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Today in History on 20 SEP

➤ a1388: Death of Firoz Tughlaq III, Sultan of Delhi.

Death of Firoz Tughlaq III, Sultan of Delhi in the year 1388. Sultan Firoz Shah Tughlaq was a Muslim ruler of the Tughlaq dynasty, who ruled the Delhi Sultanate from 1351 to 1388. After the death of Firoz Shah Tughlaq, Abu Bakr Shah took power in the year 1389, but he also died within a year.



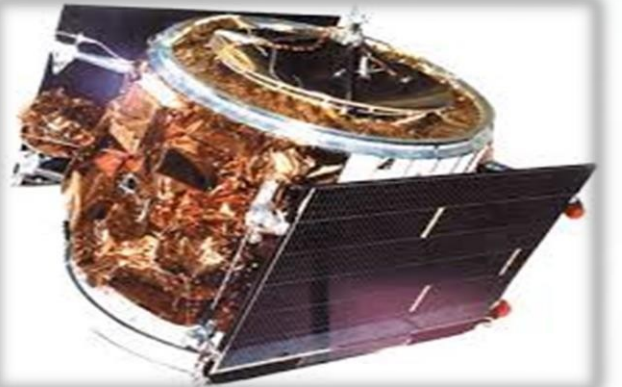
➤ 1831: The first steam-powered bus was built.

The first steam-powered bus was built in 1831. In 1831, Gordon Bronze of Britain built the first steam-powered bus. This slow-moving bus could carry 30 passengers at a time. The first bus service in our country was started in Mumbai.



➤ 1983: APPLE communication satellite stopped working.

In the year 1983, APPLE communication satellite stopped working. In 1981, India launched APPLE satellite. It was the country's first communication satellite. The INSAT series is the largest domestic communication system in the Asia Pacific region. It is used in broadcasting, telecommunications, meteorology and search and rescue operations.



➤ 1995: 50th session of the United Nations General Assembly begins.





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The 50th session of the United Nations General Assembly begins in 1995. It took place on 1995 at United Nations Headquarters in New York City during the 50th session of the United Nations General Assembly. The United Nations General Assembly is one of the six organs of the United Nations and is the only comprehensive institution in which all UN member nations are equally represented. This assembly meets every year with representatives from all member countries. One of these representatives is elected as the President. Since the General Assembly is the only major organ in which all member countries are involved, its conferences are mostly a forum for controversy.

been the President of Kharar Municipal Council twice. Punjab has had fifteen Chief Ministers since 1947. The first was Gopi Chand Bhargava of the Indian National Congress party, who was sworn in on 15 August 1947, when India gained independence from the British.



Important NEWS on 20 SEP



➤ 2021: Charanjit Singh Channi became the 16th Chief Minister of Punjab.

In the year 2021, Charanjit Singh Channi became the 16th Chief Minister of Punjab. Charanjit Singh Channi is a Punjabi politician and has been the Chief Minister of Punjab. He is a member of the Indian National Congress. He has been a member of the Punjab Legislative Assembly since 2007 and has also

➤ India To Establishes Satellite Tracking Station Near Diego Garcia

India and Mauritius have signed a landmark agreement to establish a satellite tracking and communication station near the US-UK military base Diego Garcia in the Chagos archipelago. This move enhances India's strategic presence in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) amid rising Chinese maritime activities. The pact, signed during Mauritius PM Navinchandra Ramgoolam's visit to India, enables India to track and receive data from its satellites and launch vehicles using this facility.





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➤ Election Commission Revamps EVM Ballot Paper Design

In a major step toward improving the voting experience and ballot clarity, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has announced a revision in the design of Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) Ballot Papers. The updated guidelines focus on enhanced visibility, uniformity, and readability to benefit voters across India. This change is part of a broader set of 28 initiatives introduced by the Election Commission in the past six months, aimed at streamlining electoral processes and making voting more accessible and user-friendly.



➤ MNRE Launches India's First National Geothermal Energy Policy

In a landmark step towards expanding India's clean energy portfolio, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has launched the National Geothermal Energy Policy. This is India's first policy dedicated to harnessing geothermal energy — a renewable energy source derived from the Earth's internal heat. The initiative is a significant push towards Net Zero emissions, enhancing energy security, and promoting clean energy innovation.



➤ South Korea, US Reaffirm Goal of Korean Peninsula Denuclearisation

Amid rising global tensions and regional security concerns, South Korea and the United States have reaffirmed their commitment to the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula. The statement came from South Korea's National Security Adviser Wi Sung-lac, who emphasized that the denuclearisation objective remains firm—regardless of North Korea's stance.





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➤ Dr Sima Bahous Begins Second Term at UN Women

On September 2025, Dr Sima Sami Bahous was reappointed by UN Secretary-General António Guterres for a second term as Executive Director of UN Women. Her reappointment comes at a crucial time as the organization prepares to implement its newly approved Strategic Plan for 2026–2029.



➤ Central Zone Wins Duleep Trophy After 11 Years Under Patidar

Central Zone emerged as champions of the 2025 Duleep Trophy, beating South Zone by 6 wickets in a high-quality final. The match, held at the BCCI Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru, marked Central Zone's

first title since 2014–15, ending an 11-year wait under the inspired leadership of Rajat Patidar. Patidar, who recently led Royal Challengers Bengaluru to their first IPL title, added another feather to his cap by guiding his zonal side to domestic glory.



➤ Capacity of Stanley Reservoir

The Stanley Reservoir at Mettur attained its Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of 120 feet for the sixth time in 2025 on September. The dam first reached full capacity on June 29, 2025, due to heavy rainfall in the catchment areas. The dam subsequently reached full level on July 5, July 20, July 25, and August 20, before filling again in September.





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Current affairs MCQS on 20 SEP

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Q.1. In which city did Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurate the 16th Combined Commanders' Conference?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Pune
- (c) Kolkata
- (d) Lucknow

Answer: (c) Kolkata

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Kolkata on a two-day visit, where he will inaugurate the 16th Combined Commanders' Conference. He will inaugurate the conference at the Indian Army's Eastern Command headquarters located at Vijay Durg, formerly known as Fort William. The Combined Commanders' Conference is the highest brainstorming forum of the armed forces, bringing together the country's top civilian and military leadership to exchange views at the conceptual and strategic levels.

Q.2. How many new natural sites has India recently added to the Tentative List of UNESCO World Heritage Sites?

- (a) 7
- (b) 5
- (c) 6
- (d) 9

Answer: (a) 7

India has taken a significant step towards strengthening global recognition of its cultural and natural heritage. India's Permanent Delegation to UNESCO has announced that seven new sites have been added to the Tentative List of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. This move brings India's total number of entries on the list to 69, including 49 cultural, 3 mixed and 17 natural heritage sites.

Q.3. India's newly dedicated indigenous Diving Support Vessel (DSV) – INS Nistor – recently participated in the multinational Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 held in which country?

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- (a) Japan
- (b) Australia
- (c) Singapore
- (d) Indonesia

Answer:(c) Singapore

India's newly-dedicated indigenous Diving Support Vessel (DSV) - INS Nistor made her maiden port call at Changi Naval Base, Singapore and participated in the multinational Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 (XPR 25). The exercise formally commenced and marks a significant moment in India's growing contribution to maritime security and international naval cooperation.

Q.4. Which retired IAS officer was recently appointed as the Secretary to Vice President C.P. Rathakrishnan by the government?

- (a) Amit Khare
- (b) Rajiv Gauba
- (c) Alok Verma
- (d) Anil Swarup

Answer:(a) Amit Khare

Retired IAS officer Amit Khare, currently advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has been appointed secretary to Vice President (VP) CP Radhakrishnan. According to a government order, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Khare, a retired 1985 batch officer of Jharkhand cadre, on a three-year contract basis.

Q.5 Who was recently sworn in as the Governor of Maharashtra?

- (a) Jagdeep Dhankhar
- (b) C.P. Radhakrishnan
- (c) Acharya Devvrat
- (d) Thawar Chand Gehlot

Answer:(c) Acharya Devvrat

Chief Justice Chandrashekhkar of the Bombay High Court administered the oath of office to Acharya Devvrat at the Raj Bhavan in Mumbai. Acharya Devvrat took the oath in Sanskrit. He is the 22nd Governor of Maharashtra. He succeeds C.P.

Radhakrishnan, who has been elected Vice President of India.

Q.6 Who recently became the new lead sponsor of the Indian cricket team, winning a three-year deal worth ₹579 crore?

- (a) Apollo Tyres
- (b) Canva
- (c) J.K. JK Cements
- (d) Dream 11

Answer:(a) Apollo Tyres

In a major business development, Apollo Tyres has secured the role of title sponsor of the Indian cricket team, winning the highly competitive BCCI bidding process. The announced deal, worth ₹579 crore, marks a new chapter in Team India's branding journey, covering 121 bilateral matches and 21 ICC matches over the next three years.

Q.7. Who were the winners of the open and women's categories at the recent 2025 FIDE Grand Swiss and Women's Grand Swiss, held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan?

- (a) Anish Giri and Vaishali Rameshbabu
- (b) Alireza Firouzja and Kateryna Lagno
- (c) Vidit Gujrathi and Tan Zhongyi
- (d) Hikaru Nakamura and Bibisara Assaubayeva

Answer:(a) Anish Giri and Vaishali Rameshbabu

Dutch Grandmaster Anish Giri and German Grandmaster Mathis Blübaum have secured their places in the Open, while Indian Grandmaster Vaishali Rameshbabu has secured a spot in the Women's Candidates for the second consecutive time by winning the Grand Swiss Champion title. She will be joined by Russian Grandmaster Kateryna Lagno, who finished second to Vaishali on tiebreak.

Q.8. Where was India's largest and most modern sports complex recently inaugurated?

- (a) Lucknow
- (b) Bhopal
- (c) Naranpura, Ahmedabad
- (d) Chandigarh





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Answer:(c) Naranpura, Ahmedabad

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated India's largest and state-of-the-art sports complex in Naranpura, Ahmedabad. The occasion is being considered a historic milestone in India's sports sector, in line with the government's vision of making India a leading sporting powerhouse by 2047.

Q.9. Which state government recently launched India's first Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) Index?

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Maharashtra

Answer:(b) Uttar Pradesh

The WEE Index (Women's Economic Empowerment Index), launched by Uttar Pradesh, is the country's first district-level tool to systematically track women's participation in the economy. The index collects gender-based data from 75 districts in Uttar Pradesh and highlights critical gaps overlooked in traditional statistics.

Q.10. Where was the second national conference of Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) heads from states and union territories across the country recently held?

- (a) Ahmedabad
- (b) Lucknow
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Mumbai

Answer:(c) New Delhi

The second National Conference of Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) heads from states and union territories across the country concluded in New Delhi. All states and union territories reiterated their shared responsibility and collective resolve to achieve the goal of a drug-free India by 2047.

Q.11. The recently discussed Natron Lake is located on the border of which two countries?

- (a) Kenya and Uganda
- (b) Tanzania and Kenya
- (c) Ethiopia and Kenya
- (d) Tanzania and Mozambique

Answer:(b) Tanzania and Kenya

Recently, Tanzania halted a large-scale soda ash mining project at Lake Natron to protect its ecosystem. Lake Natron is a saltwater lake located on the Tanzania-Kenya border, part of the Great Rift Valley. It was declared a Ramsar site of international importance in 2001. It is the only reliable breeding ground for the Lesser Flamingo in Africa, home to 75% of the world's population.

Q.12. The red coral kukri snake was recently discovered near which tiger reserve in Uttar Pradesh?

- (a) Dudhwa Tiger Reserve
- (b) Pilibhit Tiger Reserve
- (c) Amangarh Tiger Reserve
- (d) Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary

Answer:(b) Pilibhit Tiger Reserve

Recently, a rare red coral kukri snake (*Oligodon kheriensis*), last reported in 1936, was found trapped in a snare near the Pilibhit Tiger Reserve in Uttar Pradesh. It is non-venomous, nocturnal, and fossorial, with sharp, curved teeth resembling kukri (Nepali knives). Its body is bright coral-red, with a yellow or pink underside, and its head is small and pointed. It is found in the Himalayan foothills of Uttarakhand, Nepal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Sikkim, and western Assam.

Q.13. Which countries initiated the trilateral exercise 'Freedom Edge'?

- (a) South Korea, United States, Japan
- (b) China, United States, Australia
- (c) United States, Japan, Philippines
- (d) Japan, South Korea, India

Answer:(a) South Korea, United States, Japan

Recently, South Korea, the United States, and Japan began their five-day trilateral multi-domain exercise "Freedom Edge" in international waters near Jeju





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Island. This is the third round of the exercises, with previous ones held in June and November 2024. This is the first such exercise under the leadership of South Korean President Lee Jae-myung and US President Donald Trump. The exercises focused on ballistic missile defense, air defense, medical evacuation, and maritime interception training. It aims to promote interoperability and strengthen trilateral security cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.

Q.14. Which district of Bihar received first place in the Ministry of Science and Technology's INSPIRE Award Scheme?

- (a) Bhagalpur
- (b) Gaya
- (c) Muzaffarpur
- (d) Darbhanga

Answer:(c) Muzaffarpur

Recently, Muzaffarpur district in Bihar secured first place in the INSPIRE Award Scheme of the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India. A record 7,403 students submitted innovative ideas, surpassing Bengaluru Urban (7,306) and Bagalkot (6,826) in Karnataka. Under INSPIRE, students from classes 6 to 10 are awarded ₹10,000 for developing innovative models, which are then showcased at a national-level exhibition (NLEPC). The top 60 selected ideas are displayed at Rashtrapati Bhavan, where the President felicitates the students. The ideas must be innovative, practical, socially useful, and environment-friendly, such as water conservation, renewable energy, pollution control, and assistive devices.

Q.15. What is India's rank in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2025?

- (a) 25th
- (b) 38th
- (c) 47th
- (d) 56th

Answer:(b) 38th

India has improved significantly to 38th place in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2025, a report published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). India was ranked 48th in 2020, a jump of 10 places in five years. India also ranks first among low-middle income countries and the Central and South Asia region.

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