

Today in History on 16 NOV

➤ 1846: Famous Urdu poet Akbar Allahabadi was born.

Akbar Allahabadi: Akbar was born in a respectable family in Bara near Allahabad in 1846 with the name Syed Akbar Hussain. His father's name was Syed Taffazul Hussain. Akbar Allahabadi was a talented poet and writer of Urdu language. His writings were very famous during the freedom struggle. Akbar was a brilliant, logical, sociable man. And his poetry was the hallmark of poetry with a remarkable sense of humor.



➤ 1860: The first batch of Indian workers arrived in Natal, South Africa.

Indians went to South Africa as labourers and traders. South Africa consisted of four provinces, namely Natal, Transvaal, Orange Free State and Cape Colony. The first batch of indentured labourers arrived in Natal in November 1860. Indentured labourers were contracted to work.

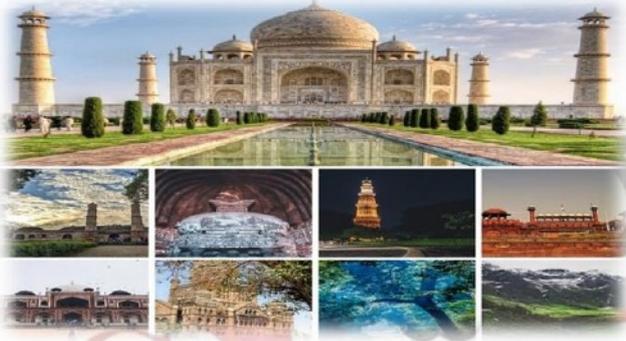


➤ 1821: Mexico's independence recognized

Mexico's independence was recognized on November 16, 1821. This was not a single, coherent event, but rather local and regional conflicts that occurred over the same period and can be considered a revolutionary civil war.

➤ **1945: UNESCO, which preserves cultural heritage around the world, was formed.**

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was established on 16 November 1945. UNESCO has 195 members and 8 associate members and is governed by the General Conference and the Executive Board. The Secretariat headed by the Director-General implements the decisions of these two bodies.



➤ **1996: Mother Teresa was awarded honorary citizenship by the United States.**

In 1950, Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity, a religious organization aimed at serving the poorest and most neglected people. She was awarded the Legion d'Honneur by Jean-Claude Duvalier in 1981. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1985, and was made an honorary citizen of the United States in 1996

Important NEWS on 16 NOV

➤ **Australia Appoints First Anti-Slavery Commissioner to Combat Modern Slavery**

In a landmark move, Australia has appointed its first Anti-Slavery Commissioner, Chris Evans, who will serve a five-year term starting in December 2024. The position is designed to strengthen efforts across the government, business, and society to combat modern slavery, which includes human trafficking, forced labour, and deceptive recruiting.



➤ Professional Golf Tour of India Welcomes Amandeep Johl as CEO

The Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI) announced that Amandeep Johl will take over as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) starting January 2025. A well-respected figure in Indian golf, Johl brings a wealth of experience to his leadership role. Amandeep Johl will take over as CEO from January 1, 2025. Johal will work with outgoing CEO Uttam Singh Mundi until December 31 to ensure a smooth transition.



➤ RBI Maintains SBI, HDFC Bank, and ICICI Bank as D-SIBs

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has confirmed that State Bank of India (SBI), HDFC Bank, and ICICI Bank will continue to be classified as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs), with an increase in additional capital requirements for SBI and HDFC Bank starting April 2025. The D-SIB framework, introduced by RBI in 2014 and updated in 2023, designates these banks as too significant to fail due to their size, complexity, and interconnectedness in the financial system. These

banks are subject to higher capital buffers to ensure financial stability.



➤ RBI's New Framework for Converting FPI Holdings to FDI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced a new framework that allows Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) to convert their investments into Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) if their holdings exceed the 10% equity threshold in Indian companies. This move is designed to streamline the process, making it easier for FPIs to align with FDI guidelines, provided they have the necessary government and company approvals.



➤ Chief of Defence Staff Chairs 35th Tri-Services Commanders' Conference in Kochi

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan chaired the 35th Tri-Services Commanders' Conference (TSTCC) at the Southern Naval Command, Kochi, on November 2024. The annual conference gathered senior commanders and officers from the Indian Army, Navy, Air Force, Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (IDS), and other formations to discuss advancing joint training strategies and assessing the geostrategic landscape of the region.



➤ Swami Vivekananda Vidya Mandir Opens in Silvassa, Inaugurated by President

President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the Swami Vivekananda Vidya Mandir school at Zanda Chowk in Silvassa on November 2024. During her visit, she enjoyed lighthearted interactions with the students, joining them in games and reciting poems together.



➤ Amaravati Capital Project Gets ₹13,500 Crore Loan from World Bank and ADB

In a significant step forward for the development of Amaravati, the capital city of Andhra Pradesh, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have agreed to grant a loan of ₹13,500 crore for its development. This financial support is aimed at creating a sustainable and inclusive city with improved infrastructure and governance. The loan agreement was finalized following a series of negotiations between the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA), the World Bank, ADB, and the Union Finance Ministry.



Current affairs MCQS on 16 NOV

Q.1. Recently, Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM) has been developed by which organization?

- (a) DRDO
- (b) ISRO
- (c) ESA
- (d) HAL

Answer: (a) DRDO

DRDO recently conducted the first flight test of its Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM). The LRLACM can be launched from mobile ground-based systems and frontline ships using a Universal

Vertical Launch Module. It can perform complex maneuvers at various speeds and altitudes, demonstrating accuracy and versatility. Equipped with advanced avionics and software, it follows terrain-adjacent paths, making it difficult to detect and intercept. Developed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment with support from BDL and BEL. Approved as a Mission Mode Project by the Defence Acquisition Council, the successful test enhances India's long-range precision strike capabilities.

Q.2. Recently who has been declared the face of "Madhya Pradesh Tourism"?

- (a) Anupam Kher
- (b) Akshay Kumar
- (c) Katrina Kaif
- (d) Pankaj Tripathi

Answer: (d) Pankaj Tripathi

Celebrated actor Pankaj Tripathi, known for his deep love for travel and passion for India's cultural richness, has been appointed the face of Madhya Pradesh Tourism. Known for advocating India's diverse and scenic destinations, Tripathi is now set to promote the unique beauty and heritage of Madhya Pradesh, a state very close to his heart, both personally and professionally.

Q.3. Recently who has received the "Coach of the Year" award in the Indian Sports Awards 2024?

- (a) Suma Shirur
- (b) Kunal Dalal
- (c) Rahab Allana
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Suma Shirur

India's leading women's coach Suma Shirur has been awarded the prestigious Coach of the Year (Women) award at the Indian Sports Honours 2024. The Olympian and former chief coach of the Indian shooting contingent was honoured for her transformational leadership and exceptional contribution to Indian shooting.

Q.4. Recently who has been ranked as the world's most sustainable aluminum company?

- (a) Hindalco
- (b) Vedanta
- (c) Jindal
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Hindalco

Hindalco Industries Ltd, the flagship metals company of the Aditya Birla Group, has emerged as the world's most sustainable aluminium company for the fifth consecutive year in the 2024 edition of the S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) Rankings. Hindalco, the only aluminium company to top the S&P Global CSA, scored a total of 87 points, improving its numbers by 9 points over the previous year and placing it 22 points ahead of its nearest rival.

Q.5. Recently where has Amazon launched its first 'Amazon Future Engineer Maker Space'?

- (a) Hyderabad
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Mumbai
- (d) Bengaluru

Answer: (d) Bengaluru

Amazon announced the launch of its first Amazon Future Engineer (AFE) makerspace in India, to be set up in Bengaluru to empower over 4,000 young minds by 2025. In partnership with The Innovation Story, the initiative will provide immersive, hands-on learning experiences to underprivileged students from Classes 5 to 12, nurturing their curiosity and equipping them with innovative tech skills to become future change-makers.

Q.6. Recently, whom has the newly elected President of America 'Donald Trump' declared as his National Security Advisor?

- (a) Usha Chilukuri Vance
- (b) Susie Wills
- (c) Mike Walts
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) Mike Walts

Newly elected President Donald Trump has decided to appoint Congressman Mike Waltz, head of the India Caucus, as his National Security Advisor (NSA). Waltz is not only one of Trump's staunch supporters but has also been an advocate of strengthening America's relations with India besides making America's policies more aggressive against China. The India Caucus is a group of US lawmakers who advocate strengthening bilateral relations between India and the US.

Q.7. Where has the first space exercise 'Space Exercise 2024' been held recently?

- (a) Bengaluru
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Mumbai
- (d) Jaipur

Answer: (b) New Delhi

The first Space Exercise-2024 of the Defence Space Agency-DSA began in New Delhi. The three-day space exercise aims to enhance understanding of space-based assets and services. The Defence Ministry statement said the exercise is being conducted to understand operational dependencies between various parties involved in the space sector and to identify vulnerabilities in operations in case of disruption of space-based services. Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan said in the opening address that space was earlier considered the final frontier but now it is playing a vital role in India's defence and security sector.

Q.8. Recently who has been selected as the ICC Player of the Month for October 2024?

- (a) Amelia Kerr
- (b) Noman Ali
- (c) Both of the above
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) Both of the above

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the winners of the ICC Players of the Month for October 2024. This month, the honour has been given to New Zealand allrounder Amelia Kerr

and Pakistan spinner Noman Ali. Both players were instrumental in their respective teams' success last month, demonstrating skill, resilience and leadership on the international stage.

Q.9. Recently an agreement has been signed between India and which country for 'Pantisar Air Defense System'?

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

Answer: (b) Russia

To further strengthen India's air defence system, Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has signed a new deal with Russia. The deal has been done with the Russian government-controlled arms export company Rosoboronexport (ROE) for the Advanced Pantsir Air Defence Missile Gun System. The Pantsir Air Defence System is a versatile mobile platform designed to protect army bases and other infrastructure from air attacks, including aircraft, drones and precision guided munitions. It has advanced radar and tracking systems. Which is capable of detecting and attacking targets up to 36 kilometres away and an altitude of 15 kilometres. This agreement for this defence system between the two countries was made during the 5th India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission (IRIGC) Subgroup Meeting held in Goa.

Q.10. Dr. Naveen Ramgoolam, which country has recently won the election for the post of Prime Minister?

- (a) Mauritius
- (b) Nepal
- (c) Myanmar
- (d) Sri Lanka

Answer: (a) Mauritius

Dr. Navin Ramgoolam is going to become the new Prime Minister of Mauritius after achieving a historic victory in the general elections of Mauritius. Indian

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated him on this achievement. Modi expressed his desire to cooperate with Ramgoolam to enhance India-Mauritius relations and invited him to visit India.

Q.11. Who has recently won the 'World Billiards Title'?

- (a) Sourav Kothari
- (b) Robert Hall
- (c) Pankaj Advani
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) Pankaj Advani

Veteran Indian cueist Pankaj Advani won his 28th world title at the IBSF World Billiards Championships held in Doha, Qatar. This was Pankaj Advani's seventh consecutive title win at the IBSF World Billiards Championships. The IBSF World Billiards and Snooker Championships are for non-professional snooker and billiards players.

Q.12. Which IIT has recently developed a patented mechanical knee rehab device?

- (a) IIT Ropar
- (b) IIT Delhi
- (c) IIT Jaipur
- (d) IIT Mumbai

Answer: (a) IIT Ropar

In a significant breakthrough for post-surgery knee rehabilitation, researchers at IIT Ropar have unveiled an innovative solution to make continuous passive motion (CPM) therapy more accessible and affordable. The IIT Ropar team has developed a fully mechanical passive motion machine for knee rehabilitation that has been awarded a patent (No. 553407).

Q.13. Noida International Airport has recently signed an agreement with whom for green energy?

- (a) Reliance Power
- (b) Tata Power
- (c) Adani Green
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (b) Tata Power

Tata Power has partnered with Noida International Airport (NIA) to invest Rs 550 crore in renewable energy infrastructure. The 25-year agreement includes supplying 10.8 MW of wind power and developing a 13 MW onsite solar power plant. The collaboration aims to meet NIA's clean energy needs and promote sustainable airport development in India.

Q.14. Who has recently inaugurated the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2025 website in Delhi?

- (a) Dr. S. Jaishankar
- (b) Piyush Goyal
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) Amit Shah

Answer: (a) Dr. S. Jaishankar

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi jointly launched the official website of the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention. Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh was also present on the occasion. India's Ministry of External Affairs said that the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention will be held in Bhubaneswar from January 8 to January 10 next year in collaboration with the Government of Odisha and will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Launching the website, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said that under the inspirational leadership of Prime Minister Modi, the Government of India has given the highest priority to the well-being of over 35 million overseas Indians.

Q.15. Vardan Kamalakar Rao has passed away recently. Who was he?

- (a) Mridangam scholar
- (b) Writer
- (c) Musician
- (d) Journalist

Answer: (a) Mridangam scholar

The music world has lost a veteran mridangam artiste and scholar Varadara Kamalakar Rao, who

passed away in Rajahmundry at the age of 88. Known for his profound understanding and innovative approach to the mridangam, Rao dedicated his entire life to Indian classical music. His unique rhythm and technique inspired several generations. His contribution to Carnatic music, his association with eminent musicians and the many honours he received throughout his life reflect his deep impact on Indian music.

S ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾಗುರು
Spardhaguru India Private Limited