

## Today in History on 29 OCT

### ➤ 1911: American editor and publisher Joseph Pulitzer dies.

Joseph Pulitzer was a Hungarian-American politician and newspaper publisher of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the New York World. He became a prominent national figure in the Democratic Party and was elected a member of Congress from New York. Fierce competition in the 1890s between his World and William Randolph Hearst's New York Journal led both to develop the techniques of yellow journalism, which won readers over with sensationalism, sex, crime, and graphic horrors.



### ➤ 1859- Spain declared war on Morocco.

Spain declared war on Morocco in October 1859. The war ended with the Treaty of Wad-Ras on April 26, 1860. This war is also known as the Hispano-Moroccan War, Spanish-Moroccan War, First Moroccan War, Tetuan War or Spanish War in Africa. The war began on the borders of the Spanish city of Ceuta and was fought in northern Morocco.



### ➤ 1923 - The Republic of Turkey is formed following the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire.

The Dissolution of the Ottoman Empire (1908–1922) was a period in the history of the Ottoman Empire that began with the Young Turk Revolution and ultimately ended with the dissolution of the empire and the establishment of the modern Turkish state. The Young Turk Revolution restored the 1876 Constitution and brought multiparty politics with a two-stage electoral system for the Ottoman Parliament. At the same time, a nascent movement called Ottomanism was promoted in an attempt to maintain the unity of the empire, emphasizing a collective Ottoman nationalism regardless of religion or ethnicity.



### ➤ 1945- The first ball point pen in the world came into the market.

The first batch of ball point pens was sold publicly in New York in 1945. There was such a huge crowd to buy it that the authorities had to deploy hundreds of police personnel. It was first purchased on a large scale by the Royal Air Force. 30,000 pens were ordered during the Second World War.



Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh launched the 21st Livestock Census, which will be conducted until February next year at a cost of ₹200 crore. He emphasized that the collection of precise data is crucial for the government to formulate effective policies aimed at ensuring animal health security and promoting growth in the livestock sector.



#### ➤ 1999- A devastating cyclone hits Odisha.

The 1999 Odisha cyclone was the most powerful cyclone in the North Indian Ocean. On 29 October, the cyclone made landfall in the Paradip region of Odisha state with winds of 260 kmph. Within a day, the cyclone developed from a normal cyclone to a very powerful cyclone.



#### ➤ NCGG Completes 34th Training for Maldivian Civil Servants, Boosting Indo-Maldivian Ties

The National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) has successfully concluded its 34th Capacity Building Programme (CBP) for Maldivian civil servants in New Delhi. The MoU, effective from 2024 to 2029, aims to train 1,000 Maldivian civil servants, reinforcing India's commitment to enhancing governance across the Maldives.

### Important NEWS on 29 OCT

#### ➤ ₹200 Crore Census Aims to Boost Livestock Sector in India



### ➤ NTPC & Indian Army Collaborate for Sustainable Energy in Ladakh

NTPC has teamed up with the Indian Army to establish a solar hydrogen-based microgrid at Chushul, Ladakh, aimed at ensuring a stable power supply for off-grid Army locations using green hydrogen. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh laid the foundation stone for this innovative project through video conferencing. This initiative is significant in replacing existing diesel generators with a sustainable energy solution capable of providing 200 kW of power year-round, despite the region's harsh winter conditions where temperatures can drop to  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  at an altitude of 4,400 meters.



### ➤ GRSE's Seventh ASW Ship, 'Abhay', Joins Indian Navy Fleet

The Indian Navy's seventh Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC), named 'Abhay', was launched at M/s L&T's Kattupalli facility. Built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), this vessel marks a significant addition to India's maritime defense capabilities.



### ➤ Asia Clean Energy Summit 2024

The Asia Clean Energy Summit (ACES), a cornerstone event of the annual Singapore International Energy Week (SIEW), is held on the 11th edition from October, 2024, in Singapore. This premier conference and exhibition brings together experts, innovators, and policymakers to advance clean energy solutions in Asia.



Asia Clean Energy Summit 2024

### ➤ Bhupendra Patel Inaugurates 17th Urban Mobility India Conference & Expo 2024

Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel inaugurated the 17th Urban Mobility India Conference & Expo-2024 today at the Mahatma Mandir Convention Centre in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The event, running from October, 2024, gathers over 2,000 professionals and academics to discuss the future of urban transport in India. The conference focuses on the theme "Standardisation and Optimisation of Urban Transport Solutions," aiming to enhance urban mobility through integrated strategies and innovative practices.



### ➤ María Corina Machado and Edmundo González Urrutia Awarded the 2024 Sakharov Prize

The European Parliament has announced that María Corina Machado and President-elect Edmundo González Urrutia will be the recipients of the 2024 Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought. This prestigious award recognizes their relentless efforts

to restore democracy and freedom in Venezuela amidst severe political and economic challenges.

The award decision was made by the Conference of Presidents and was publicly announced by European Parliament President Roberta Metsola.



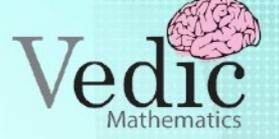
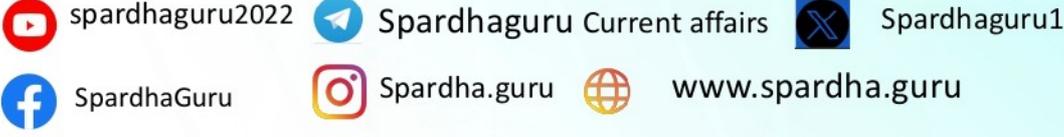
### Current affairs MCQS on 29 OCT

Q.1. The National Manuscript Mission (NMM) seen in the news was set up by which ministry?

- (a) Ministry of Tourism and Culture
- (b) Ministry of External Affairs
- (c) Ministry of Urban Development
- (d) Ministry of Defence

**Answer: (a) Ministry of Tourism and Culture**

The Union Ministry of Culture is planning to revive the National Manuscript Mission (NMM) and create an autonomous National Manuscript Authority. Currently, the NMM functions under the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts. The NMM was launched in 2003 by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture with the motto of "Preserving the Past for the Future". Its goals include documenting, preserving and sharing India's vast manuscript heritage, which is estimated at ten million manuscripts. The NMM maintains a national electronic database of four million manuscripts. The mission includes national surveys, conservation training, digitisation, public engagement and has



established over 100 manuscript resource and conservation centres across the country.

**Q.2. Recently, ADB approved a \$434 million loan for a 500 MW solar plant in which state?**

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Assam
- (d) Odisha

**Answer: (c) Assam**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has secured a \$434.25 million loan to build a 500-hectare solar photovoltaic (PV) facility in Assam's Karbi Anglong district. The Assam Atomic Project aims to significantly increase the state's population energy capacity, thereby integrating energy security and promoting sustainable energy development in the region.

**Q.3. Recently, which state government has proposed to reduce the passing marks for Class 10?**

- (a) Haryana
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Maharashtra

**Answer: (d) Maharashtra**

The Maharashtra State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) has proposed to reduce the minimum passing marks for maths and science subjects in Class 10 from 35 to 20. The change is part of the newly approved State Curriculum Framework-School Education (SCF-SE). Students will pass their classes, but will not be allowed to pursue subjects in which they have scored less than 35 marks. The initiative, aimed at supporting students who have a passion for humanities and arts, has been receiving a variety of responses from teachers and stakeholders.

**Q.4. The 31st edition of SIMBEX 2024 exercise is being held recently between which country and India?**

- (a) Singapore
- (b) Spain
- (c) Japan
- (d) Sweden

**Answer: (a) Singapore**

The 31st edition of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) is being held at Eastern Naval Command (ENC) in Visakhapatnam. This annual exercise reflects the growing maritime cooperation between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), reinforcing the shared objectives of maritime security and interoperability between the two countries. Started in 1994 as 'Exercise Lion King', SIMBEX has now become an important component of the long-term relationship between the two countries. It helps both countries address common maritime challenges, enhance maritime domain awareness and strengthen operational interoperability.

**Q.5. Who has been awarded the 'Mahatma Gandhi Leadership Award' recently?**

- (a) Ishaan Chaudhary
- (b) Ajit Bansal
- (c) Pratik Punia
- (d) Dara Singh Khurana

**Answer: (d) Dara Singh Khurana**

Indian actor and philanthropist Darasingh Khurana, 32, has been awarded the prestigious Mahatma Gandhi Leadership Award for his impressive work in raising awareness of mental health issues, particularly in his role as the 'Commonwealth Year of Youth Champion'. Khurana was awarded the Mahatma Gandhi Leadership Award at the Ashmolean Museum at the University of Oxford. The award honours his dedication to mental health awareness and advocacy, particularly through his

work as the Commonwealth Year of Youth Champion.

**Q.6. Where will the 'International Gita Mahotsav 2024' be organized recently?**

- (a) Kurukshetra
- (b) Varanasi
- (c) Lucknow
- (d) Mathura

**Answer: (a) Kurukshetra**

The International Gita Mahotsav will be held in Kurukshetra, Haryana from November 28 to December 15, 2024, showcasing a grand glimpse of Indian heritage, spirituality and culture. Since 2016, the event has spread globally, helping spread the message of the Bhagavad Gita and enhance Haryana's global presence.

**Q.7. Which countries have signed an agreement with the IMF for global poverty eradication?**

- (a) Poland
- (b) France
- (c) UAE
- (d) Germany

**Answer: (c) UAE**

The UAE's Ministry of Finance (MoF) has announced that the country has signed two agreements with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to contribute to the financing of the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT) and the Resilience and Stability Trust (RST). The signing took place during the annual meetings of the World Bank Group (WBG) and the IMF in Washington DC, in which the UAE is participating.

**Q.8. Who has been appointed as the Director General of ICRISAT (International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics) recently?**

- (a) Dr. Himanshu Pathak
- (b) Pranav Chavda

(c) Ranjita Sen

(d) None of the above

**Answer: (a) Dr. Himanshu Pathak**

The Governing Board of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) is pleased to formally announce the appointment of Dr Himanshu Pathak as Director General of the globally acclaimed Institute. The announcement was made by Professor Prabhu Pingali, Chairman of the Governing Board, during an all-staff event at ICRISAT Headquarters in Hyderabad, India.

**Q.9. Which country has named the cyclone Dana that recently hit the east coast of India?**

- (a) Bangladesh
  - (b) Myanmar
  - (c) Qatar
  - (d) Iran
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**(c) Qatar**

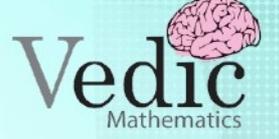
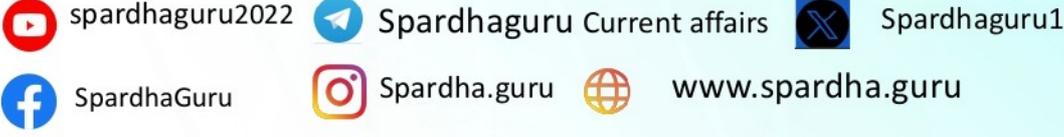
The severe cyclone 'Dana' hit the east coast of India bringing heavy rains and winds of 100-120 kmph. It caused massive damage to infrastructure and crops in Odisha and West Bengal. The name 'Dana', which means 'generosity' in Arabic, was suggested by Qatar. In Arabic culture, 'Dana' also means a valuable and perfect shaped pearl, symbolizing beauty.

**Q.10. Who has been appointed as the Vice Chancellor of Jamia recently?**

- (a) Mazhar Asif
- (b) Tahir Zaman
- (c) Yahya Afridi
- (d) None of the above

**Answer: (a) Mazhar Asif**

President Draupadi Murmu appointed Professor Mazhar Asif as the new Vice-Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia University. The appointment, made under powers conferred by the statute of the Jamia



Millia Islamia Act, 1988, was conveyed by Shreya Bhardwaj, Deputy Secretary, Government of India, through a letter to the Registrar of the University. According to the university release, Professor Asif, 53, who is currently a distinguished faculty member of the School of Languages, Jawaharlal Nehru University, will assume his new role for a term of five years.

**Q.11. Recently Airbus has inaugurated a new Indian headquarters and training center in?**

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

**Answer: (b) New Delhi**

Airbus has inaugurated its India and South Asia headquarters at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport, reinforcing its long-term vision for the region's aerospace and defence sectors. The facility was inaugurated by India's Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu in the presence of top Airbus executives, including Airbus Defence and Space CEO Michael Schallhorn and Airbus India and South Asia President and Managing Director Remi Maillard.

**Q.12. Who has been declared the recipient of the Sakharov Prize 2024 recently?**

- (a) Edmundo Gonzalez Urrutia
- (b) Maria Corina Machado
- (c) Both of the above
- (d) None of the above

**Answer: (c) Both of the above**

The European Parliament has announced that Maria Corina Machado and President-elect Edmundo González Urrutia will be the recipients of the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought 2024. The prestigious award recognises their tireless efforts to

restore democracy and freedom in Venezuela amid severe political and economic challenges. The prize was decided by the Conference of Presidents and publicly announced by European Parliament President Roberta Metsola.

**Q.13. The Chief Election Commissioner of India has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Election Commission of which country?**

- (a) France
- (b) Switzerland
- (c) Germany
- (d) Uzbekistan

**Answer: (d) Uzbekistan**

The Election Commission of India signed an agreement for electoral cooperation with the Central Election Body of Uzbekistan. The agreement was formalised during the visit of Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar to Tashkent, where he is serving as an international observer for the upcoming elections.

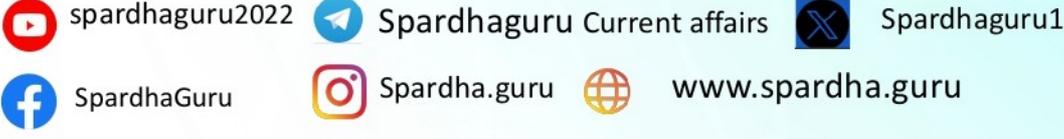
**Q.14. Who has recently launched the 21st Livestock Census campaign?**

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) Piyush Goyal
- (c) Prahlad Joshi
- (d) Rajiv Ranjan Singh

**Answer: (d) Rajiv Ranjan Singh**

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh aka Lallan Singh launched the 21st Livestock Census in New Delhi. Ministers of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying Prof. S P Singh Baghel and Shri George Kurien were also present on the occasion. G-20 Sherpa Shri Amitabh Kant, Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying Smt. Alka Upadhyay, Animal Husbandry Commissioner Shri Abhijit Mitra and other senior officials were also present at the





event. Representatives from all 36 States and Union Territories were present on the occasion, which reflects the national importance of this historic initiative.

**Q.15. Which state government has recently launched a cultural initiative called "Writers Village"?**

- (a) Uttarakhand
- (b) Assam
- (c) Himachal Pradesh
- (d) Odisha

**Answer: (a) Uttarakhand**

"Writers Village" is a new cultural initiative in Dehradun, Uttarakhand, which promotes global literary and cultural exchange. It was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand in Thano. The inauguration coincided with the International Art, Literature and Culture Festival. More than 300 writers, artists and litterateurs from 65 countries participated in the five-day festival. The festival serves as a platform to discuss literature, language and art, promote Hindi and showcase the cultural heritage of Uttarakhand.

