

Today in History on 25 OCT

➤ 1870 - Postcards are used for the first time in the US.

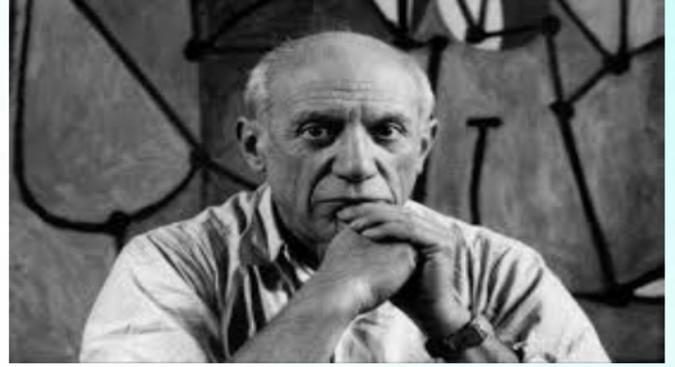
In 1870, Hyman L. Lipman began reissuing Charlton's postcards under a new name: Lipman's Postal Cards. Congress passed legislation on June 8, 1872, which approved government production of postal cards. The first government-produced postcards were issued on May 1, 1873. One part of the postcard was for the message and the other part was for the recipient's address. By law, government postcards were the only postcards allowed to bear the words "Postal Card."



➤ 1881 - Spanish painter Pablo Picasso was born.

Pablo Picasso (1882-1973) was a great painter of Spain. He was the most famous, controversial and rich artist of the twentieth century. He gave birth to Cubism by using sharp lines. Picasso's artworks are a living document of human suffering. Born on 25

October 1881 in Malaga, Spain. In his childhood, he used to surprise his friends by making various types of figures.



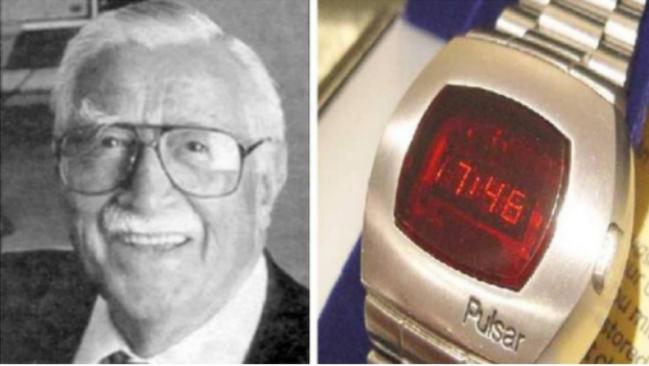
➤ 1951 - First general elections in India began.

General elections were held in India from 25 October 1951 to 21 February 1952, the first national elections after India gained independence in 1947. After the adoption of the Constitution, the Constituent Assembly continued to function as the Interim Parliament while the Interim Cabinet was headed by Jawaharlal Nehru. An Election Commission was created in 1949 and Sukumar Sen was appointed the first Chief Election Commissioner in March 1950.



➤ 1960 - The first electronic wristwatch goes on the market in New York.

The Bulova Accutron was the most important watch of the 1960s, bringing a new level of precision and technology and shifting the balance of power in watchmaking from Switzerland back to the United States. This delayed the development of other electronic watches and distracted the American and Swiss industries from the rise of quartz.



➤ 2001 - Microsoft releases a new operating system, Windows XP.

2001: Windows XP, Microsoft introduced Windows XP as the first NT-based system with a version directly aimed at home users. Home users and critics rated XP highly. The system improved the appearance of Windows with colorful themes and provided a more stable platform.



Important NEWS on 25 OCT

➤ Israel Joins Asian Development Bank (ADB) as 69th Member Country

In a significant development for international financial cooperation, Israel has become the newest non-regional member of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The Manila-based lender announced the news, marking a major step for Israel in enhancing its global strategic ties and economic outreach. Israel officially joined the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as its 69th member and 20th nonregional member, after fulfilling all necessary membership requirements.



➤ Maldives President Introduces UPI Payment Service to Boost Economy

Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu has announced the introduction of India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) to enhance the country's economy by improving financial inclusion and transaction efficiency. This initiative is part of a broader strategy to strengthen ties with India following Muizzu's previous stance against Indian military presence in the Maldives.



➤ Vietnam Elects Military Leader Luong Cuong as President

Vietnam's parliament elected army general Luong Cuong as the new state president, marking a significant move to restore stability after a period of political upheaval. The 67-year-old Cuong succeeds To Lam, who briefly held the presidency before assuming the more powerful role of party chief following the death of general secretary Nguyen Phu Trong in July.



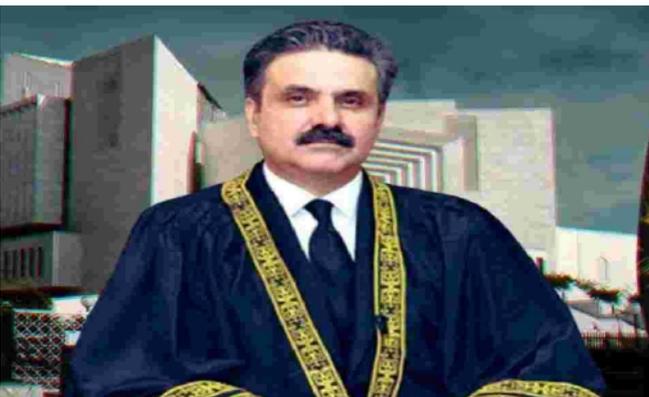
➤ India Strengthens Navy with Fourth Nuclear Submarine

India's fourth nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), designated S4*, was officially launched into the water at the Ship Building Centre in Visakhapatnam, according to official sources. This advanced submarine represents a significant leap in capability and size compared to its predecessor, INS Arihant (S2), which primarily served as a technology demonstrator under the Advanced Technology Vessel program.



➤ Justice Yahya Afridi Selected as Pakistan's Next Chief Justice Amid Political Unrest

A special parliamentary committee in Pakistan has appointed Justice Yahya Afridi as the next Chief Justice, bypassing the traditional seniority principle. This decision follows the 26th Constitutional Amendment, which granted the committee the authority to appoint the top judge, replacing the seniority-based elevation system. Afridi was chosen over two senior judges, Mansoor Ali Shah and Munib Akhtar, sparking concerns about deepening political turmoil.



➤ Odisha Govt Increases Casual Leave for Women Employees

In a significant move, the Odisha government has announced an increase in the casual leave (CL) entitlement for women employees, granting an additional 12 days annually, effective immediately. This brings their total CL to 27 days, compared to 15 days for male employees. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi directed the increase, following Deputy CM Pravati Parida's earlier Independence Day announcement of one paid menstrual leave per month for women staff.



➤ India-Pakistan Extend Kartarpur Corridor Agreement for Five Years

In a significant diplomatic development, India and Pakistan have agreed to renew their pact on the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor for an additional five years, just days after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's visit to Islamabad, where he met with Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Deputy Prime Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar.



Current affairs MCQS on 25 OCT

Q.1. Where was Namo Bharat Diwas celebrated recently?

- (a) Chennai
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Kolkata
- (d) Hyderabad

Answer: (b) New Delhi

The first anniversary of NaMo Bharat Trains was celebrated as NaMo Bharat Diwas in New Delhi. NaMo Bharat Trains are India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS). The first 17-km section between Sahibabad and Duhai depot was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in October 2023. Two more sections have become operational, including Duhai to Modinagar North (March 2024) and Meerut South (August 2024). The current 42-km corridor covers nine stations, which will soon be extended to 54 km with new stations. RRTS provides high-speed, efficient suburban connectivity, promoting sustainable urban transport solutions.

Q.2. Who has recently taken over as 'Coal Secretary'?

- (a) Kalikesh Singh
- (b) Alok Ranjan
- (c) Ajit Bansal
- (d) Vikram Dev Dutt

Answer: (d) Vikram Dev Dutt

Senior civil servant Vikram Dev Dutt took over as Secretary, Union Coal Ministry. Dutt, a 1993 batch Indian Service (IAS) officer of Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territories (AGCA) cadre, was till recently on the staff of Directorate General of Civil Amenities (DGCA). He will replace VL Kanta Rao, who is currently Secretary in the Ministry of Mines and is holding additional charge of the Coal Ministry after the previous Secretary Amrit Lal Meena was appointed Chief Secretary in Bihar in August.

Q.3. Who has recently become the bowler to take 300 wickets in the least number of balls in Test cricket?

- (a) Jasprit Bumrah
- (b) Tim Southei
- (c) Virat Kohli
- (d) Kagiso Rabada

Answer: (d) Kagiso Rabada

Kagiso Rabada achieved a major milestone on the first day of the first Test between Bangladesh and South Africa at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium in Dhaka. Rabada became the sixth South African bowler to take 300 Test wickets, joining the list of legends like Dale Steyn, Shaun Pollock and Allan Donald. Kagiso Rabada achieved the feat during his first spell, bowling a brilliant delivery to dismiss former Bangladesh captain Mushfiqur Rahim for 11 runs. Rabada bowled a good length ball that bounced back and broke the stumps.

Q.4. 'Joint Military Training Exercise' between India and Singapore has recently started in which country?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Uttarakhand

Answer: (a) West Bengal

The 12th edition of the India-Singapore bilateral joint military training exercise began at Kalaikunda Air Force Station in West Bengal. This joint exercise of the Indian Air Force and the Republic of Singapore Air Force will continue till 21 November 2024. The Republic of Singapore Air Force had participated in Tarang Shakti before starting joint military training with the Indian Air Force. Tarang Shakti 2024 was the largest air exercise ever conducted by the Indian Air Force in which air forces of 30 countries including India participated.

Q.5. Indian Army's Sudarshan Chakra Corps has recently organized 'Swavalamban Shakti' exercise in which country?

- (a) Raipur
- (b) Jaipur
- (c) Ranchi
- (d) Jhansi

Answer: (d) Jhansi

The Army's Sudarshan Chakra Corps under the Southern Command is currently conducting 'Swavalamban Shakti Exercise' at Babina Field Firing Range near Jhansi. The main objective of this exercise is to enhance the combat capabilities of the Army through integration of emerging and special technologies. The Sudarshan Chakra Corps, also known as XXI Corps, is a strike corps of the Army and is headquartered in Bhopal.

Q.6. Which medal has Deepika Kumari won recently in the 'Archery World Cup'?

- (a) Silver
- (b) Gold
- (c) Bronze
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Silver

Four-time Olympian Deepika Kumari won the silver medal in the women's recurve event at the 2024

Archery World Cup Final held in Tlaxcala, Mexico. She lost 6-0 to Chinese archer Li Jiaman in the final. Li Jiaman was part of the Chinese women's archery team that won the silver medal at Paris 2024. The 18th Archery World Cup Final will be organised by World Archery and hosted by Mexico in Tlaxcala, Mexico.

Q.7. Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has recently launched e-shram in which country?

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

Answer: (c) New Delhi

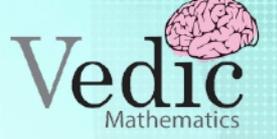
Union Minister for Labour and Employment Mansukh Mandaviya launched the e-SHRAM portal in New Delhi to address the problems of unorganised sector workers. Speaking on the occasion, he said that the portal will provide seamless access to various social security schemes to unorganised sector workers. He urged the workers to register on the portal and avail various welfare schemes meant for their benefit. The portal aims to provide information on various social security and welfare schemes meant for unorganised sector workers on a single platform.

Q.8. Who has recently written a new book 'Mountain Mammals of the World'?

- (a) MK Sanjit Singh
- (b) Anil Raturi
- (c) Anurag Sharma
- (d) Arundhati Roy

Answer: (a) MK Sanjit Singh

Recently MK Ranjitsinh has written a new book 'Mountain Mammals of the World'. Ranjitsinh, who belonged to the royal family of Wankaner in Gujarat, played an important role in shaping India's wildlife conservation policies and this book is the result of



his decades of research, exploration and unwavering passion for the natural world. Mountain Mammals of the World is not just a book - it is an essential reference for wildlife lovers and scholars, providing comprehensive information about 62 species and 78 subspecies of large mammals living in the world's most remote mountain regions. It includes scientific insights, stunning photography and personal anecdotes inspired by Ranjitsinh's years of field experiences. Many, including his daughter Radhika Rane Gaikwad, consider it to be his best work.

Q.9. Which country has recently won the ICC Women's T20 World Cup?

- (a) Australia
- (b) South Africa
- (c) England
- (d) New Zealand

Answer: (d) New Zealand

New Zealand women's cricket team won their first ICC Women's T20 World Cup by defeating South Africa in the final played at Dubai International Cricket Stadium, Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This was the first major title for New Zealand women's team, also known as the 'White Ferns', after winning the ICC Women's One Day International Cricket World Cup on home soil in 2000.

Q.10. In the recently released 'Index of Economic Freedom 2024', India has been placed at which position recently?

- (a) 84th
- (b) 90th
- (c) 82nd
- (d) 87th

Answer: (a) 84th

India is ranked 84th out of 165 countries in the Economic Freedom of the World (EFW) Report 2024, improving from 87th last year. The report notes a decline in international trade freedom

despite India's progress in sectoral reforms such as deregulation, strong currency and size of government.

Q.11. Which organization has implemented the Nature Restoration Law (NRL) to deal with climate change and biodiversity loss?

- (a) EU
- (b) World Bank
- (c) OECD
- (d) FAO

Answer: (a) EU

The Nature Restoration Law (NRL) is a European Union law that aims to address climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental degradation. It is the first comprehensive law of its kind in the EU. The NRL is part of the EU's biodiversity strategy and sets binding targets to restore degraded ecosystems, focusing on carbon capture and disaster prevention. Member states must restore at least 20% of the EU's land and sea by 2030. By 2050, all ecosystems in need of restoration must be covered.

Q.12. Recently the Chief Minister of which state has launched Mission Basundhara 3.0?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Assam
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Maharashtra

Answer: (b) Assam

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched Mission Basundhara 3.0 aimed at providing land rights to indigenous people at an event held at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra in Guwahati. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said, "Soon after we assumed power, we started working on the mission to provide land rights to indigenous communities in Assam - an exercise that has been carried out 75 years after Independence.

Q.13. Recently which country and India have conducted joint naval exercise 'Naseem Al Bahr' off the Goa coast?

- (a) Saudi Arabia
- (b) UAE
- (c) Oman
- (d) Dubai

Answer: (c) Oman

INS Trikanth and Dornier maritime patrol aircraft recently participated in the India-Oman Naval Exercise Naseem-Al-Bahr in Goa. This exercise, which began in 1993, reflects the strong strategic ties between India and Oman. Oman is the first GCC country to conduct a bilateral naval exercise with India. The exercise was conducted in two phases: first the harbour phase which included professional interactions and sports, followed by the sea phase. During the sea phase, both navies carried out gun firing, anti-aircraft operations and replenishment drills. The Dornier aircraft provided over-the-horizon target data, enhancing understanding of mutual operational capabilities and best practices.

Q.14. Recently the President of which country has decided to launch UPI in his country?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) Bhutan
- (c) Maldives
- (d) Nepal

Answer: (c) Maldives

Maldives President Mohammad Muizzu has decided to take necessary steps to start India's UPI service in Maldives. A statement issued by the President's Office said that this step is expected to benefit the economy of Maldives. India's UPI facility will help Maldives in better financial transactions and digital infrastructure.

Q.15. Who has been recently appointed as the President of the Indian Chamber of Commerce?

- (a) Abhyudaya Jindal
- (b) Anurag Mittal
- (c) Alok Verma
- (d) Jitendra Singh

Answer: (a) Abhyudaya Jindal

National trade association Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) announced the appointment of Abhyudaya Jindal, Managing Director, Jindal Stainless Ltd as its new President. The announcement was made at ICC's annual plenary session held in New Delhi. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal was the chief guest. Piyush Goyal welcomed Jindal's appointment and emphasised the important role of young leaders in shaping India's future, a release said.