

Today in History on 10 DEC

➤ **1878: Chakravarti Rajagopalachari was born.**

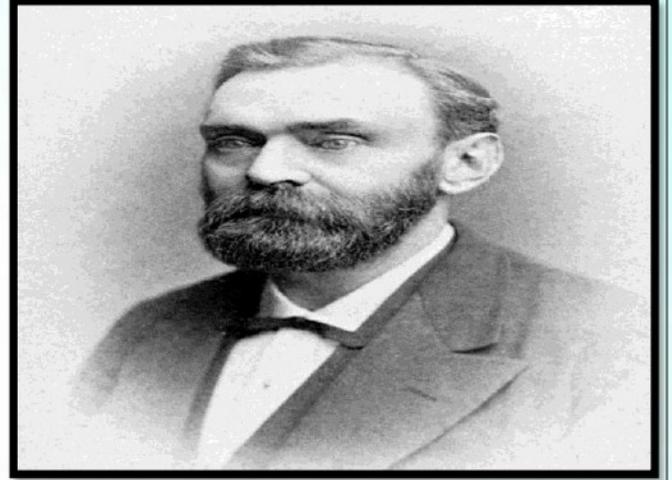
Chakravarti Rajagopalachari B.R. (10 December 1878 – 25 December 1972), popularly known as Rajaji or C.R., also known as Moothrignar Rajaji, was an Indian politician, writer, lawyer and Indian independence activist. Rajagopalachari was the last Governor-General of India, as the post was abolished after India became a republic in 1950. He was also the only Indian-born Governor-General, as all previous holders of the post were British citizens.



➤ **1896: Alfred Bernhard Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prizes, dies.**

Alfred Nobel was a Swedish chemist, engineer, and industrialist who invented dynamite and other more powerful explosives and who also founded the Nobel Prizes. This invention was made in 1866. Alfred

received a patent, or legal right of ownership, to this material the following year. He named it "dynamite."



➤ **1992: Country's first hovercraft service started in Gujarat.**

The country's first hovercraft service started in Gujarat in the year 1992. Exactly ten years ago in 1992, hovercraft service was started between Surat and Bhavnagar via Ghogha. However, this service was closed within six months. It is officially known that Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) has decided to start the service possibly by April.



➤ 1963: The African country Zanzibar gained independence from Britain.

On 10 December 1963, Zanzibar gained independence as a member of the Commonwealth. In January 1964 the Zanzibar government was overthrown by an internal revolution, Sayyid Jamshid ibn Abdullah (who had succeeded to the sultanate after his father's death in July 1963) was deposed, and a republic was proclaimed.



➤ 2007: Cristina Fernández de Kirchner becomes Argentina's first female president.

Argentina has its first elected female president: Cristina Fernández de Kirchner will succeed her husband after winning the election. According to results announced at more than 96% of polling stations, the First Lady - wife of President Néstor Kirchner - received nearly 45% of the vote, while her main rival, Elisa Carrió, got 23% and former Economy Minister Roberto Lavagna got 17%.

Mrs Kirchner now has an unassailable lead and has been officially confirmed as Argentina's first elected female head of state.



Important NEWS on 10 DEC

➤ India to Chair 68th Session of UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs

India has achieved a significant milestone by being named to chair the 68th Session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), marking the first time the country has been chosen for this prestigious role. Ambassador Shambhu S Kumaran, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna, officially assumed the chairmanship of this crucial forum. The CND, a key policy-making body of the UN, focuses on addressing global drug-related issues and promoting international collaboration on drug control measures.



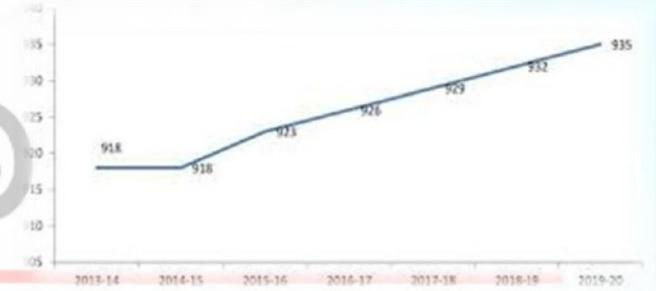
➤ "Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak Passed: Civil Aviation Minister Hails Milestone"

The Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024, marks a transformative step in India's aviation sector by replacing the 90-year-old Aircraft Act of 1934. Passed by both Houses of Parliament, the bill aims to streamline aviation regulations, align with international standards, and support the sector's exponential growth. It addresses safety, affordability, governance, and consumer protection while fostering investment and self-reliance in aircraft manufacturing.



➤ Sex Ratio and Girl Child Enrollment Show Positive Trends Under BBBP Scheme

The Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme, launched on January 22, 2015, under the Ministry of Women & Child Development in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, has achieved notable progress in improving the Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) and Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) for girls.



➤ RBI Introduces Podcast Facility for Public Communication

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), under the leadership of Governor Shaktikanta Das, has announced plans to launch a podcast series aimed at enhancing public communication and financial literacy. This initiative marks the RBI's continued efforts to expand its communication tools, aiming to provide more transparent and accessible information to the public.



➤ RBI Enables Small Finance Banks to Offer Pre-Sanctioned Credit via UPI

In a landmark move aimed at improving financial inclusion, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), after its Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting on December, 2024, announced that Small Finance Banks (SFBs) will now be permitted to offer pre-sanctioned credit lines through the Unified Payments Interface (UPI). This decision is expected to provide financial services to underserved groups, such as small businesses, micro-entrepreneurs, and individuals in rural and semi-urban regions.



➤ SBI Card Surpasses 20 Million Credit Cards Milestone

SBI Card has reached a significant milestone by surpassing 20 million credit cards in circulation, a testament to its growth since entering the credit card market in 1998. This achievement comes after a consistent rise in its card numbers and customer spending, with the company maintaining an impressive CAGR of 25% in cards issued and 26% in spends from FY19 to FY24.



➤ RBI Leads Global Gold Purchases with Record Reserves Surge

India's gold reserves surged to 882 tonnes in October 2024, with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) adding 27 tonnes to its reserves, as per World Gold Council (WGC) data. This marks a five-fold increase in gold purchases compared to the same period in 2023, totaling 77 tonnes from January to October 2024.



in the foothills of the Great Himalayan Range and is blessed with diverse landscapes and rich biodiversity. The sanctuary borders the Gabhoru and Panchnoi rivers, the Routa Reserved Forest and the Kameng Reserved Forest of Arunachal Pradesh. It includes four perennial rivers—Dolasiri, Gabhoru, Geligeli and Belsiri—and wetlands called "Bhil". The climate of the region is subtropical with hot summers, heavy rainfall and seasonal flooding.

Current affairs MCQS on 10 DEC

Q1. Recently 'Shri Shammi Silva' has become the President of Cricket of which country?

- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) Australia
- (c) Zimbabwe
- (d) England

Answer: (a) Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's Shammi Silva has taken over as the President of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC). He will replace India's Jay Shah, who recently became the President of the International Cricket Council (ICC). Shah vacated the post after serving three terms as ACC President. This will not be Silva's first role with the ACC, he has previously served as the chairman of the organisation's finance and marketing committee.

Q2. In which state is 'Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary' located?

- (a) Meghalaya
- (b) Assam
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: (b) Assam

The Assam Forest Department obtained the first photographic evidence of the Royal Bengal Tiger in the Sonai-Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary. The sanctuary is located in Assam and covers an area of 175 square kilometres. It was established in 1998. It is located

Q3. Where will the second edition of Krishnaveni Sangeet Nirjanam be held recently?

- (a) Vijayawada
- (b) Hyderabad
- (c) Thiruvananthapuram
- (d) Bhopal

Answer: (a) Vijayawada

A grand festival of Carnatic music, traditional crafts and culinary heritage, the second edition of Krishnaveni Sangeetha Neerajanam will be held at Tummalapalli Kshetranya Kalakshetra Auditorium in Vijayawada. Organised by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Textiles and Andhra Pradesh Tourism, the festival is a remarkable showcase of India's cultural richness. The event will have 35 performances over three days, featuring 140 renowned talented artists, including seasoned and emerging talents.

Q4. Recently in which state 16000 houses will be built under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana?

- (a) Uttarakhand
- (b) Haryana
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Bihar

Answer: (a) Uttarakhand

The Uttarakhand Housing Development Council (UHDC) and the Mussoorie Dehradun Development Authority (MDDA) are building around 16,000

affordable houses for low-income families in Uttarakhand. An official statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said that this initiative is being implemented "under the efforts of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi".

Q.5. Recently which country has been awarded the 2024 ISSA Good Practice Award for Asia and Pacific region?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) Nepal
- (c) India
- (d) Sri Lanka

Answer: (c) India

India has been awarded the International Social Security Association (ISSA) Good Practice Award for 2024 for Asia and the Pacific at the Regional Social Security Forum in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has been recognised for its innovative communication strategies, digital initiatives and outreach programmes such as Nidhi Aapke Paas 2.0, which promote service delivery and stakeholder participation in social security. The award reflects EPFO's commitment to reform social security systems in accordance with modern requirements.

Q.6. Recently, the World Bank has approved a loan of \$ 188.28 million for the backward districts of which state?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Bihar

Answer: (b) Maharashtra

The World Bank has approved a \$188.28 million loan to Maharashtra, aimed at boosting economic development in the state's backward districts. The loan has been provided by the International Bank for

Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), with a maturity period of 15 years and a grace period of 5 years. The main objective of the project is to accelerate economic growth and employment generation by strengthening district-level governance, improving e-governance services and promoting private sector participation.

Q.7. Which country has been chosen to chair the 68th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)?

- (a) China
- (b) Russia
- (c) India
- (d) Australia

Answer: (c) India

India has been elected to chair the 68th session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND). Ambassador Shambhu S Kumaran, India's Permanent Representative to the UN in Vienna, has officially assumed charge. CND is the main policy-making body for global drug-related issues under the United Nations. It monitors global drug trends, supports balanced policy-making and oversees major drug conferences. CND works under the United Nations Economic and Social Council and supervises the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). This is India's first time chairing the CND, reflecting its growing leadership and commitment to global issues.

Q.8. Recently 'Sunil Mehta' has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to which country?

- (a) New Zealand
- (b) Japan
- (c) Norway
- (d) Fiji

Answer: (d) Fiji

Suneet Mehta, a 2007 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, has been appointed as the next High

Commissioner of India to Fiji. Mehta is presently serving as Deputy High Commissioner in the Indian High Commission. "V P Singh, Governor of Canberra has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Fiji," Suneet Mehta (IFS:2007), presently Deputy High Commissioner in the Indian High Commission, Ministry of External Affairs, said in a release. He is expected to take up his duties shortly.

Q.9. Recently the World Weightlifting Championship 2024 has started in which country?

- (a) Bahrain
- (b) Japan
- (c) Russia
- (d) China

Answer: (a) Bahrain

The 2024 World Weightlifting Championships have kicked off in Bahrain, with top weightlifters from around the world taking part. This is the first time Bahrain has hosted the event, having previously hosted the 2022 Asian Weightlifting Championships. More than 500 weightlifters, including world and Olympic champions, are taking part in the championships. Paris 2024 gold medallists such as Reeves, Nassar and Junyansha are expected to be some of the top participants at the event.

Q.10. Recently the third edition of the 'Pustakayan' book fair organized by the Sahitya Akademi has started?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Surat
- (c) Bhopal
- (d) Lucknow

Answer: (a) New Delhi

New Delhi: The third edition of the Sahitya Akademi's book fair has begun at Ravindra Bhavan during which several literary and cultural events will be held. The event will be inaugurated by Indian

author and former Indian ambassador to the US Navtej Sarna and will be attended by over 40 publishers. The 10-day fair aims to inculcate a love for reading and literature among people through various activities.

Q.11. Recently which country has become the theme country of the 30th Kolkata International Film Festival?

- (a) France
- (b) Italy
- (c) Spain
- (d) Germany

Answer: (a) France

The 30th edition of the Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) has begun, with the theme country this time being France. The festival will screen a number of films highlighting the rich cultural and cinematic heritage of the European nation. The Kolkata International Film Festival will run till December 11, showcasing interesting films from across the world. Several prominent personalities from the world of cinema and politics attended the opening ceremony.

Q.12. Recently who has been appointed as the Executive Chairman of Raymond Lifestyle Limited?

- (a) Jitendra Singh Bhati
- (b) Deepak Agarwal
- (c) Gautam Hari Singhania
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) Gautam Hari Singhania

Gautam Hari Singhania has been officially appointed as the executive chairman of Raymond Lifestyle Ltd following shareholders' approval in a postal ballot. The company told SEBI that 86.85 per cent of the votes were in favour of the proposal, while 13.15 per cent opposed it. This decisive vote is a significant moment for Raymond Lifestyle, reflecting a strategic shift aimed at accelerating growth and operational

efficiency as the company approaches its centenary year.

Q.13. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will recently go on an official visit to which country?

- (a) Malaysia
- (b) France
- (c) Italy
- (d) Russia

Answer: (d) Russia

Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh will pay an official visit to the Russian Federation. During the visit, Defence Minister and Defence Minister of Russia Mr. Andrey Belousov will co-chair the 21st meeting of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Military and Military Technical Cooperation (IRIGC-M&MTC) in Moscow.

Q.14. Recently who has unveiled the Anna Chakra and Scan Portal?

- (a) Prahlad Joshi
- (b) Piyush Goyal
- (c) Amit Shah
- (d) Narendra Modi

Answer: (a) Prahlad Joshi

Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and New & Renewable Energy Shri Prahlad Joshi launched the Public Distribution System (PDS) supply chain optimization tool 'Anna Chakra' and SCAN (Subsidy Claim Application for NFSA) portal, a significant step towards modernizing the Public Distribution System and subsidy claim mechanism of the States.

Q.15. Recently who will receive the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize?

- (a) Masad Bulos
- (b) Jasleen Kaur
- (c) Veronica Bachelet
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) Veronica Bachelet

Former Chilean President Veronica Michelle Nicolas Jeria will be awarded the Indira Gandhi Peace, Fatherhood and Development Prize for 2024, according to a statement from the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust. The decision was taken by a panel headed by former National Security Adviser and former Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon. She is one of the world's most prominent advocates of human rights, peace and injustice.