

## Today in History on 28 NOV

### ➤ 1520 - Ferdinand Magellan begins his crossing of the Pacific Ocean.

In 1519, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan, with Spanish assistance, began a voyage across the Atlantic Ocean in search of a western route to the Spice Islands via South America. After bravely braving dangerous seas and passing through the strait now known as the Strait of Magellan, his small fleet entered an unfamiliar ocean in November 1520.



### ➤ 1660 - The Royal Society is formed in London.

Founded on 28 November 1660, it was granted a royal charter by King Charles II and is the world's oldest continually existing scientific academy. The society is governed by its council, chaired by the president of the society, according to a number of statutes and standing orders.



### ➤ 1806 French troops enter Warsaw.

On 28 November 1806 French troops led by Murat entered Warsaw. The French pursued the fleeing Russians and an important battle took place around Pułtusk on 26 December. Before Friedland, Europe had been embroiled in the War of the Third Coalition in 1805. Following the French victory at the Battle of Austerlitz in December 1805, Prussia waged war in 1806 to reclaim its position as the leading power of central Europe.



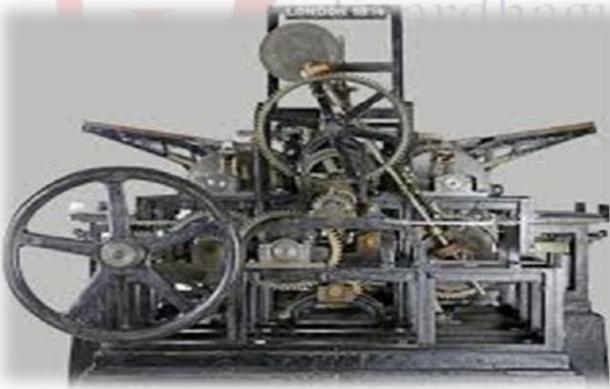
### ➤ 1996 - Captain Indrani Singh became the first woman to command an Airbus A-300 aircraft.

The day of 28 November 1996 was recorded in the name of an Indian in the aviation industry. That name was Captain Indrani Singh. She created history by flying the Airbus A-300 aircraft of the American company Boeing. She is the first woman to do so and became Asia's first commercial woman pilot. She has also been the commander of this aircraft. Captain Indrani Singh is the first woman in the world who was the commander of the Airbus A-300.



- **1814 The Times of London was printed with an automated printing press for the first time.**

John Walter secretly printed the first issue of "The Times" on a steam-driven Koenig cylinder press. Koenig's double cylinder steam-driven press published the November 1814 London issue. The new machine's output was initially 1,100 sheets per hour—four times faster than the hand press the newspaper had previously used.



## Important NEWS on 28 NOV

- **National Mission on Natural Farming: Advancing Sustainable Agriculture**

The Government of India has launched the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) with an allocation of ₹2,481 crore, aiming to promote natural farming across the nation. This scheme, approved by the Union Cabinet on November, 2024, will target 1 crore farmers and cover around 750,000 hectares of land over the next two years.



- **Cabinet Approves PAN 2.0: Digital Transformation of Taxpayer Services**

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the PAN 2.0 Project, an upgrade of the current PAN/TAN system, with a financial outlay of ₹1,435 crore. The project aims to streamline and digitize the PAN services, enhancing taxpayer registration and service delivery. PAN 2.0 is a part of the government's Digital India vision, which focuses on improving the digital infrastructure and making the PAN a common identifier across various government systems.



### ➤ ICAI Signs MoU with CBSE to Enhance Commerce-Based Skill Courses in BFSI Sector

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has signed a significant Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to promote commerce-based skill courses, particularly within the Banking, Financial Services, and Insurance (BFSI) sector.



### ➤ Shivraj Singh Chouhan Launches 'Nayi Chetna' Campaign Against Gender Violence

The Union Minister of Rural Development and Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, launched the third edition of the national campaign "Nayi Chetna - Pahal Badlaav Ki" in New Delhi on November, 2024. This month-long campaign aims to combat gender-based violence across India, focusing on raising awareness, promoting community engagement, and strengthening support systems for victims.



### ➤ INTERNATIONAL TOURIST FOOTFALL

The Ministry of Tourism undertakes a variety of promotional activities aimed at showcasing India's tourism potential to international audiences and encouraging travel to the country. These efforts not only focus on global tourism markets but also include specific initiatives to boost tourism in states like Himachal Pradesh.



### ➤ S&P Global Revises India's GDP and Inflation Projections

S&P Global Ratings maintained India's GDP growth forecast for FY25 at 6.8% while revising FY26 down to 6.7% from the earlier estimate of 6.9%. The agency also raised its inflation projection for FY25 to 4.6%, reflecting persistent food inflation and supply shocks in agriculture caused by climate factors like changing rainfall patterns and heatwaves.



### ➤ Canara HSBC Life Unveils OmniGen AI to Transform Underwriting

Canara HSBC Life Insurance has launched OmniGen AI, a groundbreaking generative AI solution aimed at optimizing risk evaluation in underwriting. This innovative system leverages cutting-edge technology on Amazon Web Services (AWS), enabling underwriters to make faster, more precise decisions based on a comprehensive set of data points.



### Current affairs MCQS on 28 NOV

Q.1. Where was the large-sized adult ant lion "Palpares contrarius" seen recently?

- a. Karnataka
- b. Tamil Nadu
- c. Kerala
- d. Andhra Pradesh

**Answer : b. Tamil Nadu**

Researchers observed a large adult ant lion, Palpares contrarius, resembling a dragonfly, for the first time on the Madras Christian College campus in Tamil Nadu. Ant lions belong to the Neuroptera and Myrmeleontidae families, whose predatory larvae trap ants in sandy pits. Found worldwide, mainly in dry, sandy areas, they are difficult to see during the day but appear near lights at night. Adults resemble damselflies but have soft bodies, dull wings and long clubbed antennae. Ant lions are harmless, weak

fliers and are beneficial by feeding on insects such as ants.

Q.2. Recently, which state government has announced a 'new pension scheme' for senior citizens?

- a. Goa
- b. Haryana
- c. Delhi
- d. Punjab

**Answer: c. Delhi**

The Delhi government has given a gift to the elderly. The Delhi government has launched the Citizen Pension Scheme for senior citizens. Under this scheme, all Delhiites above 60 years of age will get pension. Under this scheme, senior citizens between 60 and 69 years will get Rs 2,000 per month, while senior citizens above 69 years of age will get Rs 2,500. Apart from this, people of SC / ST and minority community will get additional benefits. More than 10,000 applications were received for this scheme on the very first day. The government has opened slots for a total of 80,000 new registrations under this scheme.

Q.3. Who has recently won the Davis Cup 2024 title?

- a. Canada
- b. Italy
- c. Netherlands
- d. Australia

**Answer: b. Italy**

Italy had to wait nearly 25 years for the Davis Cup title but the Yannick Sinner-led team won their second consecutive title of this prestigious tennis men's team tournament. World number one Sinner defeated Tallon Griekspoor 7-6, 6-2 to give Italy a 2-0 win over the Netherlands and end his brilliant season with a victory.

Q.4. Recently, who has launched the 'Ab Koi Bahane Nahi Campaign'?

- a. Piyush Goyal
- b. Dharmendra Pradhan

c. Annapurna Devi  
d. Amit Shah

**Answer: c. Annapurna Devi**

Union Minister for Women and Child Development Annapurna Devi will launch the national campaign '#Ab Koi Bahana Nahi' at Rang Bhavan (Akashvani, New Delhi). Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Minister of State for Rural Development and Communication Dr Chandrasekhar Pemmasani will also be present on the occasion.

**Q.5. Recently, which bank has partnered with UNICEF for 'climate action'?**

- a. Yes Bank
- b. IndusInd Bank
- c. Axis Bank
- d. Kotak Bank

**Answer: b. IndusInd Bank**

IndusInd Bank has partnered with UNICEF to launch a strategic initiative that focuses on addressing climate challenges and enhancing disaster resilience in India. It is part of the bank's flagship Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme. The programme targets rural and aspiring districts. It aims to improve climate risk management and strengthen community resilience.

**Q.6. Who has been recommended as MD & CEO of 'Indian Bank' recently?**

- a. Ashok Chandra
- b. Mahendra Mishra
- c. Binod Kumar
- d. Nirmal Jain

**Answer: c. Binod Kumar**

The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) has recommended the appointment of Punjab National Bank executive director Binod Kumar as the new managing director and CEO of Chennai-based Indian Bank. Kumar will replace SL Jain, who is retiring next month. The FSIB, responsible for selecting leadership for public sector banks and financial institutions, announced its decision after

interviewing 15 candidates. In its statement, the bureau cited Kumar's overall experience, performance during the interview process and relevant criteria as the basis for the recommendation.

**Q.7. Which state government has abolished 'garbage tax' recently?**

- a. Haryana
- b. Andhra Pradesh
- c. Rajasthan
- d. Telangana

**Answer: b. Andhra Pradesh**

The Andhra Pradesh assembly has approved a bill to scrap the garbage tax introduced by the previous YSRCP government. The decision, backed by Municipal Administration Minister P Narayana, is aimed at easing the financial pressure on citizens and checking alleged contractor benefits linked to the tax. The move marks a significant policy reversal and highlights concerns over the previous government's methods of funding garbage management.

**Q.8. Dongfeng-100, which was in news, is the supersonic cruise missile of which country?**

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

**Answer: c. China**

China has increased the range of its supersonic cruise missile DF-100 (Dongfeng-100 or Changjian-100). It was introduced during China's 70th National Day parade on October 1, 2019. The DF-100 is designed for precision strikes on a wide variety of targets including land-based infrastructure, bunkers and large warships. It is a land-based system with a range of 3,000-4,000 kilometres and can also be launched from bombers. The missile is over 9 metres long, with a payload capacity of 500+ kg. Powered by a ramjet engine, it reaches a speed of Mach 5 in its terminal stage.

**Q.9. Which medal has Ritika Hooda won recently in the World Military Championship?**

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

**Answer: b. Gold**

In a remarkable achievement for Indian wrestling, Ritika Hooda won the gold medal in the women's 76kg category at the World Military Championships, becoming the second Indian woman to win gold in the event. The feat comes after Jyoti Sihag's victory in the 55kg category, marking a significant start for India's women's contingent at the prestigious tournament.

**Q.10. 'Dinesh Bhatia' has been appointed as India's ambassador to which country recently?**

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

**Answer: c. Brazil**

Dinesh Bhatia, a 1992 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Brazil. Bhatia is currently serving as India's Ambassador to Argentina, assuming office on August 21, 2019 and his accreditation also extends to Uruguay and Paraguay till February 2022. Prior to this, he served as Consul General of India in Toronto and Ambassador to Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Liberia. Additionally, he has held various positions in Indian missions abroad, including Madrid, Kathmandu and Kuwait.

**Q.11. Who has won the 'Las Vegas Grand Prix' recently?**

- a. Lando Norris
- b. Max Verstappen
- c. Lewis Hamilton
- d. None of these

**Answer: b. Max Verstappen**

Max Verstappen secured his fourth consecutive Formula 1 world title at the Las Vegas Grand Prix, while George Russell held off teammate Lewis Hamilton's last-round attack to win for Mercedes. Verstappen joined an elite group of four-time world champions by finishing one place ahead of Lando Norris and clinching the 2024 drivers' crown with two rounds remaining.

**Q.12. Recently, G Balasubramaniam has been appointed as the High Commissioner of India in which country?**

- a. Maldives
- b. Sri Lanka
- c. Morocco
- d. Indonesia

**Answer: a. Maldives**

G Balasubrahmanyam, a 1998 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Maldives. Presently serving as the High Commissioner of India to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Balasubrahmanyam is expected to take up his new assignment shortly. "G Balasubrahmanyam (IFS:1998), presently High Commissioner of India to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Maldives," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a statement on Monday.

**Q.13. Recently, Emma McKeon retired as the most successful Olympian of which country?**

- a. France
- b. Australia
- c. Germany
- d. Japan

**Answer: b. Australia**

Australia's most successful Olympian Emma McKeon has announced her retirement from competitive swimming. McKeon holds the Australian record for 14 Olympic medals won across three Summer Olympics - six of them gold - while her seven medals at Tokyo 2020 are the most won by any female

swimmer at a single Games and equal the most won at a single Olympics by any female athlete in any sport.

**Q.14. Where has Prime Minister Modi recently inaugurated the Global Cooperative Conference of 'International Cooperative Alliance'?**

- a. Jaipur
- b. Bhubaneswar
- c. New Delhi
- d. Bhopal

**Answer: c. New Delhi**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the International Conference of Cooperatives - 2024 of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Prime Minister Modi also launched the United Nations International Year of Cooperatives 2025 and released a commemorative postage stamp. Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah, Prime Minister of Bhutan, Deputy Prime Minister of Fiji, President of ICA and Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation were present on the occasion, among others.

**Q.15. Who has recently won the China Masters 2024?**

- a. Yong Jin
- b. Anders Atonsen
- c. Jonathan Christie
- d. None of these

**Answer: b. Anders Atonsen**

Anders Antonsen became the first Danish player to win the men's singles title at the China Masters after defeating Indonesia's Jonatan Christie in straight games (21-15, 21-13). The win marked Antonsen's fourth BWF Tour title of 2024, further strengthening his position in the Race to Finals rankings. Despite the loss, Christie booked his place at the BWF Tour Finals in Huangzhou, China next month.