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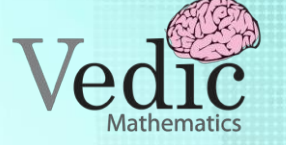
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Today in History on 16 OCT

➤ 1605 – Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar dies.

Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar was the third ruler of the Mughal dynasty of Timurid lineage. Akbar is also known as Akbar-e-Azam (meaning Akbar the Great), Shahenshah Akbar, Mahabali Shahenshah. Emperor Akbar was the grandson of Zahiruddin Muhammad Babur, the founder of the Mughal Empire, and the son of Nasiruddin Humayun and Hamida Banu. Babur's lineage was related to Timur and the Mongol leader Genghis Khan, i.e. his descendants were from the family of Timur Lang and maternal side was related to Genghis Khan.



➤ 1817 – Sir Syed Khan, founder of Aligarh Muslim University, was born in Delhi.

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan was a Muslim leader who started religious and worldly education for Muslims living in India. He founded Aligarh Muslim University. Aligarh University was started due to his efforts, in which the leaders involved worked to educate Muslims with religious education and modern era and worldly education. Syed Ahmed It is true that in the First Indian War of Independence of 1857, he gave shelter to non-military British in his house, later when Sir Syed Ahmed felt that Muslims needed a leader in the Indian freedom struggle



➤ 1918 – Yugoslavia declares itself a republic.

Yugoslavia was formed in 1918 as the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. In January 1929, King Alexander I assumed dictatorship of the state and renamed it the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, creating "Yugoslavia" for the first time – which was used colloquially for decades. In 1946, Yugoslavia became





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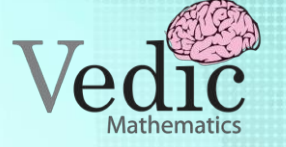
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a socialist federation of six republics: Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Macedonia. At this time, it adopted the name Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY).



➤ 1920 – Communist Party of India founded in Tashkent.

On October 1920, a meeting was held in Tashkent at which the Communist Party of India was formed on the principles of the Communist International. Seven persons were present; Roy, Abani Mukherjee, Acharya, Mohammed Shafiq Siddiqui, Mohammed Ali (Ahmed Hasan), Evelyn Trent-Roy and Rosa Fittingov.



➤ 1940 – Mahatma Gandhi announced individual Satyagraha.

Individual Satyagraha was started by the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi in 1940. The biggest thing about this Satyagraha was that the Satyagrahi chosen by Mahatma Gandhi would give a speech at a pre-determined place and get arrested. Before his speech, the Satyagrahi would also inform the District Magistrate about his Satyagraha. He had to keep moving forward giving anti-war speeches in every village. Vinoba was arrested by the British government on 21 October.



Important NEWS on 16 OCT

National News

Revamped Sugamya Bharat App Empowers Accessibility

The Sugamya Bharat App, a flagship digital tool under India's Accessible India Campaign, was recently revamped to enhance its usability and impact. It is designed to empower persons with disabilities (PwDs) and elderly citizens by enabling them to report accessibility issues and access vital information on schemes and resources.





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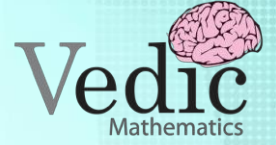
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Key Points:-

Launched in 2021 by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, it serves as a crowdsourcing platform to identify, report, and address accessibility barriers in the built environment, transportation systems, and ICT (information and communication technology) sectors.

India Unveils \$77 Billion Hydro Plan Amid China's Dam Push

India has unveiled an ambitious ₹6.4 trillion (\$77 billion) plan to harness more than 76 gigawatts (GW) of hydroelectric power from the Brahmaputra River basin by 2047, amid growing concerns over China's dam-building upstream. The announcement, made by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on October, 2025, comes at a critical moment as India seeks to meet rising electricity demands while reducing fossil fuel dependence.

Key Points:

The Brahmaputra River, known as the Yarlung Zangbo in Tibet, originates in China before entering India and flowing into Bangladesh.

This trans-border river has become the focus of geopolitical controversy due to China's construction of a massive hydroelectric dam upstream.

Indian experts fear that China's upstream activity could reduce dry season flows to downstream Indian regions by up to 85%, particularly affecting Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.

International News

Maldives First to End Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV, Hep B, Syphilis

In a historic public health breakthrough, the Maldives has become the first country in the world

to achieve triple elimination of mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV, hepatitis B, and syphilis. The announcement, confirmed by the World Health Organization (WHO) in October 2025, represents a global milestone in the fight against infectious diseases affecting newborns and pregnant women.

Key Points:-

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization, commended the Maldives for its leadership and dedication to maternal and child health.

He emphasized that this achievement demonstrates how strong health systems, universal screening, and treatment coverage can contribute to the elimination of diseases at the national level.

Sports

World Test Championship 2025-2027, Points Table and Current Status

The 2025-2027 ICC World Test Championship (WTC) is the fourth edition of the prestigious Test cricket tournament. It continues to be recognized as the pinnacle of red-ball cricket, offering a structured league system to determine the world's best Test team. The championship rewards consistency, discipline, and adaptability in all playing conditions.

Awards

Kaziranga Director Sonali Ghosh Wins Global Sustainability Award

Sonali Ghosh, Director of Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, has become the first Indian to receive the prestigious Kenton R. Miller Award for innovation in sustainable protected area management. The honor was conferred by the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), part of the International Union for Conservation of Nature





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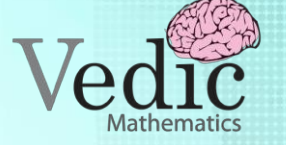
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(IUCN), at a ceremony held in Abu Dhabi on October, 2025.

Key Points:-

The Kenton R Miller Award honors exceptional leadership and innovation in the management of protected areas such as national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and biodiversity hotspots.

It is administered by the WCPA, one of IUCN's six Technical Commissions, bringing together conservationists and experts from around the world.

Banking/Economy

RBI Eases Rupee Lending to Boost Trade with Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka

In a strategic move to boost regional trade and enhance external payment systems, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that Indian banks and their overseas branches can now lend in Indian Rupees to residents and banks in Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. This measure, revealed on October, 2025, is expected to streamline cross-border trade transactions and expand the use of the rupee in South Asia.

State News

Virtual Gram Sabha Meetings

TN Chief Minister addressed around 10,000-gram sabha meetings virtually. The meetings were held under the theme "Namma Ooru, Namma Arasu" (Our Village, Our Government). After the address, the gram sabhas discussed 16 listed topics and passed resolutions on the top three local needs. On the other hand, a total of 12,838 wards is in 25 municipal corporations, 145 municipalities and 490 town panchayats in Tamilnadu.

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Current affairs MCQS on 16 OCT

Q.1. Which organization is developing the fourth block of the Shri Krishna Museum in Kurukshetra?

- A. Haryana Tourism Corporation
- B. Kurukshetra Development Board (KDB)



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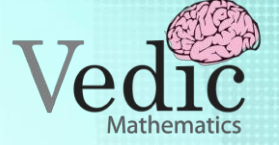
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C. Archaeological Survey of India
D. Union Ministry of Culture

Answer: B. Kurukshetra Development Board (KDB)

The fourth wing of the Shri Krishna Museum in Kurukshetra is ready, further expanding the rich heritage associated with Lord Krishna and the Mahabharata. This initiative is being undertaken by the Kurukshetra Development Board (KDB) with the aim of revamping the museum experience, attracting tourists, and highlighting the religious and historical heritage of the 48 Kos of Kurukshetra.

Q.2. Which three Indian ports have recently been designated as green hydrogen hubs under the National Green Hydrogen Mission?

- A. Deendayal Port (Gujarat), V.O. Chidambaranar Port (Tamil Nadu), Paradip Port (Odisha)
- B. Mumbai Port, Cochin Port, Visakhapatnam Port
- C. Kandla Port, Tuticorin Port, Haldia Port
- D. Hazira Port, Chennai Port, Mundra Port

Answer: A. Deendayal Port (Gujarat), V.O. Chidambaranar Port (Tamil Nadu), Paradip Port (Odisha)

India has taken significant steps towards building a future-ready green energy ecosystem. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has launched three major initiatives under the National Green Hydrogen Mission.

Q.3. What is the name of the first joint Carrier Strike Group (CSG) exercise recently conducted between India and the United Kingdom?

- A. Exercise Milan 2025
- B. Exercise Varuna 2025
- C. Exercise Konkan 2025
- D. Exercise Indra 2025

Answer: C. Exercise Konkan 2025

A significant moment in the history of defence cooperation between India and the United Kingdom came when the two countries conducted their first joint Carrier Strike Group (CSG) exercise. Exercise Konkan 2025, held off India's west coast, included

full-scale air-sea maneuver activities, underscoring the growing strategic convergence in the Indo-Pacific region.

Q.4. Who has recently been appointed as the new Executive Director by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- A. Sonali Sen Gupta
- B. Swati Dhingra
- C. Mridul Sagar
- D. Meenakshi Sharma

Answer: A. Sonali Sen Gupta

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced a significant leadership change, appointing Sonali Sen Gupta as its new Executive Director (ED). With nearly 30 years of experience, Sen Gupta is an expert in several policy and regulatory initiatives related to India's financial system.

Q.5. Which film recently won the highest number of awards at the 70th Filmfare Awards 2025, winning the title of the biggest winner of the year with 13 awards?

- A. Jigra
- B. Laapataa Ladies
- C. Chandu Champion
- D. Kill

Answer: B. Laapataa Ladies

The 70th Filmfare Awards 2025 were held at the AKA Arena in Ahmedabad's Kankaria Lake as a grand ceremony honoring the best of Hindi cinema. Shah Rukh Khan, Karan Johar, and Manish Paul hosted the grand ceremony. The stellar performances of Shah Rukh Khan, Kriti Sanon, and Kajol captivated the audience. The highlight of the ceremony was Kiran Rao's "Missing Ladies," which made history by winning 13 awards—a record previously held by 2020's "Gully Boy."

Q.6. Which two major schemes did Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently launch to strengthen the agriculture sector?





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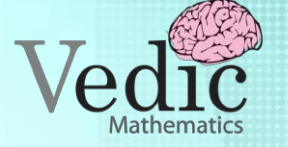
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A. PM Dhan Dhanya Krishi Yojana and Mission for Self-Reliance in Pulses

B. PM Kisan Samman Nidhi and National Food Security Mission

C. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

D. PM Krishi Sinchai Yojana and e-NAM Portal

Answer: A. PM Dhan Dhanya Krishi Yojana and Mission for Self-Reliance in Pulses

With the aim of strengthening India's agricultural foundation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched two major schemes—Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhanya Krishi Yojana and Pulses Self-Reliance Mission. The foundation stones were laid for projects worth over ₹42,000 crore in agriculture and allied sectors. These initiatives aim to increase crop productivity, achieve self-sufficiency in pulses, and upgrade 100 backward agricultural districts in the country.

Q.7. Which innovative commerce identity QR solution for small businesses has HDFC Bank recently launched?

A. SmartPay QR

B. Vyapar Connect QR

C. My Business QR

D. Digital Vyapar Code

Answer: C. My Business QR

In a move that connects digital identity with payment acceptance, HDFC Bank has introduced "My Business QR," a first-of-its-kind commerce identity QR designed specifically for small businesses. The innovation, unveiled at the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2025, aims to help retailers seamlessly transition from offline to online commerce, while enhancing their discoverability, customer engagement, and payment capabilities.

Q.8. For what purpose did the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently develop the Unified Markets Interface (UMI)?

A. To enable tokenization of financial assets and transactions through wholesale CBDC

B. To improve the retail payment system

C. To control foreign exchange rates

D. To set lending limits for banks

Answer: A. To enable tokenization of financial assets and transactions through wholesale CBDC

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has developed the Unified Markets Interface (UMI), a next-generation financial platform that enables the tokenization of financial assets and transactions using a wholesale central bank digital currency (CBDC). The initiative was announced by RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra at the Global Fintech Fest 2025. UMI is part of the RBI's Digital Public Infrastructure vision, which aims to enhance market efficiency, security, and financial inclusion.

Q.9. In which bank has the central government recently allowed one of the Managing Director (MD) positions to be opened to private sector candidates?

A. Bank of Baroda

B. Punjab National Bank

C. State Bank of India - SBI

D. Canara Bank

Answer: C. State Bank of India - SBI

In a major policy change aimed at leadership reform in the public sector banking sector, the Government of India has opened top management positions in public sector banks (PSBs) to private sector candidates—including the position of Managing Director (MD) at the State Bank of India (SBI). This change marks a significant departure from the tradition of appointing only internal candidates of public sector banks for such key positions.

Q.10. A statue was recently unveiled in Shimla in whose memory, who is also considered the architect of modern Himachal Pradesh?

A. Late Virbhadra Singh

B. Shimla Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu

C. Sachin Pilot

D. Rajni Patil

Answer: A. Late Virbhadra Singh



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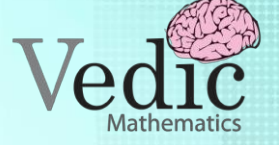
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Former Congress National President Sonia Gandhi and current National General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi reached Shimla to participate in the unveiling ceremony of the statue of late Virbhadra Singh, the creator of modern Himachal. Sonia Gandhi unveiled the statue of late Virbhadra Singh. During this, Congress Parliamentary Party President Sonia Gandhi, MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, Rajni Patil, Sachin Pilot, Deepender Singh Hooda and other Congress leaders attended the unveiling ceremony of the statue of former Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh.

Q.11. Which conference is India hosting recently, attended by top officials from countries contributing troops to UN peacekeeping missions?

- A. Global Defence Summit
- B. UN Peacekeeping Operations Forum
- C. UN Troop Contributing Countries' Chiefs' Conclave (UNTC3)
- D. International Security Chiefs' Meet

Answer: C. UN Troop Contributing Countries' Chiefs' Conclave (UNTC3)

India will host the Conference of Heads of State Contributing to United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (UNTCC). The Ministry of Defence stated that Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations (USG, DPO) Jean-Pierre Lacroix will participate in the conference. This important three-day event brings together military leaders from 32 countries playing a key role in UN peacekeeping operations. The conference aims to discuss operational challenges in global peacekeeping operations, enhance cooperation, and promote collective understanding and coordination.

Q.12. Where was India's first Semiconductor Innovation Museum recently inaugurated?

- A. Hyderabad
- B. Bengaluru
- C. Pune

D. Mumbai

Answer: A. Hyderabad

In a landmark achievement for India's technology sector, the Semiconductor Innovation Museum was inaugurated in Hyderabad by the Technology Chip Innovation Program (T-CHIP). The museum, the first of its kind in India, aims to foster public participation and industry collaboration in the semiconductor and electronics ecosystem.

Q.13. Who recently received the Nobel Prize in Literature for the year 2025?

- A. Han Kang
- B. Al-Fred Nobel
- C. Laszlo Krasznahorkai
- D. Harish Narmada

Answer: C. Laszlo Krasznahorkai

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced the Nobel Prize in Literature. The Nobel Prize in Literature for the year 2025 was awarded to Hungarian author László Krasznahorkai for his captivating and visionary work.

Q.14. Who recently received the Nobel Prize in Economics for the year 2025?

- A. Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt
- B. Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson
- C. Laszlo Krasznahorkai
- D. Han Kang

Answer: A. Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced that it has decided to award the 2025 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, also known as the Nobel Prize in Economics, to Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt "for their work explaining innovation-driven economic growth." Half of the prize will go to Mr. Mokyr, while the other half will be split between Mr. Aghion and Mr. Howitt.





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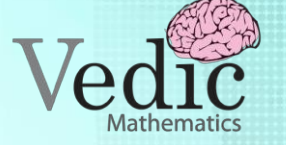
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Q.15. When and where was the new version of the 'Accessible India App' recently launched?

- A. In Goa on the occasion of Purple Fest, 2025
- B. In Delhi on National Disability Day
- C. During the Smart Cities Conference in Mumbai
- D. In Hyderabad under the Digital India program

Answer: A. In Goa on the occasion of Purple Fest 2025

Taking a significant step towards building a digitally inclusive India, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, launched the revamped 'Sugamya Bharat App' at the Purple Fest in Goa. The launch was led by Shri Rajesh Agarwal, Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, at the ALIMCO stall, in the presence of Ms. Manmeet Kaur Nanda, Additional Secretary, Ms. Richa Shankar, Deputy Director General, Ms. Debolina Thakur, Joint Secretary (Financial Advisor), and Shri Praveen Kumar, Chairman & Managing Director, ALIMCO.



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