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### Today in History on 11 OCT

- 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, 1964, and moved to its current location in Herring Run Park at Harford Road, Walther Avenue, and Parkside Drive.



- 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.



- 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, the prince is proclaimed Pedro I, the first Emperor of the newly created Empire of Brazil, a constitutional monarchy.





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➤ 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 Telegrafien-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 11 OCT

##### National News

**Cabinet Approves ₹24,634-Crore Railway Multitracking Projects Across Four States**

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved four major railway multitracking projects worth ₹24,634 crore across Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Chhattisgarh. These projects will add 894 route kilometres (rkm) to the Indian Railways network, enabling the transport of an additional 78 million tonnes of freight annually. The move is aimed at strengthening India's logistics capacity, improving passenger and freight connectivity, and boosting economic growth.







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#### Key Points:-

- The projects are critical for transporting coal, containers, cement, fly ash, food grains, and steel, which are essential for industrial growth.
- With these new lines, Indian Railways aims to handle over 2 billion tonnes of freight in the coming years, up from 1.61 billion tonnes in FY 2024-25.

#### India Achieves Record Solar & Wind Generation in Early 2025

In a landmark development for India's energy transition, the country generated record levels of solar and wind power in the first half of 2025, as per a report by the energy think-tank Ember. This surge not only increased the share of clean energy but also helped reduce power sector emissions by 24 million tonnes compared to the same period in 2024.

#### Key Points:-

- Solar output increased by 17 TWh, a 25% jump over H1 2024.
- Solar's share in India's total electricity generation rose to 9.2 % (from 7.4 %) in H1 2024.

#### International News

#### WTO Cuts 2026 Trade Forecast, Ups 2025 Outlook Amid Tariff Shifts

The World Trade Organization (WTO) has issued a significant revision to its global trade outlook, sharply reducing the 2026 growth forecast for merchandise trade volume to just 0.5%, down from its earlier estimate of 1.8%. This cut reflects the delayed effects of recent US tariffs and broader signs of a cooling global economy. However, the outlook

for 2025 has improved, with the WTO upgrading its forecast to 2.4%, up from just 0.9% in August.

#### Appointments

#### Khaled El-Enany Set to Become First Arab UNESCO Chief

Dr Khaled El-Enany, Egypt's former Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, is on the cusp of making history as the first Arab Director-General of UNESCO. On October, 2025, the UNESCO Executive Board backed his nomination with an overwhelming majority, making him the front-runner ahead of the final vote by UNESCO's 194-member General Conference in November 2025. If confirmed, El-Enany will succeed Audrey Azoulay of France and assume office in early 2026 for a four-year term, leading one of the world's most influential organizations for education, science, culture, and heritage.

#### Awards

#### László Krasznahorkai Wins the 2025 Nobel Prize in Literature for His Visionary Oeuvre

The Nobel Prize in Literature 2025 has been awarded to László Krasznahorkai, the celebrated Hungarian novelist renowned for his dense, poetic, and apocalyptic prose. The Swedish Academy honored him "for his compelling and visionary oeuvre that, in the midst of apocalyptic terror, reaffirms the power of art." Krasznahorkai's works delve into the depths of human despair, chaos, and beauty, marking him as one of the most distinctive voices in contemporary world literature.

#### Key Points –

László Krasznahorkai is a Hungarian novelist and screenwriter.

Krasznahorkai is known for his difficult and demanding novels, often labeled postmodern, which explore dystopian and melancholic themes.





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Several of his works, including his novels Satantango (1985) and The Melancholy of Resistance (1989), have been adapted into feature films by the director Béla Tarr.

### Banking/Economy

#### **NPCI Launches Biometric and Wearable Glass Authentication for UPI Payments**

In a landmark development for India's digital finance ecosystem, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), in collaboration with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has unveiled biometric and wearable glass-based authentication for UPI (Unified Payments Interface) transactions. Announced at the Global Fintech Fest 2025 in Mumbai, the new system allows users to authenticate payments using facial recognition or fingerprints linked to their Aadhaar — potentially replacing the traditional 4- or 6-digit UPI PIN.

#### **Key Points –**

Authentication occurs directly on the user's device, reducing the risk of data breaches.

Each transaction is independently verified by issuing banks using advanced cryptographic methods.

Users can also set or reset UPI PINs and even withdraw cash from ATMs using biometric verification.

#### **State news**

#### **Oncology Healthcare in TN**

Tamil Nadu's Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme spent ₹142 crore on oncology treatments in 2023. The spending rose to ₹147 crore in 2024 and reached ₹84 crore till August 2025. The scheme covers medical, surgical, and radiation oncology with internationally approved treatment protocols. There are 183 hospitals empanelled for

medical oncology and 171 for surgical oncology under the scheme.

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### Current affairs MCQS on 11 OCT

**Q.1. Who will receive the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2025?**

- A. Michel Devoret
- B. John Martinis
- C. John Clarke
- D. All of the above

**Answer: D. All of the above**

The announcement of the 2025 Nobel Prizes has begun. Following the announcement of the Nobel Prizes in Medicine, the Nobel Committee announced the Nobel Prizes in Physics. The 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded to three scientists: John Clarke, Michel H. Devoret, and John M. Martinis. They were awarded for their discovery of "macroscopic quantum mechanical tunneling and energy quantization in electrical circuits."

**Q.2. Where were the 69th National School Games recently held?**

- A. Bhopal
- B. Srinagar
- C. Indore
- D. Bengaluru

**Answer: B. Srinagar**

The 69th National School Games (NSG) began in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir. Organized in collaboration with the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports, the National School Games will be held at six different venues, featuring 30 teams from various states and union territories across the country. The games include sports such as football, wushu, taekwondo, and table tennis.

**Q.3. Which country recently launched Southeast Asia's first coral larva cryobank?**

- A. Indonesia
- B. Philippines
- C. France
- D. UAE

**Answer: B. Philippines**

The Philippines has launched Southeast Asia's first coral larval cryobank in 2025, aiming to preserve the genetic diversity of corals and protect marine reef ecosystems. The initiative comes at a time when global coral populations are under serious threat due to climate change, bleaching, and human activities.

**Q.4. Who recently announced the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram?**

- A. Indian Parliament
- B. Rashtrapati Bhavan
- C. Union Cabinet
- D. Supreme Court

**Answer: C. Union Cabinet**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio program "Mann Ki Baat" is celebrating its 11th anniversary. Over the years, the program has become more than just a broadcast, embodying public aspirations, inspiring stories, and citizen-government dialogue.

**Q.5. Which initiative has the Indian government recently launched for the conservation of camels?**

- A. National Camel Sustainability Initiative
- B. Desert Animal Conservation Scheme
- C. Camel Development Scheme
- D. National Livestock Mission

**Answer: A. National Camel Sustainability Initiative**

The Indian government's Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying plans to launch the National Camel Sustainability Initiative (NCSI) to save the country's dwindling camel population. This ambitious mission aims to restore the economic and ecological importance of camels.

**Q.6. Which state government recently launched the 'Shradhanjali Yojana'?**

- A. Assam
- B. Sikkim
- C. Kolkata
- D. Odisha

**Answer: A. Assam**





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The Assam government has launched the 'Shraddhanjali' scheme for the dignified transportation of Assamese youth who die while working or studying outside the state. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma formally launched the scheme in Guwahati. The scheme will primarily benefit youth working in low-paying jobs outside Assam and those who die in unnatural circumstances, such as accidents or murder. Deaths occurring during medical treatment will not be included. The Assam Police's Special Branch, headed by a DIG-level officer, will act as the nodal agency and coordinate efforts through a dedicated helpline - 112 - and official social media channels.

**Q.7. In which state was the 'Mera Hou Chongba' festival recently celebrated?**

- A. Manipur
- B. Assam
- C. West Bengal
- D. Kolkata

**Answer: A. Manipur**

A powerful symbol of unity between the hill tribes and the valley dwellers, the "Mera Hou Chongba" festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Manipur. It is celebrated on the full moon day (15th lunar day) of the "Mera" month of the traditional Meitei calendar. This festival is a living example of community harmony, traditional identity, and cultural solidarity.

**Q.8. Which state recently became the first to abolish the Madrasa Board and mainstream minority education?**

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Haryana
- C. Punjab
- D. Uttar Pradesh

**Answer: A. Uttarakhand**

Uttarakhand has become the first state to abolish the Madrasa Board and integrate minority educational institutions into the mainstream education system. Governor Lieutenant General Gurmeet Singh

approved the Uttarakhand Minority Education Bill. This bill was introduced to establish uniformity in the state's education system. With its approval, madrasas in the state will now be required to obtain recognition from the Uttarakhand Minority Education Authority and register with the Uttarakhand Board of School Education.

**Q.9. Which organization recently developed the Indian Radio Software Architecture (IRSA) Standard 1.0?**

- A. Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
- B. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- C. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- D. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)

**Answer: B. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), in collaboration with the Integrated Defence Staff (IDS) and the three Services, released the "Indian Radio Software Architecture (IRSA)" version 1.0 at a national workshop held in New Delhi. This is a major technological milestone in India's military communication system, marking a significant step towards the development of indigenous, interoperable and future-ready Software Defined Radios (SDRs).

**Q.10. Where in Arunachal Pradesh was the first commercial coal mine recently commissioned?**

- A. Namchik-Namphuk
- B. Itanagar
- C. Rowing
- D. Tawang

**Answer: A. Namchik-Namphuk**

Union Minister Shri G. Kishan Reddy and Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu inaugurated Arunachal Pradesh's first commercial coal mine. Located in the Namchik-Namphuk area of Changlang district, the mine marks a new chapter in the region's economic development and India's energy map.







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**Q.11. In which state was the Junior Badminton Championship 2025 recently held?**

- A. West Bengal
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Uttarakhand
- D. Assam

**Answer: D. Assam**

The BWF World Junior Championships 2025 will return to India after 17 years and will be held in Guwahati, Assam. The tournament includes the Suhandinata Cup (mixed teams) and the I-Level Cup (individuals). Thirty-six teams are participating. India has now become the fourth Asian country to host the championship twice.

**Q.12. Where was the 9th edition of the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2025 held?**

- A. Bengaluru
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Chennai
- D. New Delhi

**Answer: D. New Delhi**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 9th edition of the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2025 at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi. IMC 2025 is Asia's largest telecommunications, media, and technology event. It is being jointly organized by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI). The event is being held under the theme "Innovate to Transform." This reflects India's focus on digital innovation, transformation, and social progress.

**Q.13. Where was the second anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft (INS Androth) deployed?**

- A. Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- B. Mumbai, Maharashtra
- C. Kochi, Kerala
- D. Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands

**Answer: A. Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**

The Indian Navy commissioned its second anti-submarine warfare ship, INS Androth, into shallow

waters at the Naval Dockyard in Visakhapatnam. It was built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata. INS Androth has over 80% indigenous content, symbolizing 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. The ship is 77 meters long, has a payload of approximately 1500 tons, and is designed for anti-submarine operations in coastal and shallow waters. It is equipped with advanced weapons, sensors, and communication systems to detect, track, and neutralize underwater threats.

**Q.14. In which state was a new wasp species, Nesolynx banabitanæ, recently discovered?**

- A. Arunachal Pradesh
- B. West Bengal
- C. Assam
- D. Sikkim

**Answer: B. West Bengal**

A new wasp species called Nesolynx banabitanæ was recently discovered in Salt Lake, West Bengal. It was found in Central Park, locally known as Banabitan, after which it is named. This discovery is only the seventh wasp species identified in India. It belongs to the Eulophidae family, which is known for parasitic behavior. Nesolynx banabitanæ is a hyperparasite, meaning it parasitizes other parasitic wasps.

**Q.15. The Online National Drug Licensing System (ONDLS) portal was developed by which organization?**

- A. Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC)
- B. National Health Authority (NHA)
- C. Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC)
- D. Drug Controller General of India (DCGI)

**Answer: A. Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC)**

Recently, the Union Health Ministry confirmed that 18 state drug control authorities use the Online National Drug Licensing System (ONDLS), but none of them have fully complied with the Corrective and Preventive Action (CAPA) guidelines. ONDLS is a





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digital single-window platform for processing all drug-related licenses in India. It was developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) in collaboration with the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) and state/union territory drug regulatory authorities. It aims to make drug licensing uniform, transparent, and accountable across India.

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