

## Today in History on 26 OCT

- 1775- The last Mughal emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar was born.

Bahadur Shah Zafar was born in October, 1775. His father was Akbar Shah II and mother was Lalbai.

Bahadur Shah Zafar was the last emperor of the Mughal Empire in India, and a famous Urdu poet. He led the Indian soldiers in the First Indian War of Independence of 1857. After the defeat in the war, the British sent him to Burma (now Myanmar) where he died.



- 1858- H.E. Smith patented the washing machine.

Hamilton Smith patented a rotary version of this design in 1858, which soon became more popular than its predecessor. In 1868 Thomas Bradford invented another commercially successful model that resembled today's washing machines



- 1905 - Norway gains independence from Sweden.

In 1905 the dissolution of the union between the kingdoms of Norway and Sweden under the House of Bernadotte was initiated by a resolution of the Storting. After some months of tension and fear of war breaking out between the neighbouring kingdoms (then in personal union) - and a Norwegian referendum held on 13 August in which the dissolution was supported by an overwhelming majority - negotiations between the two governments led to Sweden's recognition of Norway as an independent constitutional monarchy on 26 October 1905. Prince Carl of Denmark took the throne of Norway and took the name Haakon VII.



### ➤ 1934- All India Village Industries Association was established under the patronage of Mahatma Gandhi.

Gandhiji established All India Village Industries Association in Wardha in the year 1934. As per Babu's wish, Congress selected Dr. Joseph Cornelius Kumarappa, renowned for his theory of stable economy, to lead this movement. The first president of this organization was Krishnadas Jaju.



### ➤ 1950- Saint Mother Teresa founded the Mission of Charity in Calcutta.

On 26 October 1950, Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta (now Kolkata). It is a Roman Catholic voluntary religious organization, which is contributing to various humanitarian works in more than 120 countries of

the world. It has a congregation of more than 4500 Christian missionaries.



### Important NEWS on 26 OCT

### ➤ Launch of Bharat Chana Dal Phase II by Union Minister Pralhad Joshi

Union Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Shri Pralhad Joshi has launched the retail phase of Bharat Chana Dal Phase II in Delhi-NCR, marking a significant step in the government's commitment to provide essential food items at affordable prices. This initiative includes flagging off mobile vans from NCCF, NAFED, and Kendriya Bhandar to facilitate the distribution of pulses during the festive season.



### ➤ HDFC Life's Commitment to DEI: A Dual Recognition Triumph

HDFC Life, a prominent player in India's insurance sector, has earned dual accolades for its commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) by Avtar and Seramount. Recognised among the Best Companies for Women in India (BCWI) and as 'Exemplars of Inclusion' in the Most Inclusive Companies Index (MICI), HDFC Life stands out for its supportive ecosystem not only for women but also for people with disabilities, the LGBTQ+ community, and diverse cultural backgrounds.



### ➤ Shillong Tops Travel Destinations for Indian Travellers in 2025

Shillong has emerged as the most popular destination for Indian travellers in 2025, as revealed by Skyscanner's "Travel Trends Report" released. Meghalaya's capital topped the list, surpassing Baku (Azerbaijan) and Langkawi (Malaysia), showing a strong interest among Indians for unique and immersive experiences. The report indicates that

66% of Indians plan to travel more in the coming year.



### ➤ Delhi Government Establishes Special Courts for People with Disabilities

In a significant move towards inclusivity, the Delhi government, led by Chief Minister Atishi, has approved the establishment of special courts dedicated to people with disabilities. This initiative aims to provide fair and swift justice by designing court environments that cater specifically to the needs of individuals with disabilities. Atishi described this as a "historic step" that underscores the government's commitment to ensuring equitable judicial processes for all citizens.



### ➤ New Missile Testing Range Approved in Andhra Pradesh

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the establishment of a new missile testing range in Nagayalanka, Andhra Pradesh. This initiative aims to bolster India's defense capabilities, particularly for testing tactical missile systems. The new facility will focus on surface-to-air missiles, anti-tank missiles, and other advanced projects under the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).



### ➤ Prabhakar Raghavan, IIT-Madras Alumnus Appointed as Google's Chief Technologist

Prabhakar Raghavan, an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-Madras), has been appointed as Google's Chief Technologist. He was previously the Senior Vice President at Google, responsible for overseeing a broad spectrum of products including Google Search, Assistant, Geo, Ads, Commerce, and Payments. His new role marks a

significant shift in Google's leadership, especially as the company undergoes core business restructuring.



### ➤ JP Morgan Chase India Appoints Pranav Chawda as New CEO

Pranav Chawda has been appointed as the new chief executive officer (CEO) of JP Morgan Chase India for a term of three years. Previously heading the commercial banking unit of the US-based JP Morgan, Chawda's appointment comes after receiving the necessary approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). His leadership is expected to drive the bank's growth and strategic initiatives in the Indian market.



### Current affairs MCQS on 26 OCT

**Q.1. Where was the All India Civil Defence and Home Guards Conference held?**

- (a) Gandhinagar
- (b) Jaipur
- (c) Bhopal
- (d) Patna

**Answer: (a) Gandhinagar**

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the 14th All India Civil Defence and Home Guards Conference at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar. The conference was held after 19 years. More than 60 senior officials and 1,200 members from various states attended the event. The main objective of the event was to discuss the draft Civil Defence Bill and Model Home Guard Bill. The aim of the conference is to increase efficiency through modern technology in civil defence and home guard operations across India.

**Q.2. Rajaji Tiger Reserve, which was in news recently, is located in which state?**

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Uttarakhand
- (d) Rajasthan

**Answer: (c) Uttarakhand**

The Union environment ministry's wildlife panel has delayed the approval of the National Highways Authority of India's (NHAI) four-lane project through the Rajaji Tiger Reserve and Shivalik Elephant Reserve in Uttarakhand. The highway aims to connect Najibabad in Uttar Pradesh with Kotdwar in Uttarakhand. Rajaji National Park is an important habitat for tigers, leopards and over 300 bird species. The reserve is spread across Haridwar, Dehradun and Pauri Garhwal, stretching for 820 km in the Shivalik range. Named after freedom fighter Rajagopalachari, it has high species diversity due to

its unique location. It is part of the Terai-Arc landscape.

**Q.3. Who has recently launched the new logo of BSNL?**

- (a) Piyush Goyal
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Jyotiraditya Scindia
- (d) Rajnath Singh

**Answer: (c) Jyotiraditya Scindia**

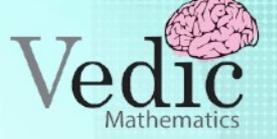
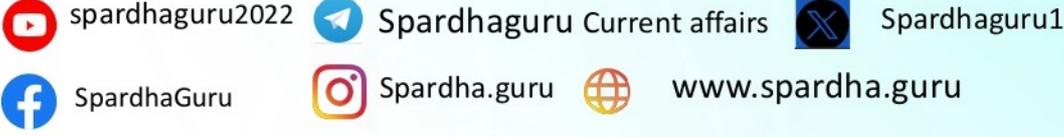
Union Minister for Communications and Development of North Eastern Region Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia officially launched the new logo of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and seven new customer-centric services. The event is a significant step in BSNL's strategy to provide secure, affordable and reliable telecom services across India. The unveiling took place at Bharat Sanchar Bhavan in the presence of Minister of State for Communications and Rural Development Dr. Pemmasani Chandrasekhar, senior officials from Department of Telecommunications (DoT), BSNL and other key organizations.

**Q.4. Recently which state government will set up special courts for disabled people?**

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Goa
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Uttarakhand

**Answer: (a) Delhi**

The Delhi government has announced the setting up of special courts to meet the needs of differently abled people. The initiative, approved by Chief Minister Atishi, aims to streamline the judicial process for differently abled persons and provide them with fair, speedy and inclusive justice. "This is a historic step taken by the Delhi government towards ensuring justice for differently abled people," Chief Minister Atishi said. "By approving the



setting up of these special courts, we are reforming the judicial system to better serve the interests of differently abled people."

**Q.5. Recently who has become the new CTO (Chief Technology Officer) of Google?**

- (a) Prabhakar Raghavan
- (b) Anil Raturi
- (c) K Ranjit Singh
- (d) Piyush Singh

**Answer: (a) Prabhakar Raghavan**

Indian-origin Prabhakar Raghavan has become the company's new Chief Technology Officer (CTO). Google is moving ahead rapidly in the field of AI and is reorganizing the team. Raghavan's appointment is part of this exercise. In this field, Google is facing tough competition from big tech giants like Microsoft.

**Q.6. Which country is hosting the BRICS Summit 2024 recently?**

- (a) Brazil
- (b) South Africa
- (c) Russia
- (d) China

**Answer: (c) Russia**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has reached Russia to participate in the 16th BRICS summit. Prime Minister Modi will be in Kazan, Russia. PM Modi was given a warm welcome on reaching Kazan. PM Modi will hold bilateral meetings with the leaders of BRICS countries here. Apart from this, he will also participate in many other programs.

**Q.7. Where was the 24th National Para Swimming Championship held recently?**

- (a) Kolkata
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Goa

(d) Pune

**Answer: (c) Goa**

The 24th National Para-Swimming Championship began in Goa, in which para-swimmers from across the country showcased their amazing talent and unwavering determination. Athletes from various states participated in this championship and showcased their sports skills and courage.

**Q.8. How many sports have been recently removed from the Commonwealth Games to be held in Glasgow in 2026?**

- (a) 09
- (b) 10
- (c) 05
- (d) 07

**Answer: (a) 09**

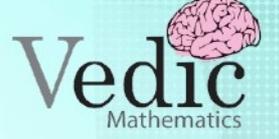
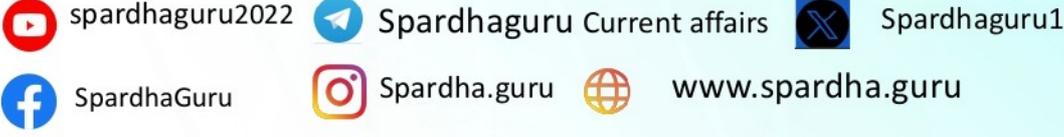
Major sports like hockey, badminton, wrestling, cricket and shooting have been excluded from the 2026 Commonwealth Games to be held in Glasgow. The Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) released a list of 10 sports to keep the event budget-friendly. Table tennis, squash and triathlon have also been excluded to limit costs and streamline logistics. Only four venues in Glasgow will host the entire Commonwealth Games. There will be a total of nine fewer sports this time compared to the 2022 Birmingham edition. Glasgow will host the Commonwealth Games after 12 years since the 2014 edition.

**Q.9. Recently, a new species of jumping spider called Tenakana was discovered in which region of India?**

- (a) Ladakh
- (b) Northeast India
- (c) South India
- (d) None of the above

**Answer: (c) South India**

A new species of jumping spider, 'Tenkana', has been discovered in South India. The genus comprises two



known species and a new species from Karnataka, Tenkana jayamangali. The name "Tenkana" comes from Kannada, meaning "south", indicating its presence in southern India and northern Sri Lanka. Tenkana belongs to the Plexippinae subtribe, distinct from related genera such as Hylas and Telamonia. These spiders prefer dry, ground habitats and are found in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

**Q.10. Who will be awarded the 'Kalidas Samman' award recently?**

- (a) Kalikesh Singh
- (b) Jitendra Singh
- (c) Alok Ranjan
- (d) Raghupati Bhatt

**Answer: (d) Raghupati Bhatt**

The Madhya Pradesh government has selected city artist Raghupati Bhatt for the prestigious Kalidas Samman Award for the year 2023 for his contribution in the field of painting. The award will carry a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh and a citation. Raghupati Bhatt will be given the award at a function organised in Ujjain on November 12.

**Q.11. Recently, the two-day Drone Conference 2024 has started in which state?**

- (a) Amravati
- (b) Bhopal
- (c) Indore
- (d) Mumbai

**Answer: (a) Amravati**

The Andhra Pradesh government is organizing a two-day drone summit in the capital Amaravati. More than 5 thousand drones will participate in the Amaravati Drone Summit to be held in the capital of Andhra Pradesh. The two-day national summit will be organized by the Andhra Pradesh Drone Corporation.

**Q.12. Recently, the 'Phool Walon Ki Sair' festival, a symbol of culture and unity, has started in which state?**

- (a) Uttarakhand
- (b) Dehradun
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Mumbai

**Answer: (c) New Delhi**

The festival 'Phool Walon Ki Sair', a symbol of culture and unity, has started in the capital Delhi. The organizers inaugurated this seven-day festival by presenting a traditional fan, a symbol of the festival, to Chief Minister Ms. Atishi. On this occasion, Chief Minister Atishi said that Phool Walon Ki Sair is not just a seven-day festival but it is a symbol of our Ganga-Jamuni Tehzeeb. She said that people from every part of the country, every religion, sect and belief live in Delhi and such festivals work to bring everyone together. The Chief Minister congratulated the city residents on the occasion of the launch of 'Phool Walon Ki Sair'.

**Q.13. Recently, which state has been declared malaria-free by WHO?**

- (a) Ethiopia
- (b) France
- (c) Sudan
- (d) Egypt

**Answer: (d) Egypt**

The World Health Organization (WHO) has officially declared Egypt malaria-free. Egypt's success is the result of its centuries-old efforts. It is worth noting that Egypt was battling this disease for centuries, but now this disease is confined to the pages of history. This is a major achievement for the health sector in this country with a population of more than ten crores.

**Q.14. Recently, who has become the new chairman of SSC (Staff Selection Commission)?**

- (a) Anurag Singh
- (b) S. Gopal Krishnan
- (c) Alok Verma
- (d) Jitendra Singh

**Answer: (b) S. Gopal Krishnan**

The Centre has appointed 1991 batch IAS officer S Gopalakrishnan as the new chairman of the Staff Selection Commission (SSC), replacing Rakesh Ranjan, who is taking voluntary retirement from October 31, 2024.

**Q.15. Which South Korean river project is being used as a model for the revival of Musi river in Telangana?**

- (a) Yongsan River
- (b) Han River
- (c) Bukhan River
- (d) Geum River

**Answer: (b) Han River**

The Telangana government aims to develop the Musi riverbed for commercial use, inspired by South Korea's Great Hangang (Han River) project. The Han River is South Korea's fourth longest river, flowing through Seoul. It originates from the Namhan and Bukhan rivers in eastern South Korea. The river flows through Seoul and falls into the Yellow Sea. Telangana's plan was to attract private firms to develop the riverbeds similar to the Han River model.