

Today in History on 12 OCT 2024

- **1792: The first monument to Christopher Columbus, discoverer of America, is dedicated in Baltimore, Maryland.**

The first monument to Christopher Columbus, discoverer of America, is dedicated in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1792. The monument was originally located on the D'Anmore property at North Avenue and Harford Road. It was rededicated on October 12, 1964, and moved to its current location in Herring Run Park at Harford Road, Walther Avenue, and Parkside Drive.



- **1822 – Pedro I of Brazil is proclaimed Constitutional Emperor of Brazil.**

José Bonifácio de Andrada, along with other Brazilian leaders, persuades Pedro to declare Brazil's independence from Portugal in September, 1822. On October 12, the prince is proclaimed Pedro I, the first Emperor of the newly created Empire of Brazil, a constitutional monarchy.



- **1815 – Joachim Murat, former King of Naples, is sentenced to death.**

Joachim Murat was a French army officer and statesman, who served during the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. Under the French Empire he held the military titles of Marshal of the Empire and Admiral of France. He was the first Prince Murat, Grand Duke of Berg from 1806 to 1808, and King of Naples as Joachim-Napoleon (Italian: Gioacchino Napoleone) from 1808 to 1815.

➤ 1847 - German inventor and industrialist Werner von Siemens founded Siemens AG & Halske Co.

Werner von Siemens was a responsible entrepreneur and visionary inventor who played an important role in promoting the development of the electrical industry. His creation of the pointer telegraph led to the foundation of the Telegrafen-Bauchanstalt von Siemens & Halske. Founded in 1847, the company soon became an international enterprise.



➤ 1860 - British and French forces capture Beijing, the capital of China.

In 1860, British and French forces capture Beijing, the capital of China. Negotiations quickly broke down and the British High Commissioner to China ordered troops to loot and destroy the Imperial Summer Palace, a complex and gardens where the emperors of the Qing dynasty traditionally handled the country's official affairs.

Important NEWS on 12 OCT 2024

➤ WHO Certifies India's Triumph Over Trachoma Elimination

The World Health Organization (WHO) has officially validated India's elimination of trachoma as a public health problem, marking a significant achievement in public health. Trachoma, caused by the bacterium *Chlamydia trachomatis*, is one of the leading causes of global blindness. WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus praised India for its commitment to combating this debilitating disease, joining the ranks of Nepal and Myanmar in the WHO South-East Asia Region and 19 other countries worldwide that have achieved this milestone.



➤ India's Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (Lupex) Approved

India's National Space Commission has officially approved the Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (Lupex), marking the country's fifth lunar mission. This mission follows the successful landing of Chandrayaan-3 in August 2023, which made India the fourth nation to land on the Moon. Lupex is a collaborative endeavor between India's ISRO and Japan's JAXA, aimed at exploring the Moon's resources, particularly water in its polar regions.



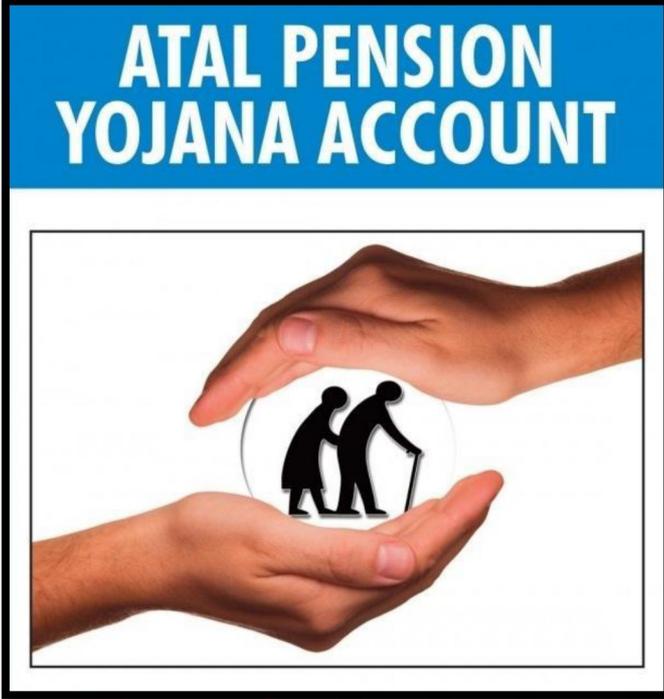
➤ A New Book "War" By Veteran Investigative Journalist Bob Woodward

Veteran investigative journalist Bob Woodward, best known for his role in uncovering the Watergate scandal, is set to release his latest book titled War, which has already begun to shake the political landscape. This highly anticipated book delves deep into the dynamics of power between former US President Donald Trump, current President Joe Biden, and Russian President Vladimir Putin, revealing shocking insights into their leadership and the ongoing global crises.



➤ Atal Pension Yojana Crosses 7 Crore Enrollments Milestone

The Atal Pension Yojana (APY), launched in 2015 to provide a universal social security system for all, particularly the underprivileged and workers in the unorganized sector, has achieved a major milestone. As of FY 2024-25, total enrollments have surpassed 7 crore, with over 56 lakh new enrollments added in the current financial year. This achievement highlights the success of the scheme in reaching vulnerable sections of society.



➤ China's 'Anaconda Strategy' Tightens Grip on Taiwan

Beijing is systematically increasing pressure on Taiwan through a multifaceted strategy that military officials describe as the "Anaconda Strategy," aimed at compelling Taipei to accept reunification as inevitable. Although the situation around Taiwan has been relatively stable compared to global conflicts like those in Ukraine, this calm may be deceptive.



➤ Manish Tiwary Appointed as Managing Director of Nestlé India Limited

In a significant leadership transition, Manish Tiwary, former head of Amazon India, has been appointed as the Managing Director of Nestlé India Limited. His tenure will begin on 1st August 2025, following the retirement of the company's current Chairman and Managing Director, Suresh Narayanan, who will step down on 31st July 2025. This leadership change marks an important phase for Nestlé India as it moves forward under the guidance of a seasoned business leader with nearly three decades of experience in the consumer goods and e-commerce sectors.

➤ PM Modi Inaugurates Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) Mumbai

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) in Mumbai, aiming to enhance youth employability and create an industry-ready workforce for Industry 4.0. The IIS, built on a 4-acre campus at the National Skill Training Institute, focuses on cutting-edge technologies like factory automation, AI, data analytics, and additive manufacturing.



Alauddin Khan Music and Arts Academy and Maihar District Administration. Ustad Alauddin Khan was a prominent figure in the world of music, known for his efforts to promote the musical tradition of Madhya Pradesh and connect the younger generation.

Q.2. Recently M. Ramachandran passed away, who was he?

- (a) Writer
- (b) Film director
- (c) Journalist
- (d) Radio anchor

Answer: (d) Radio anchor

M Ramachandran, a former radio artiste who resonated in Indian households, died of age-related ailments at the age of 89. Known for his distinctive voice and charming rendition, Ramachandran was a beloved figure among Malayalis in the 1980s and 1990s - an era considered the golden age of radio broadcasting.

Q.3. Where will the 'Telecommunication Standardization Conference' be held recently?

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

Answer: (c) New Delhi

The World Telecommunication Standardization Conference will be held in New Delhi from 14 October to 24 October 2024. This is the first time that this event of the International Communication Union is being held in the Indo-Pacific region. More than three thousand delegates from all over the

Current affairs MCQS on 12 OCT 2024

Q.1. Which state recently organized the Ustad Alauddin Khan Festival?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: (a) Madhya Pradesh

Recently, Ustad Alauddin Khan Festival was organized in Madhya Pradesh. This festival is held in Maihar, Madhya Pradesh and is dedicated to the famous musician Ustad Alauddin Khan. Many famous personalities from across the country perform in this three-day event. It is organized by Madhya Pradesh Culture Department, Ustad

world will participate in it. Technology experts from 190 countries will collaborate in this event. Its objective is to decide the future of technology standards in areas such as 6G, Artificial Intelligence, Internet, Big Data, Cyber Security and Quantum Technology.

Q.4. Recently which country has received 200 million dollars from the World Bank?

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

Answer: (a) Sri Lanka

The World Bank and the Sri Lankan government signed an agreement for an additional US\$200 million to support economic reforms in the country, a World Bank statement said. The World Bank said it has signed a second US\$200 million Resilience, Sustainability, and Economic Transformation (RESET) Development Policy Operation (DPO) to support reforms that improve economic governance, enhance growth and competitiveness, and protect the poor and vulnerable, helping to build Sri Lanka's resilience and promote an equitable economy.

Q.5. Recently in which country has RuPay card payment started?

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

Answer: (d) Maldives

Payments using RuPay cards have started in Maldives. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Maldives President Mohammad Muizzu witnessed the first such transaction. During this, Prime Minister Modi said that RuPay card has been launched in Maldives a few days ago. In the coming time, India and Maldives will be connected through UPI. During this, PM Modi said that the relations between India and Maldives are centuries old. India is the closest neighbor and close friend country of Maldives.

Q.6. Recently who has won the China Open 2024 title?

- (a) Coco Gauff
- (b) Katie Boulter
- (c) Maria Sherafo
- (d) Carolina Muchova

Answer: (a) Coco Gauff

20-year-old American tennis star Coco Gauff defeated Karolina Muchova to win the 2024 WTA China Open. Coco Gauff became the youngest China Open champion in 14 years, winning in straight sets 6-1, 6-3. Sara Errani and Jasmine Paolini defeated Chan Hao-Ching and Veronika Kudermetova 6-4, 6-4 to win the China Open doubles title.

Q.7. Recently in which country will the 'Indian Institute of Foreign Trade' open its first foreign campus?

- (a) New York
- (b) Dubai
- (c) Maldives
- (d) Paris

Answer: (b) Dubai

The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade is going to open its first overseas campus in Dubai. The India Pavilion at Dubai's Expo City will host IIFT's first overseas campus, a statement issued by the commerce ministry said. IIFT will launch short and medium-term training programmes, research and eventually its flagship programme MBA (International Business) at its campus in early 2025, the statement said. "This campus will be a boon for the 3.5 million-strong Indian community living in the UAE. It will be a major boost for IIFT," the commerce ministry said.

Q.8. Recently on which e-commerce platform will NCERT books be available?

- (a) Meesho
- (b) Flipkart
- (c) Myntra
- (d) Amazon

Answer: (d) Amazon

Now NCERT books will also be available on e-commerce platform Amazon. Amazon India informed about its alliance with NCERT. The company said that all books from Kindergarten (KG) to 12th can be ordered directly from the online platform. With this, NCERT books will now reach all parts of the country at their MRP i.e. fixed price. Students and UPSC aspirants will be able to order single books for themselves or bulk order school-college books. The delivery of books will be done with the help of distribution vendors decided by NCERT.

Q.9. Recently in which country has 'Ajit Vinayak Gupte' become the ambassador of India?

- (a) Italy
- (b) France

(c) Germany

(d) Paris

Answer: (c) Germany

Ajit Vinayak Gupte has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Germany. Gupte is a 1991 batch Indian Foreign Service Officer. He is currently serving as India's Ambassador to Egypt. Gupte has previously served as India's Ambassador to Denmark from November 2017 to March 2021.

Q.10. Recently who has launched 'Modern Bihar Lab' in Gaya district of Bihar?

- (a) B. V. R. Subramaniam
- (b) Nitish Kumar
- (c) Amit Shah
- (d) Dharmendra Pradhan

Answer: (a) B. V. R. Subramaniam

NITI Aayog CEO B V R Subrahmanyam will inaugurate the Modern Bihar Lab in Gaya. It is an integrated repository of data related to development and achievements in various sectors in the state. It has been developed by the Bihar Institute of Public Administration and Rural Development. Mr. Subrahmanyam will also unveil the Niti Shala and Unnat Chintan Kaksha laboratories. These laboratories are equipped with artificial intelligence and advanced analytical tools to make better and accurate decisions.

Q.11. Who has recently launched the "Humsafar Policy" in New Delhi?

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Nitin Gadkari

(d) Rajnath Singh

Answer: (c) Nitin Gadkari

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari launched the 'Humsafar Policy' to facilitate travel on National Highways and accelerate the development of wayside amenities in New Delhi. Addressing the event, Shri Gadkari said that this scheme will benefit the local marginalized sections of the society. He said that this scheme will facilitate smooth, safe and pleasant travel.

Q.12. Trachoma is what kind of infection, which has recently been eliminated by India as a public health problem?

- (a) Bacterial
- (b) Fungal
- (c) Viral
- (d) Parasitic

Answer: (a) Bacterial

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has announced that India has eliminated trachoma as a public health problem. India is the third country in the South-East Asia region to achieve this feat. Trachoma is caused by the bacteria Chlamydia trachomatis and affects the eyes. It spreads through contact with secretions from the eyes, eyelids, nose or throat of infected individuals. If untreated, it can cause irreversible blindness. It mainly affects communities with poor environmental conditions, with 150 million people at risk worldwide, including 6 million who are blind.

Q.13. Where will Prime Minister Modi go to attend the 21st ASEAN-India Summit?

- (a) Nepal
- (b) Singapore

(c) Malaysia

(d) Laos

Answer: (d) Laos

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he has arrived in Laos on a two-day visit to attend the ASEAN-India and East Asia Summits and is looking forward to discussions with world leaders. Modi is visiting Laos at the invitation of Prime Minister Sonexay Siphandone of Lao PDR. Laos is the current chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), established in 1967.

Q.14. Who has recently been selected for the 2024 Nobel Prize in Physics?

- (a) Geoffrey E Hinton
- (b) John J Hopfield
- (c) Both of the above
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) Both of the above

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the 2024 Nobel Prize in Physics to John J. Hopfield and Geoffrey E. Hinton "for fundamental discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning with artificial neural networks." Both Nobel laureates developed methods using tools from physics that are the foundation of today's powerful machine learning. John Hopfield created an associative memory that can store and reconstruct images and other kinds of patterns in data. Geoffrey Hinton invented a method that can autonomously discover properties in data, and perform tasks such as identifying specific elements in pictures.

Q.15. In which country has the 'Arctic Open Badminton Competition' started recently?

- (a) Finland

- (b) Paris
(c) Sweden
(d) Norway

Answer: (a) Finland

The Arctic Open badminton tournament is starting in Vantaa, Finland. The six-day competition will end on October 13. The 12-member Indian team includes PV Sindhu, Lakshya Sen and Kidambi Srikanth. The live telecast of the Arctic Open tournament will be available on the Badminton World Federation's YouTube channel - BWF TV.