Technology**13. What is the name of the Ebola vaccine trial launched in DR Congo to assess protection against Bundibugyo virus?**

बुंडीबुग्यो वायरस के विरुद्ध सुरक्षा का आकलन करने के लिए डीआर कांगो में शुरू इबोला वैक्सीन परीक्षण का नाम क्या है?

- (a) Tumaini
- (b) Mwangaza
- (c) Afya
- (d) Salama
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Tumaini

1. The Democratic Republic of Congo began the

Tumaini vaccine trial on **23 October 2026** in **Bunia, Ituri province**, according to the daily report.

- Tumaini means hope in Swahili.** The study assesses protection against Bundibugyo virus, a cause of Ebola disease.
- The report says researchers initially test Ervebo for possible cross-protection. Ervebo's existing approval for the Zaire strain does not establish effectiveness against Bundibugyo; that is the research question.
- The trial uses a ring-vaccination design involving contacts and people at high risk of exposure. Further candidates may be considered later. Trial initiation should not be described as confirmed successful protection.

14. By which year does ISRO aim to have four functional space-launch pads in India?

ISRO भारत में किस वर्ष तक चार कार्यशील अंतरिक्ष प्रक्षेपण पैड स्थापित करने का लक्ष्य रखता है?

- 2027
- 2028
- 2032
- 2029
- None of these

Answer: (d) 2029

- ISRO aims to expand India's launch infrastructure to **four functional launch pads by 2029**. Chairman **V Narayanan** announced the plan on **24 October 2026**.
- The expansion includes a dedicated SSLV launch complex at **Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu**, covering approximately 2,000 acres.
- SSLV means Small Satellite Launch Vehicle. Dedicated infrastructure can support launches for smaller payloads and broaden operational capacity.
- ISRO also plans greater private-sector participation while continuing its public role. Gaganyaan preparations include uncrewed tests before a crewed mission; announced infrastructure targets remain future plans until completed.

Obituaries

15. K Damodharan, popularly known as Chef Damu, was associated with which field?

शेफ दामू के नाम से प्रसिद्ध के. दामोदरन किस क्षेत्र से जुड़े थे?

- Classical dance
- Culinary arts
- Space science
- Athletics
- None of these

Answer: (b) Culinary arts

- K Damodharan, known as Chef Damu**, was a noted **chef, culinary educator, author and television personality**. He died in Chennai on **25 October 2026**, aged 72.
- He helped popularise South Indian and Chettinad cuisine and became familiar to Tamil television audiences as a judge on Cooku with Comali.
- He received the **Padma Shri in 2025** for contributions to culinary arts. His career connected professional cooking, public education and popular media.
- The roundup records his 2010 Guinness achievement of preparing 617 dishes in 24 hours, 30 minutes and 12 seconds. Remember the name, field, recognition and distinctive achievement together.

16. Yasuo Fukuda, who died in October 2026, served as Prime Minister of which country?

अक्टूबर 2026 में दिवंगत यासुओ फुकुदा किस देश के प्रधानमंत्री रहे थे?

- South Korea
- Singapore
- Japan
- Thailand
- None of these

Answer: (c) Japan

- Yasuo Fukuda** served as **Prime Minister of Japan from 2007 to 2008**. His death at age 90 on **22 October 2026** was reported on 26 October.
- He belonged to the Liberal Democratic Party and earlier served as Chief Cabinet Secretary from 2000 to 2004.
- He was born in Takasaki, Gunma Prefecture, in 1936, graduated from Waseda University and entered the House of Representatives in 1990.
- His premiership emphasised international cooperation and relations with Asian neighbours, par-

ticularly China. His father, Takeo Fukuda, also served as prime minister; distinguish the two names in examination questions.

17. Artist Jogen Chowdhury was especially known for which technique?

कलाकार जोगेन चौधरी विशेष रूप से किस तकनीक के लिए प्रसिद्ध थे?

- (a) Intricate cross-hatching
- (b) Stone inlay work
- (c) Lost-wax metal casting
- (d) Glass blowing
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Intricate cross-hatching

1. **Jogen Chowdhury** was known for distinctive line work and **intricate cross-hatching**, combining traditional imagery with modern expression. He died in **Kolkata on 25 October 2026**, aged 87.
2. He studied at the Government College of Art and Craft in Kolkata and later trained in Paris at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts.
3. He served as **Keeper of Art at Rashtrapati Bhavan from 1972 to 1987** and also taught at Santiniketan, contributing to art education as well as artistic practice.
4. He represented West Bengal in the Rajya Sabha from 2014 to 2020. Cross-hatching uses intersecting lines to create tone and texture; it should not be confused with a sculpture-casting method.

Defence

18. Until which date was Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh's tenure extended?

रक्षा सचिव राजेश कुमार सिंह का कार्यकाल किस तारीख तक बढ़ाया गया?

- (a) 31 March 2027
- (b) 31 October 2028
- (c) 30 June 2027
- (d) 31 October 2027
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) 31 October 2027

1. The government extended **Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh's tenure until 31 October 2027**, one year beyond his scheduled retirement on 31 October 2026.
2. The **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet**

(ACC) approved the extension. The Department of Personnel and Training issued the order.

3. Singh is a **1989-batch IAS officer of the Kerala cadre**. He assumed charge as Defence Secretary on 1 November 2024, succeeding Giridhar Aramane.
4. The reported order relaxes relevant retirement provisions, including Fundamental Rule 56(d) and applicable All India Services rules. The question tests the extended end date, not his initial assumption-of-office date.

Sports & Games

19. Who won the 2026 United States Grand Prix at Austin?

ऑस्टिन में आयोजित 2026 यूनाइटेड स्टेट्स ग्रां प्री किसने जीती?

- (a) Charles Leclerc
- (b) Kimi Antonelli
- (c) Max Verstappen
- (d) Lando Norris
- (e) None of these

Answer: (b) Kimi Antonelli

1. **Mercedes driver Kimi Antonelli** won the **2026 United States Grand Prix** on **25 October 2026**, according to the daily roundup.
2. The race took place at the **Circuit of the Americas, Austin, Texas**. The 20-year-old Italian started from pole position.
3. Charles Leclerc finished second and Max Verstappen third. Lewis Hamilton and Lando Norris completed the reported top five in fourth and fifth positions.
4. The report describes this as Antonelli's ninth Grand Prix win of the season, extending his championship lead. Winning this race did not itself settle the season championship, which remained undecided.

20. Which Indian city was awarded the 2029 World Weightlifting Championships?

2029 विश्व भारोत्तोलन चैंपियनशिप की मेजबानी किस भारतीय शहर को मिली?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Patiala
- (c) Ahmedabad
- (d) Bhubaneswar

(e) None of these

Answer: (c) Ahmedabad

1. **Ahmedabad, Gujarat**, received hosting rights for the **2029 World Weightlifting Championships**, marking India's first hosting of the event, according to the roundup.
2. The **International Weightlifting Federation (IWF)** confirmed the decision after its Executive Board meeting in Ningbo, China, on 25 October 2026.
3. The report also identifies Ahmedabad as the scheduled host of the 2030 Commonwealth Games. Hosting rights are an announcement for a future event, rather than an event already held.
4. The IWF named Yerevan for the 2027 Senior Championships and Moscow for 2030. Connect each host city with the correct year, and distinguish weightlifting from powerlifting.

Awards & Honours

21. Which art forms feature in Shabari Naturals' award-winning tribal-art packaging?

शबरी नेचुरल्स की पुरस्कार विजेता जनजातीय कला पैकेजिंग में कौन-सी कला शैलियाँ शामिल हैं?

- (a) Warli, Gond and Chitrakathi
- (b) Madhubani, Pattachitra and Kalamkari
- (c) Phad, Pichwai and Tanjore
- (d) Cheriya, Kalighat and Mysore
- (e) None of these

Answer: (a) Warli, Gond and Chitrakathi

1. **Shabari Naturals** received the **G-Mark Global Design Award** for packaging featuring **Warli, Gond and Chitrakathi** art forms, according to the 26 October roundup.
2. The recognition is organised by Japan's Institute of Design Promotion. The presentation is scheduled in Tokyo on 4 November 2026.
3. The initiative is managed by the **Shabari Tribal Finance and Development Corporation** and promotes tribal products such as honey, millets, pulses and spices.
4. The packaging communicates tribal culture, folklore and heritage while supporting product identity. The Prime Minister highlighted the recognition in Mann Ki Baat on 25 October 2026.

22. Who won the Behaviour: Inverte-

brates category for the photograph Shifting Sand in 2026?

2026 में शिफ्टिंग सैंड तस्वीर के लिए बिहेवियर: इनवर्टिब्रेट्स श्रेणी का पुरस्कार किसने जीता?

- (a) Federico Veronesi
- (b) Rathika Ramasamy
- (c) Sudhir Shivaram
- (d) Sitaram Raul
- (e) None of these

Answer: (d) Sitaram Raul

1. Indian wildlife and macro photographer **Sitaram Raul** won the **Behaviour: Invertebrates** category for **Shifting Sand** at the 2026 Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition.
2. The photograph shows an **Indian Buthacus scorpion** burrowing into sand near Sam village in Rajasthan's Thar Desert.
3. London's Natural History Museum organises the competition. Its reported 62nd edition received 65,403 entries from 121 countries and territories, with an exhibition opening on 16 October 2026.
4. Federico Veronesi won the adult grand title for The Aftermath, an elephant photograph from Namibia. Raul's category award and Veronesi's overall award are separate distinctions.