

Today in History on 16 OCT

➤ 1905 - Partition of Bengal

On 16 October 1905, Bengal was partitioned by the British Viceroy Lord Curzon. The partition was on religious grounds, with Muslim-majority areas in eastern Bengal and Hindu-majority areas in western Bengal. The Indian national movement rose against the partition, and it was annulled in 1911. The event gave a new dimension to the independence movement in India and laid the foundation for the Swadeshi movement.



➤ 1951 - Liaquat Ali Khan assassinated

On 16 October 1951, Pakistan's first Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan was shot dead in Rawalpindi. He was one of the prominent leaders who played a key role in Pakistan's freedom struggle. His assassination destabilized Pakistan's political situation and created a new wave of instability in the country.



➤ 1959 - National Council for Women's Education established

The National Council for Women's Education was established on 16 October 1959. Its aim was to promote women's education in India and provide them opportunities to become self-reliant. This initiative contributed significantly to women's empowerment and increased women's participation in the field of education.



➤ 1964 - China's first nuclear explosion

On October 16, 1964, China successfully conducted its first nuclear explosion. This event brought China into the ranks of countries in the world that possessed nuclear weapons. This test affected the global nuclear balance and boosted China's military power.



➤ 1999 - US sanctions on Pakistan

On 16 October 1999, the US imposed sanctions on Pakistan in protest against the military rule in the country. The US restricted military and economic ties with Pakistan due to the coup led by General Pervez Musharraf. This move weakened Pakistan's international standing.



Important NEWS on 16 OCT

➤ Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024 Men's and Women's Wins Bronze

The Indian men's table tennis team secured a bronze medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024 held in Astana, Kazakhstan, marking their third consecutive bronze in this event. India's top-ranked women's doubles duo, Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee, achieved a remarkable milestone by claiming a bronze medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024. Ayhika and Sutirtha became the first all-Indian women's doubles pair to win a medal at the Asian Championships, following Gool Nasikwala's gold medal win with Japan's Yoshiko Tanaka in 1952.



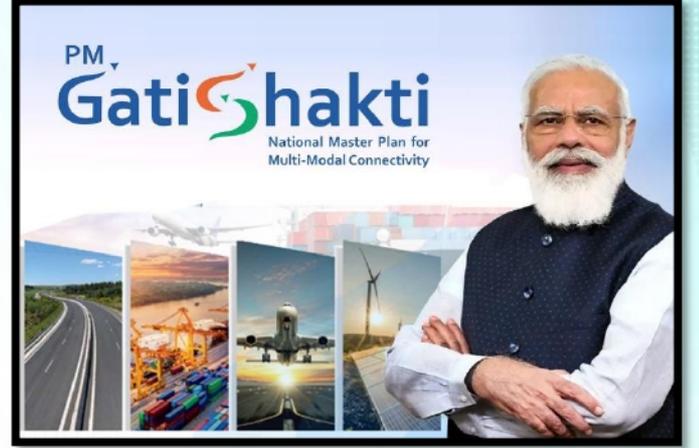
➤ Significant Income Rise for Rural Households NABARD Reports 57.6% Increase

A recent survey by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) highlights a remarkable increase in the average monthly income of rural households, which rose by 57.6% over the past five years. The second 'All India Rural Financial Inclusion Survey (NAFIS) 2021-22' reports that the average monthly income grew from ₹8,059 in 2016-17 to ₹12,698 in 2021-22, indicating a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 9.5%.



➤ PM GatiShakti: Three Years of Infrastructure Transformation

The PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, launched on October, 2021, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, marks three years of transformative achievements in India's infrastructure landscape. The initiative has significantly improved project execution by integrating data from over 44 central ministries and 36 states and union territories, leading to reduced logistics costs and enhanced service delivery. As of now, over 200 major infrastructure projects have been assessed, focusing on multimodal connectivity and efficient resource allocation.



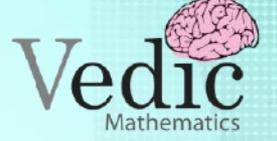
➤ India's Vaccine Regulatory System Declared Functional by WHO

India's vaccine regulatory system has been recognized as "functional" by the World Health Organization (WHO) following an evaluation from September, 2024. The WHO assessment team confirmed that India meets global standards for ensuring vaccine safety, quality, and efficacy. This recognition reaffirms India's significant role in the global pharmaceutical industry, especially in vaccine production, while showcasing its regulatory strength through Maturity Level 3 certification in the WHO Global Benchmarking Tool.



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➤ HAL Becomes 14th Maharatna Company

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has been upgraded to the status of Maharatna, making it the 14th Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) to receive this prestigious classification from the Government of India. The stock price responded positively, trading at ₹4,510, reflecting a 1.42% increase.



➤ India Digital Agri Conference 2024

The India Digital Agri Conference 2024, co-organized by the Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) and IIT Ropar TIF – AWaDH in New Delhi, marked a significant milestone in revolutionizing Indian agriculture. The event focused on leveraging digital technologies like AI, IoT, drones, and data analytics to address challenges such as climate change, food security, and sustainable resource management.



➤ Wayanad Gets Advanced X-Band Radar

After devastating floods and landslides claimed over 200 lives in Kerala's Wayanad district in 2024, the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences took a crucial step to bolster disaster preparedness by approving the installation of an X-band radar in the region. The torrential rains, which triggered a massive landslide in the valley above PUNCHIRIMATTOM near the Mundakkai area, led to catastrophic debris flows, intensifying the destruction.



Current affairs MCQS on 16 OCT

Q.1. When is World Anaesthesia Day celebrated?

- (a) 13 October
- (b) 14 October
- (c) 15 October
- (d) 16 October

Answer: (d) 16 October

Every year 'World Anesthesia Day' is celebrated on 16 October. In medical terms, it is used during surgery and operations. Anesthesia Day is celebrated every year so that people around the world can be made aware of its importance. The discovery of anesthesia is a big deal in itself because this is the special thing through which patients can endure even the biggest surgery without any pain. Anesthesia is a medical process to make the patient unconscious during small or big surgery, through which the patient is made unconscious.

Q.2. Which country has recently signed the Host Country Agreement with the Global Biofuel Alliance?

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

Answer: (a) India

India signed a MoU (BCA) with the Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA), officially establishing the alliance's secretariat in India. According to a statement issued by the Ministry of External Affairs, the MoU was signed by Dammu Ravi, Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs, and Pankaj

Jain, Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Natural Gas, who is currently a GBA alumnus.

Q.3. Who has recently been appointed as the CEO of Sarkari e Marketplace Public Procurement Portal?

- (a) Amrit Mohan Prasad
- (b) Anil Gupta
- (c) L. Satya Srinivas
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) L. Satya Srinivas

The Government of India has appointed L Satya Srinivas, serving as Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce, as the Additional CEO of Government e Marketplace (GeM). The decision comes after the recent appointment of the previous CEO PK Singh as Secretary, Ministry of Renewable Energy. Srinivas, a 1991 batch officer of the Indian Revenue Service (Customs and Indirect Taxes), will play this key role, overseeing online procurement processes for all central government ministries and departments.

Q.4. Who has recently inaugurated 75 BRO (Border Roads Organisation) infra projects?

- (a) Rajnath Singh
- (b) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) Amit Shah

Answer: (a) Rajnath Singh

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh dedicated 75 infrastructure projects of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) worth Rs 2,236 crore to the nation in a virtual ceremony. These projects include 22 roads, 51 bridges and two others. These are spread across 11 states/union territories.

Q.5. In which country was Bada Dashain festival celebrated recently?

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

Answer: (b) Nepal

Nepal's biggest festival Dashain was celebrated. The last day of this festival is celebrated as Tika Utsav with family. The eldest person of the family applies tilak on the forehead of the whole family and gives barley plants, fruits as blessings. The whole family and close relatives enjoy delicacies and play swings, langar-purja and other traditional games together. Nepal President Ram Chandra Paudel distributed tika and jamara to the public after applying Dashain tika to Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli and other prominent personalities at Shital Niwas on the occasion of Badi Dashain.

Q.6. Where has the 'India Digital Agriculture Summit 2024' been organized recently?

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

Answer: (d) New Delhi

The India Digital Agriculture Summit 2024, jointly organised by the Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) and IIT Ropar TIF - AWADH in New Delhi, marked a significant milestone in Indian agriculture. The event focused on the use of digital technologies such as AI, IoT, drones and data analytics to address challenges such as climate

change, food security and sustainable resource management. Through modernising agricultural practices, enhancing productivity and fostering collaboration across sectors, the summit laid the foundation for India's leadership in agri-tech.

Q.7. Where will the Indian Navy's seminar 'Swavalamban 2024' be organized recently?

- (a) Hyderabad
- (b) Delhi
- (c) Jaipur
- (d) Mumbai

Answer: (b) Delhi

The Indian Navy will hold the third edition of the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Conference, Swavalamban - 2024 in New Delhi. The conference is expected to provide new and substantial impetus to the innovation and indigenisation effort, the Defence Ministry said. The event will showcase products in niche technologies such as air and surface surveillance, autonomous systems in surface, airborne and underwater domains, and quantum technologies. The Indian Navy has received over two thousand proposals from Indian industry in the last two editions of Swavalamban, the ministry said. The initiative has enabled collaboration with over 200 micro, small and medium sector and startups under the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) scheme.

Q.8. Which country has recently announced breaking diplomatic relations with Israel?

- (a) Nicaragua
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) Afghanistan

Answer: (a) Nicaragua

Nicaragua's government has announced that it will break diplomatic ties with Israel. Nicaragua's Vice President Rosario Murillo announced the move after the country's Congress passed a resolution calling for the action. The announcement comes at a time when Israel is under diplomatic scrutiny due to its increased attacks across the Middle East, including Lebanon. The announcement is largely symbolic, as Israel has no resident ambassador in Nicaragua's capital, Managua. Relations between the two countries are virtually nonexistent.

Q.9. Which state government has recently appointed Indian fast bowler 'Mohammed Siraj' as DSP?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Telangana

Answer: (d) Telangana

Star India pacer Mohammed Siraj has been appointed Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) after meeting Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) Jitendra. After winning the ICC T20 World Cup 2024 for India, Chief Minister A Rivanth Reddy ordered officials to give Siraj a government job and allot a plot of land.

Q.10. According to the recently released NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) survey, the average monthly income of rural families has increased by what percentage?

- (a) 57%
- (b) 35%
- (c) 67%

(d) 42%

Answer: (a) 57%

A recent survey conducted by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) revealed that the average monthly income of rural households has increased by a significant 57.6%. The second 'All India Rural Financial Inclusion Survey (NAFIS) 2021-22' report shows that the average monthly income has increased from ₹8,059 in 2016-17 to ₹12,698 in 2021-22, showing a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 9.5%.

Q.11. In which city 'Saras Aajeevika Mela' will be organized?

- (a) Gurugram
- (b) Jaipur
- (c) Bhopal
- (d) Indore

Answer: (a) Gurugram

Saras Aajeevika Mela has started at Leisure Valley Ground in Gurugram. This fair, which will run till 29 October 2024, has various stalls of the best products prepared by self-help groups from different states across the country. At the same time, you can enjoy the cuisine of Haryana, Gujarat, Himachal, Andhra Pradesh and other states in the food stalls set up in this fair. In which stalls of delicious dishes from all over India including Rajasthani Gatte Ki Sabzi, Ker Sangri, Bengal Fish Curry, Telangana Chicken, Bihar Litti Chokha, Punjab Sarso Ka Saag and Makki Ki Roti have been set up.

Q.12. Recently Indranand Singh Jha passed away, who was he?

- (a) Radio presenter
- (b) Film director

(c) Writer

(d) Journalist

Answer: (a) Radio presenter

Indranand Singh Jha, renowned former radio presenter and moderator of Akashvani Darbhanga, passed away at the age of 77 in his native village Chanaur, Darbhanga. Popularly known as Khur Khur Bhai, Jha gained immense popularity with his rural radio talk programme Gamghar, which resonated with listeners throughout his career. His distinctive voice and charming style made him a beloved figure in the world of radio broadcasting. Social and cultural organisations expressed their condolences on his demise and paid emotional tributes to Jha, reflecting his indelible impact on the radio community and the hearts of many.

Q.13. Recently who has been appointed as the new CMD of IRFC (Indian Railway Finance Corporation) Limited?

(a) Ajay Mittal

(b) Ajit Bansal

(c) Alok Rai

(d) Manoj Kumar Dubey

Answer: (d) Manoj Kumar Dubey

Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC), a scheduled Miniratna Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Railways, has announced the appointment of Manoj Kumar Dubey, a 1993 batch Indian Railway Accounts Service (IRAS) officer, as its Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Dubey assumed charge. Dubey, who previously served as Director (Finance) and Chief Financial Officer of Container Corporation of India (CONCOR), expressed pride in

taking over the leadership of IRFC at a crucial moment for India's development.

Q.14. Recently which Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi has launched the multi-target device "Agnistra"?

(a) Kolkata

(b) Mumbai

(c) Gangtok

(d) Bhalpur

Answer: (c) Gangtok

General Upendra Dwivedi officially launched the Portable Multi-Target Detonation Device "Agnistra" during the Army Commanders' Conference in Gangtok. The device has been developed by Major Raj Prasad RS of the Indian Army's Corps of Engineers and is seen as an advancement in terms of use in both conventional and counter-terrorism operations.

Q.15. The World Bank has recently created a fund for the revival of which country?

(a) Syria

(b) Iran

(c) Lebanon

(d) Ukraine

Answer: (d) Ukraine

The World Bank has set up a Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) to aid Ukraine, with the US, Canada and Japan expected to contribute. The fund is in line with the G7's \$50 billion pledge for Ukraine and will also use Russia's frozen assets. The EU has committed 35 billion euros to the effort, with additional support from frozen Russian central bank assets.

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