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Today in History on 31 OCT

- 1517: Martin Luther in his "95 Theses" to the door of Wittenberg Church, marking the beginning of the Protestant Reformation in Germany.

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted his "95 Theses" on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, an event that traditionally marks the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. The "95 Theses" were a set of propositions in Latin that questioned the sale of indulgences and called for reform within the Catholic Church. This act led to a major split in the church and the rise of Protestantism.

- 1875: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, considered the "Iron Man" of India, was born.

Vallabhbhai Patel (31 October 1875 – 15 December 1950), commonly known as Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,[a] was an Indian independence activist and statesman who served as the first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of India from 1947 to 1950. He was a senior leader of the Indian National Congress, who played a significant role in the Indian

independence movement and India's political integration.

- 1920: Inaugural session of the All India Trade Union Congress held in Bombay.

In 1920, the inaugural session of the All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) was held in Mumbai (then Bombay), with Lala Lajpat Rai as its first president. The session was held at the Empire Theatre on October 31, 1920. Lala Lajpat Rai presided over the first session of the All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) held in Bombay in 1920.

- 2003: Mahathir Mohamad resigns as Prime Minister of Malaysia.

Mahathir bin Mohamad is a Malaysian politician, author, and doctor who served as the fourth and seventh Prime Minister of Malaysia from 1981 to 2003 and again from 2018 to 2020. He was the country's longest-serving Prime Minister, serving for a total of 24 years. His political career spanned over 75 years, from his involvement in protests against citizenship policies for non-Malays in the Malayan Union in the 1940s to forming the Gerakan Tanah Air coalition in 2022.





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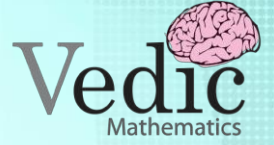
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➤ 1966: Indian swimmer Mihir Sen swam across the Panama Canal.

In 1966, Indian swimmer Mihir Sen successfully swam across the Panama Canal between October 29 and 31, taking 34 hours and 15 minutes. This was part of his extraordinary expedition to swim across the oceans of five continents in a single year, earning him a place in the Guinness Book of World Records. Mihir Sen swam across multiple oceans in a single year in 1966, including the Panama Canal, the Palk Strait (India-Sri Lanka), the Strait of Gibraltar (Europe-Africa), the Dardanelles (Turkey), and the Bosphorus (Turkey).

provide the country with significant maritime advantages.

He noted India's strategic position as a bridge between the Indo-Pacific region and the global South due to its democratic stability and naval capabilities.

Bust of Rabindranath Tagore Unveiled at Indian Embassy in Beijing

A bronze bust of the Indian literary and cultural icon Rabindranath Tagore was unveiled today at the premises of the Embassy of India, Beijing in Beijing. The sculpture, created by famed Chinese sculptor Yuan Xikun, was inaugurated on the sidelines of a cultural symposium titled "Sangamam - A Confluence of Indian Philosophical Traditions". The event marked a significant moment in India-China cultural diplomacy and the shared civilisational heritage between the two nations.

Key Points:-

The statue honors Tagore's influence beyond India and recognizes his historical connection with China; Indian Ambassador to China Pradeep Rawat said that Tagore's visit to China a century ago was "a milestone in our civilizational dialogue."

The selection of Chinese sculptor Yuan Shikun underscores bilateral cultural cooperation—a symbolic gesture that reflects the artistic exchange between the two countries.

Important NEWS on 31 OCT

National News

Union Home Minister Amit Shah Inaugurates India Maritime Week

On the occasion of India Maritime Week 2025 in Mumbai, Amit Shah, Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, inaugurated the flagship maritime event. He emphasised that India's maritime vision is anchored in safety, stability and self-reliance, and pointed to the structural reforms that have enabled India to emerge as a strong maritime power.

Key Points:-

Speaking at the launch, Mr Shah emphasized that India's 7,500-kilometer-long coastline, 13 coastal states and union territories, and 2.37 million square kilometers of Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

International News

Putin Announces Successful Test of Nuclear-Powered 'Burevestnik' Missile

Russian President Vladimir Putin has declared the successful test of the Burevestnik (9M730), a nuclear-powered, long-range cruise missile described by Russian authorities as having unlimited range and the capacity to bypass current missile defence systems. With a flight time of 15





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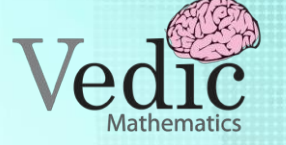
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hours covering 14,000 kilometres, this development signals a significant shift in strategic military capabilities and has potential implications for global security dynamics.

Key Point:-

As the Supreme Commander of Russia's Armed Forces, he visited the joint staff of military operations in Ukraine earlier in the morning and interacted with force commanders led by Chief General Staff Gen Valery Gerasimov.

Sports

India Sweeps Kabaddi Gold at Asian Youth Games

India reaffirmed its dominance in youth kabaddi by sweeping both the boys' and girls' gold medals at the 2025 Asian Youth Games held in Bahrain. With commanding performances across the board, both Indian U-18 teams emerged unbeaten champions, underlining the country's strong pipeline of kabaddi talent and securing a major highlight in India's overall medal tally.

Key Points:-

The Indian girls' team crushed Iran 75-21 in the final, not only winning the gold medal but also registering the biggest margin of victory in an Asian Youth Games kabaddi final since 2013.

Neha Patel, an excellent raider, scored 28 points and displayed consistent aggression.

Lando Norris Wins Mexico GP, Takes F1 Championship Lead

Lando Norris claimed a stunning lights-to-flag victory at the Mexico City Grand Prix, handing the McLaren star the lead in the 2025 Formula 1 Drivers' Championship by a single point. The win marks one of Norris's most commanding performances, crossing the line 30.3 seconds ahead of Ferrari's

Charles Leclerc, with Max Verstappen rounding out the podium.

Banking/Economy

RBI Launches HaRBInger 2025 Global Hackathon

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has officially launched HaRBInger 2025 - Innovation for Transformation, its fourth global hackathon, aiming to promote the development of secure, inclusive, and identity-driven banking solutions. The hackathon reflects RBI's commitment to leveraging emerging technologies for the financial sector and enhancing trust and integrity in digital banking.

State News

Cyclone Montha caused widespread and intense rainfall in northern Tamil Nadu.

Many parts of Chennai and adjoining districts are experiencing widespread and intense rainfall as the severe cyclonic storm Montha approaches the coast. However, the storm has slowed down slightly and is moving at a speed of 10 kmph compared to its previous speed of 15 kmph. It is located in the west-central Bay of Bengal, about 110 km south-southeast of Machilipatnam, 190 km south-southeast of Kakinada and 280 km south-southwest of Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.

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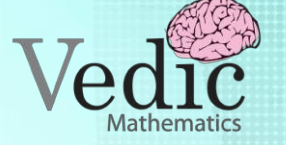
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Current affairs MCQS on 31 OCT

Q.1. In which recent episode of 'Mann Ki Baat' did Prime Minister Modi highlight India's cultural unity and the devotion of women during Chhath Puja?

- (a) 125th
- (b) 126th
- (c) 127th
- (d) 128th

Answer: (c) 127th

The 127th episode of the Prime Minister's radio program "Mann Ki Baat" aired. The Prime Minister extended greetings for Chhath Puja and urged people to participate in the celebrations. In Mann Ki Baat, Prime Minister Modi spoke on topics such as the GST Savings Festival, the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Patel, and the Run for Unity.

Q.2. Which country recently launched the world's first yen-based stablecoin, JPYC?

- (a) China

(b) Japan

(c) Australia

(d) Indonesia

Answer: (b) Japan

Recently, Japan launched the world's first yen-based stablecoin, JPYC, marking a major step forward in digital finance. It was issued by the startup JPYC and is fully backed by Japanese government bonds (JGBs) and domestic savings. The coin is fully convertible into yen and aims for broad international use.

Q.3. East Timor recently became the ASEAN member on which date?

- (a) 10th
- (b) 11th
- (c) 12th
- (d) 9th

Answer: (b) 11th

East Timor, also known as Timor-Leste, officially became the 11th member country of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The historic moment came during the ASEAN Summit in Kuala Lumpur, where the national flag of East Timor was raised alongside the flags of other member countries.

Q.4. China's CR 450 train recently achieved a record speed of how many km/h?

- (a) 403 km/h
- (b) 453 km/h
- (c) 423 km/h
- (d) 433 km/h

Answer: (b) 453 km/h

China has announced a major milestone in rail transport, with its newly developed CR450 high-speed train setting a world record speed of 453 km/h during testing. Designed for the Shanghai-Chengdu corridor, the CR450 not only cements China's leadership in high-speed rail technology but also redefines global standards in ultra-fast, energy-efficient rail mobility.





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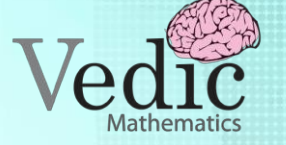
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Q.5. In which year will India host the APAC-AIG meeting for the first time?

- (a) 2024
- (b) 2025
- (c) 2026
- (d) 2027

Answer: (b) 2025

India is going to host the first-ever Asia Pacific Accident Investigation Group (APAC-AIG) meeting and workshop by 31 October 2025. This is a significant aviation safety event that will bring together around 90 delegates from the Asia-Pacific region member countries of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and experts from global institutions.

Q.6. Which railway station was recently renamed Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar?

- (a) Pune
- (b) Aurangabad
- (c) Kolhapur
- (d) Nashik

Answer: (b) Aurangabad

In a move to strengthen regional heritage, Maharashtra's Aurangabad railway station has been officially renamed Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar railway station, according to a notification by the Central Railway. The station now has a new code of 'CPSN' and falls under the Nanded division of the South Central Railway. The name change follows an earlier decision by the Eknath Shinde-led state government to change the city's name from Aurangabad to Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar in 2022.

Q.7. Which country won the gold medal in both the under-18 boys' and under-18 girls' kabaddi events at the 2025 Asian Youth Games?

- (a) Iran
- (b) India
- (c) Japan
- (d) South Korea

Answer: (b) India

Recently, India won double gold medals in Kabaddi at the 2025 Asian Youth Games held in Bahrain. Both the boys' and girls' under-18 teams remained undefeated throughout the tournament. The girls' team defeated Iran 75-21 in the final – the largest winning margin in a Youth Games Kabaddi final since 2013. Raider Neha Patel scored 28 points and defender Riya Singh led a strong defense. India's girls scored 312 points in five matches and conceded only 89. The boys' team defeated Iran 35-32 in a close final at Isa Sports City in Riffa. This clean sweep confirmed India's dominance as Asia's youth Kabaddi powerhouse and also increased its overall medal tally.

Q.8. What is the name of the recent RBI Global Hackathon 2025?

- (a) FinTech Future 2025
- (b) HaRBInger 2025 - Innovation for Transformation
- (c) Digital Bharat 2025
- (d) BankNext 2025

Answer: (b) HaRBInger 2025 - Innovation for Transformation

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has officially launched HaRBInger 2025 - Innovation for Transformation. This is RBI's fourth global hackathon, aimed at fostering the development of secure, inclusive, and identity-based banking solutions. This initiative reflects the Reserve Bank of India's commitment to strengthening trust and transparency in digital banking by leveraging emerging technologies in the financial sector.

Q.9. Who recently received the Vigyan Ratna Award 2025 for lifetime achievement?

- (a) Dr. Tessy Thomas
- (b) Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar
- (c) Dr. C.N.R. Rao
- (d) Dr. Randeep Guleria

Answer: (b) Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar

Renowned astrophysicist Jayant Vishnu Narlikar was recently posthumously awarded the Lifetime





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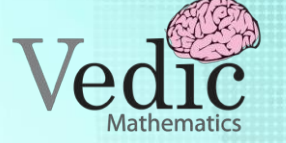
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Achievement Vigyan Ratna Award for 2025. The award was presented to him for his lifelong contributions to science and technology.

Q.10. Which Indian Naval ship recently completed the 18th joint hydrographic survey with Mauritius?

- (a) INS Sarvekshak
- (b) INS Sutlej
- (c) INS Jamuna
- (d) INS Magar

Answer: (b) INS Sutlej

The Ministry of Defence announced that INS Sutlej, in collaboration with the Mauritius Hydrographic Service, has successfully completed a major hydrographic survey covering an area of approximately 35,000 square nautical miles. This mission is an important part of the long-term maritime partnership between India and Mauritius, directly related to maritime safety, coastal management, marine resource planning and regional security.

Q.11. Recently, India became the first non-NATO country to participate in which exercise hosted by Spain?

- (a) Desert Eagle
- (b) Ocean Sky 2025
- (c) Blue Flag
- (d) Cobra Warrior

Answer: (b) Ocean Sky 2025

India has become the first non-NATO country to participate in Exercise Ocean Sky 2025 being conducted by the Spanish Air Force at Gando Air Base in the Canary Islands. The exercise focuses on multinational air warfare and will strengthen defence cooperation between the Indian Air Force and the Spanish Air Force.

Q.12. What is the name of the ₹855 crore joint venture company recently formed by Reliance and Meta?

- (a) Reliance Digital AI
- (b) JioMeta AI Labs

- (c) Reliance Enterprise Intelligence Limited (REIL)
- (d) MetaJio Tech

Answer: (c) Reliance Enterprise Intelligence Limited (REIL)

In a significant technology partnership, Reliance Industries and Meta Platforms have announced an ₹855 crore joint venture to build enterprise-grade AI products. The new entity, called Reliance Enterprise Intelligence Limited (REIL), will develop and scale AI solutions for business customers in India and select global markets. Amid ongoing India-US trade tensions and growing global demand for reliable AI ecosystems, this collaboration is being seen as a major step towards "Made-in-India" digital infrastructure.

Q.13. Which new tournament did FIFA recently launch to promote football in Southeast Asia?

- (a) Asia Cup
- (b) ASEAN Cup
- (c) Unity Cup
- (d) Pacific Cup

Answer: (b) ASEAN Cup

In a major announcement for regional sports, FIFA President Gianni Infantino unveiled a new football tournament – the FIFA ASEAN Cup – aimed at raising the level of national football in Southeast Asia. The announcement was made at the 47th ASEAN Summit held in Kuala Lumpur, marking a historic collaboration between FIFA and ASEAN.

Q.14. Recently, on which island of Kuwait did archaeologists discover a 4,000-year-old temple from the Dilmun civilization?

- (a) Hawar Islands
- (b) Failaka Island
- (c) Bubiyan Island
- (d) Muharraq Island

Answer: (b) Failaka Island

Archaeologists recently discovered a 4,000-year-old temple on Kuwait's Failaka Island, linked to the ancient Dilmun civilization. The Dilmun civilization, also known as Telmun, flourished in the eastern





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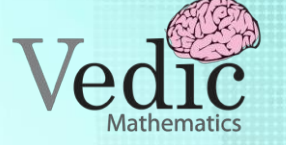
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Arabian Peninsula, with its main centers being Bahrain Island and Kuwait's Failaka Island. It also extended to Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, and the Iranian coast along the Persian Gulf.

Q.15. What is the theme of the recent Vigilance Awareness Week 2025?

- (a) Say No to Corruption
- (b) Vigilance - Our Shared Responsibility
- (c) Transparent India
- (d) Corruption-Free Bharat

Answer: (b) Vigilance - Our Shared Responsibility

India launched the observance of Vigilance Awareness Week 2025, uniting citizens and public institutions around the theme "Vigilance - Our Shared Responsibility." Celebrated annually in the last week of October to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (October 31), the event aims to promote widespread public awareness about the importance of integrity, accountability, and ethical conduct in public life.



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