

Today in History on 22 NOV

- **1808: Thomas Cook, founder of the world famous travel company 'Thomas Cook and Sons' was born.**

Thomas Cook was born on 22 November 1808 to John and Elizabeth Cook, who lived at 9 Quick Close in the village of Melbourne, Derbyshire. At the age of 10, Cook started working as an assistant to a local market gardener on Lord Melbourne's estate. In 1828, he became a Baptist missionary and toured the area as a village preacher and distributed pamphlets and in the 1830s, he joined the temperance movement.



- **1997: Diana Hayden becomes Miss World.**

Diana Hayden is an Indian actress, television host, model and the winner of the Miss World 1997 pageant. She is the third Indian woman to win the title of Miss World. She also won three sub-titles during the competition and is the only Miss World titleholder to do so. In 2008, she was a celebrity contestant on the reality show Bigg Boss. Hayden was also crowned "Miss World – Asia and Oceania" during the Miss World pageant. In addition, she also won the titles of Miss Photogenic and Spectacular Swimwear. Hayden is the only Miss World titleholder to win three subtitles during the competition. She is the third Indian woman to win

the Miss World pageant after Reita Faria in 1966 and Aishwarya Rai Bachchan in 1994.



- **2005: Angela Merkel becomes the first female Chancellor of Germany.**

Angela Dorothea Merkel is a retired German politician who served as Chancellor of Germany and was the first woman to hold that position. She previously served as Leader of the Opposition from 2002 to 2005 and Leader of the Christian Democratic Union from 2000 to 2018. During her chancellorship, Merkel was often referred to as the most powerful woman in the world. Following the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine, her legacy came under scrutiny both in Germany and abroad.



➤ 1968: A proposal to rename Madras State as Tamil Nadu was approved by the Lok Sabha in 1956.

The States Reorganisation Act was passed in 1956. The Act organised Indian states and territories on the basis of language. In 1968, Madras State was renamed as Tamil Nadu, meaning "Tamil country". Initially, Madras State included the modern-day Andhra Pradesh, northern Kerala (Malabar) and coastal parts of Bellary and Dakshina Kannada districts of Karnataka.



➤ 1899-Senior Indian freedom fighter Shaheed Laxman Nayak was born.

Born on November 22, 1899, Laxman Nayak was a tribal civil rights activist from South Odisha in eastern India. He belonged to the Bhuiyan tribe of Odisha. He was born in Tentuliguma village in Koraput district and his father Padalam Nayak was a tribal headman and 'Mustadar' under 'Jaipur Samasthanam' in the then Madras Presidency.

Important NEWS on 22 NOV

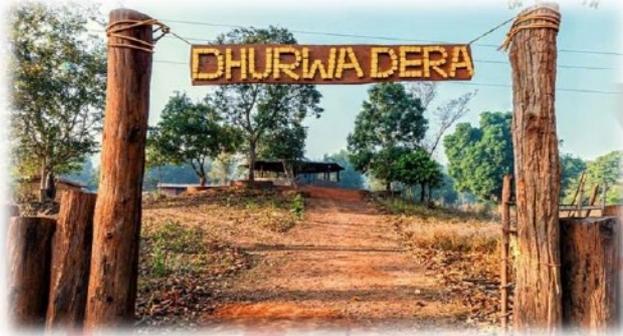
➤ ALT EFF 2024 Film Festival Returns to Mumbai to Ignite Climate Conversations

The All Living Things Environmental Film Festival (ALT EFF) returns to Mumbai for its 2024 edition, running from November 22 to December 8 at Liberty Cinema. Since its inception in 2020, ALT EFF has become a significant platform for environmental storytelling, bringing global issues of sustainability and climate change to the forefront through cinema. The festival is expanding its reach, with screenings in over 70 cities across India, including villages, fostering a wider conversation on environmental challenges.



UN Lists Chhattisgarh's Bastar Village as Tourism Destination

The small village of Dhudmaras, located in Chhattisgarh's Bastar district, has been selected by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) for its Best Tourism Village Upgrade programme. This programme highlights villages with potential for sustainable tourism development and aims to enhance local tourism infrastructure, promote cultural heritage, and improve residents' quality of life.



Brazil Officially Hands Over G20 Presidency to South Africa

Brazil officially transferred the Group of 20 (G20) Presidency to South Africa during the closing ceremony of the annual G20 summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This marks a historic milestone as South Africa becomes the first African nation to lead the G20, with a robust agenda planned for its presidency.



Karnataka to Set Up 3 Global Innovation Districts to Boost GCC Growth

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced the establishment of three Global Innovation Districts (GIDs) in Bengaluru, Mysuru, and Belagavi to attract and support Global Capability Centres (GCCs) in the state. The announcement was made at the 27th Bengaluru Tech Summit, where the CM also highlighted the launch of India's first dedicated GCC policy, aiming to empower innovation. These innovation districts will be key pillars in Karnataka's strategy to foster research, development, and emerging industries, alongside strengthening its position as a global tech hub.



➤ Indian Army Completes 'Sanyukt Vimochan 2024' A Key Disaster Relief Exercise

The Indian Army successfully conducted the "Sanyukt Vimochan 2024," a Multilateral Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise, in Ahmedabad and Porbandar, Gujarat, on November, 2024. The exercise showcased India's readiness and collaborative capabilities for disaster response and was attended by various national and international agencies, including the Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Upendra Dwivedi.



➤ India's Unemployment Rate Drops to 6.4% in Q2

In the July-September 2024 quarter, India's urban unemployment rate decreased to 6.4%, marking the lowest level observed in recent years. The rate has dropped from 6.6% in the previous quarter and remains consistent with the rate recorded in the same period last year. This improvement reflects positive trends in employment, particularly in urban areas, indicating progress in job creation and labor force participation.



➤ Morgan Stanley Cuts India's FY25 Growth Forecast to 6.7%

Morgan Stanley has revised India's FY25 growth forecast from 7% to 6.7% due to weaker-than-expected economic data from Q2, with the economy now projected to grow at a slower 6.3%. Despite this downgrade, the firm remains optimistic about a recovery in the latter half of FY25, anticipating growth to rebound to around 6.7-6.8%, driven by agricultural output and government spending.



Current affairs MCQS on 22 NOV

Q.1. Where was the 19th G20 Leaders Summit held recently?

- a. New Delhi, India
- b. Paris, France
- c. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- d. London, United Kingdom

Answer: c. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The G20 summit is being held at the Modern Art Museum in Rio de Janeiro, hosted by Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. Leaders including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US President Joe Biden and China's Xi Jinping are discussing trade, climate change and international security. PM Modi addressed the summit on the theme "Social inclusion and the fight against hunger and poverty". The G20, established in 1999, became a forum for heads of state/government in 2008. It comprises 19 countries and the European Union, with special invitees such as the United Nations and the World Bank. G20 decisions influence policies but are not legally binding.

Q.2. Recently, India has overtaken which country as a source of international students in the US?

- a. Russia
- b. Japan
- c. China
- d. France

Answer: c. China

For the first time in 15 years, Indian students have outnumbered all other international students in the United States, accounting for 29.4% of the total international student body. With 331,602 Indian students enrolled during the 2023-24 academic year, India has surpassed China as the top source of international students in the US.

Q.3. Who has recently taken over as the CEO of Zee Entertainment?

- a. Amandeep Singh
- b. Punit Goenka
- c. Mukund Galgali
- d. Suresh Awasthi

Answer: b. Punit Goenka

Punit Goenka has resigned as the managing director of Zee Entertainment and has been appointed as the CEO to enable him to focus his full attention on the operational responsibilities assigned to him by the company's board. Zee Entertainment said in a regulatory filing that the board has "accepted the resignation of Punit Goenka from the post of managing director of the company and appointed him as the CEO."

Q.4. Who has recently been appointed as the new Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of the country?

- a. Aditya Mishra
- b. Rakesh Goyal
- c. Sanjay Murthy
- d. Mukesh Kumar

Answer: c. Sanjay Murthy

The Central Government has appointed K Sanjay Murthy as the new Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India. He will replace Girish Chandra Murmu. Murthy, who is currently serving as the Secretary of the Department of Higher Education, will take over as CAG with immediate effect. His appointment has been made by the President under Article 148 of the Indian Constitution.

Q.5. Recently, which country will host the first 'Kho-Kho World Cup' with the support of IOA?

- a. France
- b. India
- c. Britain
- d. Canada

Answer: b. India

India is set to host the first-ever Kho-Kho World Cup at the iconic IGI Stadium in New Delhi from January 13 to 19, 2025, a historic moment in the world of traditional sports. To promote the tournament, the

Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has officially confirmed its partnership with the Kho-Kho Federation of India (KKFI), and has pledged unwavering support for the event.

Q.6. Recently Uma Dasgupta has passed away, who was she?

- a. Writer
- b. Journalist
- c. Actress
- d. Scientist

Answer: c. Actress

Iconic actress Uma Dasgupta, who played Durga in Satyajit Ray's Pather Panchali (1955), died after battling cancer at the age of 84. Known for her unforgettable performance in the film, Dasgupta left an indelible mark on Indian cinema despite not pursuing a mainstream acting career. Her role as Apu's elder sister Durga is one of the most memorable roles in cinematic history.

Q.7. Where has 'AIR Expo 2024' started recently?

- a. Paris
- b. Abu Dhabi
- c. Beijing
- d. Tokyo

Answer: b. Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi's aviation sector has taken a significant leap forward as Air Expo 2024 kicks off at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, positioning the UAE capital at the forefront of sustainable aerospace innovation. The three-day event will welcome aviation professionals and industry leaders from around the world. The event was inaugurated by Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, UAE Minister of Tolerance.

Q.8. Who has topped the fourth 'National Finswimming Championship' recently?

- a. Uttarakhand
- b. Karnataka
- c. West Bengal
- d. Maharashtra

Answer: c. West Bengal

West Bengal swimmers ruled the pool with complete dominance at the 4th National Finswimming Championships 2024 and won the team championship crown with a total of 151 medals including 67 gold, 43 silver and 41 bronze medals. Runners-up Karnataka were far behind with a total of 50 medals. Their swimmers won 17 gold, 18 silver and 15 bronze medals. Uttarakhand secured the third position with 21 medals. They won 8 gold, 6 silver and 7 bronze medals.

Q.9. Where has the four-day 'Global Soil Conference' started recently?

- a. Colombo
- b. New Delhi
- c. Kathmandu
- d. Pune

Answer: b. New Delhi

The four-day 2024 Global Soil Conference was inaugurated in New Delhi. The conference is the apex global platform for the world's soil scientists and stakeholders. It provides a platform for stakeholders- government, scientists, industry leaders, farmers, etc. to discuss various issues related to the importance of soil and find solutions to concerns on the issue of soil degradation and its sustainable management.

Q.10. Recently the President of which country has approved the new 'nuclear doctrine'?

- a. China
- b. America
- c. Russia
- d. Japan

Answer: c. Russia

Vladimir Putin has approved changes to Russia's nuclear doctrine that set out new conditions under which the country would consider using its arsenal. The doctrine now says that an attack by a non-nuclear state, if backed by a nuclear power, would be considered a joint attack on Russia. The update was proposed in September and ratified on the 1,000th

day of the war with Ukraine. It comes after Washington's decision to allow Ukraine to fire long-range US missiles at Russia.

Q.11. Recently, archer Jyothi Surekha Vennam won which medal in the women's compound event at the GT Open in Luxembourg?

- a. Silver
- b. Gold
- c. Bronze
- d. None of these

Answer: b. Gold

Reigning Asian Games archery champion Jyothi Surekha Vennam won the gold medal in the women's compound event at the GT Open in Luxembourg. Jyothi Vennam, playing for the first time in the GT Open, performed brilliantly throughout the competition. She won the title by defeating Belgium's Sarah Preles by 147-145 points.

Q.12. Recently, which country has approved a new constitution?

- a. Gabon
- b. Maldives
- c. Guyana
- d. Indonesia

Answer: a. Gabon

Gabon voters have overwhelmingly approved a new constitution, more than a year after mutinous soldiers overthrew the country's longtime president and seized power in the oil-rich Central African nation. Gabon's Interior Minister Herman Amongault said in a statement broadcast on state television that more than 91% of voters in the referendum approved the new constitution. He said turnout was estimated at 53.5%. The interior minister said final results would be announced by the Constitutional Court. The draft constitution, which proposes sweeping changes to prevent dynastic rule and the transfer of power, needed more than 50% of the vote to be adopted.

Q.13. Recently, who has been appointed as the mentor for ACA Women's Cricket Operations?

- a. Smriti Mandhana
- b. Mithali Raj
- c. Jhulan Goswami
- d. None of these

Answer: b. Mithali Raj

Former Indian women's cricket team captain Mithali Raj has been appointed as the mentor for women's cricket operations by the Andhra Cricket Association (ACA). In her new role, she will focus on discovering and nurturing young cricket talent across the state, thereby contributing significantly to the development of women's cricket in Andhra Pradesh.

Q.14. Where was the 50th All India Police Science Conference inaugurated recently?

- a. Mumbai
- b. New Delhi
- c. Gandhi Nagar
- d. Bhopal

Answer: c. Gandhi Nagar

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah addressed the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the 50th All India Police Science Conference in Gandhinagar, Gujarat as the Chief Guest. Several dignitaries including Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, Union Home Secretary Shri Govind Mohan and Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) Director General Shri Rajiv Kumar Sharma were present on the occasion.

Q.15. Recently, who has won the Tata Steel Chess India Blitz title?

- a. Wesley So
- b. Magrus Carlsen
- c. Arjun Erigesi
- d. none of these codes

Answer: b. Magrus Carlsen

World No. 1 chess player Magnus Carlsen completed a stunning double at the Tata Steel Chess India tournament, winning the blitz title just days after winning the rapid event. The blitz tournament held

in Kolkata was a showcase for Carlsen's brilliance, with the 33-year-old Norwegian showing impressive form to win the title with one round to spare. His victory repeated his 2019 achievement, cementing his status as one of the world's greatest players.

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