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## Today in History on 17 SEP

### ➤ 1598: Dutch sailors discover Mauritius.

Arabs arrived before the 10th century, Malays in the 15th century and the Portuguese in the early 1500s. It was captured by the Dutch in 1598, who named it after Maurice of Nassau, who was then stadtholder, or chief magistrate, of the Netherlands. The Dutch left in 1710 and the French took over in 1715 and renamed it Isle de France. Mauritius gained independence on March 12, 1968. The Mauritius Labour Party (MLP), headed by Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, ruled Mauritius during the first 14 years of independence.

cartoonist of the Bengal School. Along with his brother Abanindranath Tagore, he was considered one of the early modern artists of India. Gaganendranath received no formal education, but trained under watercolour artist Harinarayan Bandopadhyay. In 1907, along with his brother Abanindranath he founded the Indian Society of Oriental Art.



### ➤ 1948: Hyderabad State merged with India.

After surrender on 17 September, Hyderabad State's Prime Minister Layak Ali and Razakar Militia Chief Qasim Rizvi were arrested. On 23 September, Nizam withdrew his complaint to the Security Council and announced the merger of Hyderabad State with the Indian Union. Major General J N Choudhary was appointed as the Military Governor of Hyderabad. He remained on this post till 1949. On 24 November 1949, Nizam announced that the Constitution of India would be the Constitution of Hyderabad and on



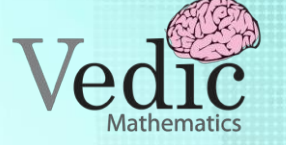
### ➤ 1867: Gaganendranath Tagore was born on 17 September 1867.

Gaganendranath Tagore (17 September 1867 – 14 February 1938) was an Indian painter and



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26 January 1950, Hyderabad State became a regular part of India.



➤ 1994: Jeff Bezos founded the e-commerce website Amazon.

Amazon is an American multinational technology company that focuses on e-commerce, cloud computing, and digital streaming. It has been referred to as "one of the world's most influential economic and cultural forces", and is one of the world's most valuable brands. Amazon was founded by Jeff Bezos from his garage in Bellevue, Washington in 1994. Initially an online marketplace for books, it has expanded into multiple product categories



➤ 2004: European Parliament passes resolution imposing sanctions on Maldives

Expressing its deep concern at the worsening political crisis in the Maldives, the European Parliament through a resolution urged the EU Council to impose targeted sanctions against key officials of the Maldives government and supporters of the local business community.



Important NEWS on 17 SEP

➤ Tirumala Hills, Erra Matti Dibbalu Enter UNESCO Tentative List





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Andhra Pradesh's natural marvels, the Tirumala Hills and the Erra Matti Dibbalu (Red Sand Dunes) near Visakhapatnam, have achieved a major milestone by being added to the UNESCO Tentative List of World Heritage Sites. This crucial first step indicates India's and the state government's intent to ensure long-term preservation of these unique geological and ecological formations.



#### ➤ India Backs UNGA Resolution on Palestine Two-State Solution

In a significant diplomatic development, India voted in favour of a United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution endorsing the "New York Declaration" on the peaceful settlement of the Palestine issue through the two-state solution. The resolution was passed on September, 2025, with 142 countries supporting, 10 opposing, and 12 abstaining. This vote reaffirms India's long-standing position on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, supporting the creation of a sovereign, independent, and viable State of Palestine, coexisting peacefully with a secure State of Israel within recognized borders.



#### ➤ India, Norway Hold First Maritime Security Dialogue

India and Norway convened their inaugural Maritime Security, Disarmament, and Non-Proliferation Dialogue in Oslo on September 2025, marking a significant development in their growing strategic partnership. This dialogue signals a shared commitment to promoting maritime stability, upholding international norms, and enhancing multilateral cooperation on key global security challenges.



#### ➤ Centre Appoints 35 Officers to Joint Secretary Positions Across Key Ministries and Departments





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In a major bureaucratic reshuffle, the Government of India appointed 35 senior civil servants to key administrative roles across various ministries and departments. Among the most notable changes are the appointments of Pawan Kumar Sharma as Deputy Election Commissioner and V Lalithalakshmi as Joint Secretary in the Vice President's Secretariat.



### ➤ India Beats Switzerland, Qualifies for 2026 Davis Cup

India has scripted a remarkable chapter in its tennis history by defeating ninth-seeded Switzerland 3-1 in their Davis Cup 2025 World Group I tie held at the Swiss Tennis Arena in Biel. This win not only earns India a spot in the 2026 Davis Cup Qualifiers, but also ends a 32-year wait for an away win against a European nation.



### ➤ Jaismine Lamboria Wins Gold at World Boxing 2025

In a landmark achievement for Indian boxing, Jaismine Lamboria claimed gold in the 57kg women's category at the 2025 World Boxing Championships in Liverpool, United Kingdom. Her hard-fought 4-1 split decision win over Poland's Julia Szeremeta marked a glorious return to form after her early exit from the Paris Olympics, and firmly established her as one of the top featherweight boxers in the world.



### ➤ Maternal Mortality Ratio of Tamilnadu

Tamil Nadu's maternal mortality ratio (MMR) declined from 38 to 35 per 100,000 live births during the period 2021 to 2023. Tamil Nadu now has







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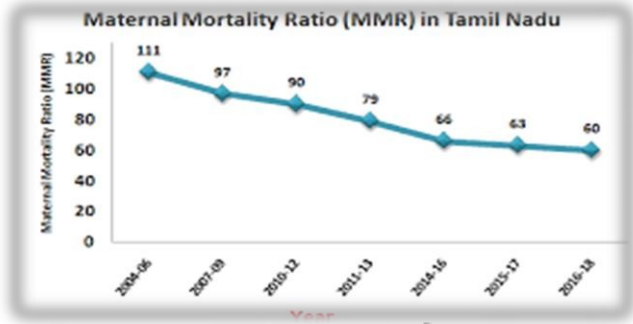
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the second-lowest MMR in India, after Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, which both recorded an MMR of 30. The national MMR stands at 88 per 100,000 live births, as per the Special Bulletin on Maternal Mortality in India 2021–2023.



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**Current affairs MCQS on 17 SEP**

**Q.1. Recently, IIM Ahmedabad has established its first international campus in which city?**

- (a) Abu Dhabi
- (b) Singapore
- (c) Dubai
- (d) London

**Answer: (c) Dubai**

Dubai's Crown Prince Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum along with Indian Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the first international campus of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad at Dubai International Academic City. Senior UAE ministers, including Minister of Cabinet Affairs Mohammad Abdullah Al Gergawi, Minister of State for International Cooperation Reem bint Ibrahim Al Hashimi, and Minister of Education Sara bint Yousif Al Amiri, attended the ceremony. Indian Ambassador to the UAE Sanjay Sudhir and Indian





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Consul General in Dubai Satish Kumar Sivan attended the event along with IIMA officials.

**Q.2. What is the total value of Insurance Surety Bonds (ISBs) issued for NHAI contracts by July 2025?**

- (a) ₹10,369 Crore
- (b) ₹8,500 Crore
- (c) ₹12,000 Crore
- (d) ₹9,200 Crore

**Answer: (a) ₹10,369 Crore**

There has been a major change in India's infrastructure financing landscape as the value of insurance surety bonds (ISBs) issued for National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) contracts has crossed the ₹10,000 crore mark. As of July 2025, 12 insurance companies have issued nearly 1,600 ISBs as bid security and 207 ISBs as performance security, worth a total of ₹10,369 crore.

**Q.3. When and where will the 10th Ayurveda Day 2025 be celebrated for the first time on a fixed date?**

- (a) 28 October 2025, Delhi
- (b) 23 September 2025, Goa
- (c) 05 November 2025, Mount Abu
- (d) 21 June 2025, Varanasi

**Answer: (b) 23 September 2025, Goa**

Ayurveda, India's traditional system of medicine, is going to get a new identity at the global level, as the 10th Ayurveda Day will be celebrated at the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) in Goa on 23 September 2025. The theme this time is - "Ayurveda for people and planet". The event underlines the fact that Ayurveda is not only an effective health solution but also a sustainable lifestyle in line with modern environmental needs.

**Q.4. Recently, during his visit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of development projects worth more than ₹ 71,000 crore in how many states?**

- (a) 5 States
- (b) 4 States
- (c) 6 States

(d) 3 States

**Answer: (a) 5 States**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on a three-day visit to Mizoram, Manipur, Assam, West Bengal and Bihar. During this, he inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of development projects worth more than Rs 71,000 crore. These projects are aimed at promoting regional connectivity, industrial development and inclusive growth.

**Q.5. Recently, which zoological park in collaboration with India Turtle Conservation Program (ITCP) successfully carried out artificial incubation of Asian giant tortoise (Manouria emys phayrei) for the first time?**

- (a) Assam State Zoo
- (b) Manipur Zoological Garden
- (c) Guwahati Zoological Garden
- (d) Mizoram Zoological Garden

**Answer: (b) Manipur Zoological Garden**

In a landmark achievement of wildlife conservation in India, the Manipur Zoological Park (MZG) in collaboration with the India Turtle Conservation Programme (ITCP) has carried out the first successful artificial incubation of Asian giant tortoises (Manouria amys phayrei). A total of 28 hatchlings hatched from a single nest in 2025, marking a significant step towards the conservation of one of the world's most endangered reptile species.

**Q.6. India recently voted in favour of which resolution in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), which is related to the support of "Two-State Solution" on the Israel-Palestine issue?**

- (a) New York Declaration
- (b) Paris Peace Declaration
- (c) Geneva Peace Resolution
- (d) Middle East Peace Charter

**Answer: (a) New York Declaration**

India voted in favour of the UN General Assembly resolution that endorsed the New York Declaration on the peaceful settlement of the Palestine issue and







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the implementation of the two-state solution. Introduced by France, the resolution received overwhelming support – 142 countries voted in favour, 10 against and 12 abstained. Those who voted against included Israel, the United States, Argentina and Hungary.

**Q.7. Indian Navy recently commissioned which Naval Base in Gurugram (Haryana)?**

- (a) INS Vikrant
- (b) INS Kawari
- (c) INS Aravali
- (d) INS Satpura

**Answer: (c) INS Aravali**

INS Aravali has been inducted into the Indian Navy. Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi said in Gurugram that INS Aravali will lay the foundation for strong administrative and logistics management. He said that this is a step towards India's oceanic vision. This will strengthen India's position in the Indo-Pacific region.

**Q.8. What was the retail inflation rate (CPI based) of India in August 2025, released by MoSPI?**

- (a) 2.07%
- (b) 1.61%
- (c) 4.00%
- (d) 2.47%

**Answer: (a) 2.07%**

India's retail inflation rate (CPI-based) rose to 2.07% in August 2025, up 46 basis points from the revised 1.61% in July 2025. Although it has increased, the rate is still well below the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) target of 4%. This provides relief to ordinary households and creates scope for maintaining monetary policy laxity.

**Q.9. What is the total length of the Berabi-Sairang railway line project, which was recently inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi?**

- (a) 31.59 km
- (b) 41.58 km
- (c) 51.38 km
- (d) 61.53 km

**Answer: (c) 51.38 km**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of several development projects worth over Rs 9,000 crore in Mizoram. He also inaugurated the 51.38 km long Bairabi-Sairang railway project and three new trains. This is a historic day for Mizoram as it has been included in the railway map of India. Prime Minister Modi flagged off three trains on the occasion.

**Q.10. What is the total estimated cost of the Great Nicobar Island Project, which Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently described as a project of "strategic, defence and national importance"?**

- (a) ₹72,000 crore
- (b) ₹52,000 crore
- (c) ₹62,000 crore
- (d) ₹82,000 crore

**Answer: (a) ₹72,000 crore**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has lauded the Great Nicobar Island Project, calling it a historic initiative that will transform the island into a major maritime and air connectivity hub in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). Describing it as a project of "strategic, defence and national importance", he shared an article by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav detailing the integrated development plan and its ecological safeguards. The project, costing ₹72,000 crore, will be completed in a phased manner over 30 years.

**Q.11. Which is the first indigenously integrated 3D air surveillance radar commissioned by the Indian Navy recently?**

- (a) Lanza-N
- (b) Rohini
- (c) Arudhra
- (d) Revathi

**Answer: (a) Lanza-N**

The Indian Navy has deployed its first 3D air surveillance radar (3D-ASR) on a warship. The radar, called Lanza-N, has been developed by Tata





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Advanced Systems in collaboration with Spanish defence company Indra. This is the first time Lanza-N is operational outside Spain. Tata Advanced Systems has become the first Indian company to manufacture and integrate next-generation naval surveillance radars. The radar has successfully passed sea trials with naval and air platforms at various radar cross-sections. A radar assembly and testing facility has been set up in Karnataka to expedite supplies. Lanza-N can detect drones, supersonic fighter aircraft, anti-radiation missiles and naval platforms.

**Q.12. According to Union Minister Nitin Gadkari recently, ARAI is investigating the possibility of 10% blending in diesel with which compound?**

- (a) Isobutanol
- (b) Ethanol
- (c) Methanol
- (d) Biodiesel

**Answer: (a) Isobutanol**

Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari said the Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) is exploring the possibility of blending 10% isobutanol in diesel. Addressing the annual conference of the India Sugar and Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA), Mr Gadkari said trials of blending one-tenth ethanol in diesel were not successful, but apart from isobutanol blending, its possible independent use is also being explored. Isobutanol is a flammable alcohol-based compound and is commonly used as a solvent in various industries, including paints and coatings. Mr Gadkari's announcement comes amid sharp criticism of the government over blending 20% ethanol in petrol.

**Q.13. "Sarcoidosis", which was in news recently, is which type of disease?**

- (a) Autoimmune inflammatory disease
- (b) Nutritional deficiency disorder
- (c) Neurological disorder
- (d) None of the above

**Answer: (a) Autoimmune inflammatory disease**

Recently, a study published in Nature Reviews Disease Primers took a closer look at sarcoidosis. Sarcoidosis is an inflammatory disease in which immune cells form granulomas in organs, primarily the lungs. Granulomas are most common in the lungs and lymph nodes, but can also affect the eyes, skin, heart and other organs. Its exact cause is unknown, but it is associated with genetic changes and triggers such as bacteria, viruses, dust or chemicals. Symptoms can range from mild to severe, including cough, shortness of breath, shin splints, eye pain and redness. Some cases resolve on their own, while others become chronic and can lead to fibrosis with scarring in the lungs. There is no cure, but treatment with drugs reduces the immune response and prevents damage to organs.

**Q.14. Recently, the Indian Army conducted which major regional exercise focused on drone technology in the forward areas of Arunachal Pradesh?**

- (a) Abhyas Prahar
- (b) Operation Vijay Shakti
- (c) Exercise Siyom Prahar
- (d) Operation Gagan Shakti

**Answer: (c) Exercise Siyom Prahar**

The Indian Army recently conducted the "Siyom Prahar" exercise in Arunachal Pradesh. The aim of this major field training exercise was to validate the use of drone technology in modern tactical operations. Conducted under realistic battlefield conditions, the exercise proved to be an important milestone in enhancing operational preparedness by integrating drones in various combat roles.

**Q.15. What is the name of the new bent-toed lizard species recently discovered in the mountain forests of Dima Hasao district of Assam?**

- (a) Cyrtodactylus vanarakshaka
- (b) Cyrtodactylus arunachali
- (c) Cyrtodactylus khasiensis
- (d) Cyrtodactylus himalayanus

**Answer: (a) Cyrtodactylus vanarakshaka**







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The biodiversity of India's north-eastern state of Assam has once again become the centre of global attention. Scientists have discovered a new species of curved-toed lizard, *Cyrtodactylus vanarakshaka*, in the hill forests of Assam's Dima Hasao district. The species has been named in honour of the Assam Forest Department, which has played a key role in conserving the state's biodiversity over the years.

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