



# **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**> 24 SEPTEMBER 2025**

## NATIONAL AFFAIRS

### 1. PM Narendra Modi Inaugurates and Lays Foundation Stones for Projects Worth Over Rs.34,200 Crore in Gujarat and India on September 20, 2025.



On September 20, 2025, Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi visited Gujarat to launch development projects worth more than Rs.34,200 crore. The projects covered ports, energy, health, highways, heritage, and industrial zones, with Gujarat as a major focus along with nationwide maritime initiatives.

- PM Narendra Modi addressed the “Samudra Se Samridhi” event in Bhavnagar, Gujarat. He highlighted the importance of port-led economic growth, maritime connectivity, and Gujarat’s increasing role as a hub for both industrial development and heritage-based progress.

- Across Gujarat, PM Modi inaugurated and laid foundation stones for projects worth Rs.26,354 crore. These projects covered multiple sectors including infrastructure, renewable energy, healthcare, highways, and heritage development in Bhavnagar, Dholera, Lothal, Somnath, Vadodara, and Kutch.

- PM Modi inaugurated the Hindustan Petroleum Liquefied Natural Gas (HPLNG)

Regasification Terminal at Chhara Port (Somnath), the Acrylics and Oxo Alcohol Project at Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) Refinery (Vadodara), the 45-Megawatt (MW) Badeli Solar Photo Voltaic (PV) Project, and fully solarised Dhordo village in Kutch, recognised by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) as the Best Tourism Village.

#### Key Points:-

(i) In Bhavnagar, projects worth Rs.5,200 crore were launched. These included the foundation stone of the world’s first Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Terminal, the development of a brownfield port, and the expansion of Sir T. General Hospital, all aimed at improving port facilities, healthcare services, and clean energy adoption.

(ii) PM Modi virtually inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for maritime projects worth over Rs.7,870 crore across India. He also dedicated 21 MoUs valued at Rs.66,025 crore under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW).

(iii) A major highlight was the inauguration of the Mumbai International Cruise Terminal (MICT), India’s largest cruise terminal, constructed at a cost of Rs.556 crore at Indira Dock in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

### 2. Union Minister Piyush Goyal Launches Six Key Initiatives and Releases India’s First Coloured Coin to Mark 10 Years of Make in India.





In September 2025, Union Minister Piyush Goyal, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I), launched six major initiatives and released a Rs.100 commemorative coin, India's first-ever coloured coin, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Make in India initiative.

- The initiatives aim to boost logistics efficiency, industrial competitiveness, and infrastructure development.

- Prepared by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) for the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I), the report estimates logistics costs by transport mode, product type, and firm size, including freight cost per tonne-kilometre.

- Developed by DPIIT, MoC&I with support from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), IPRS 3.0 enhances competitiveness by ranking industrial parks based on performance and aims to strengthen India's industrial infrastructure ecosystem.

#### Key Points:-

(i) Created by NICDC Logistics Data Services (NLDSL), LDB 2.0 offers real-time export container tracking and multimodal

shipment visibility.

(ii) This annual survey evaluates logistics performance across States and Union Territories (UTs). LEADS 2025 introduced new features to benchmark state logistics capacity, aligning with India's vision of becoming a globally competitive logistics hub.

(iii) Piyush Goyal released a guidebook mapping 12,167 Harmonized System of Nomenclature (HSN) codes across 31 Ministries and Departments. The Government of India also launched State and City Logistics Plans (S&CLP) under the SMILE (Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise) programme with Asian Development Bank (ADB) support, starting with eight cities in eight states.

### 3. Department of Consumer Affairs Launches Dedicated GST Grievance Category on National Consumer Helpline.



In September 2025, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DOCA), Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (MoCAF&PD), launched a dedicated Goods and Services Tax (GST) grievance category on the National

Consumer Helpline (NCH) to address consumer complaints ahead of the Next-Gen GST Reforms 2025, effective from September 22, 2025.

- A dedicated category for GST-related consumer grievances has been introduced on the Integrated Grievance Redressal Mechanism (INGRAM) portal under the NCH to streamline complaint registration and resolution.
- The GST grievance category encompasses complaints from key sectors including Automobiles, Banking, Consumer Durables, E-commerce (electronic commerce), Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG), and other relevant industries.

#### Key Points:-

- Consumers can register complaints via toll-free number 1915, NCH app, web portal, WhatsApp, SMS, email, and UMANG (Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance) app.
- Complaints can be lodged in any of 17 Indian regional languages, including Hindi, English, Kashmiri, Punjabi, Nepali, Gujarati, Marathi, Kannada, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Maithili, Santhali, Bengali, Odia, Assamese, and Manipuri.
- Each complaint is assigned a unique docket number for transparent tracking. The data is shared with companies, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), and other authorities to ensure accountability and timely resolution.

#### 4. PM Narendra Modi Inaugurates Redeveloped 524-Year-Old Mata Tripura Sundari Temple under PRASHAD Scheme in Tripura.



On September 22, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the redeveloped Mata Tripura Sundari Temple, one of the 51 Shakti Peethas, in Udaipur, Tripura. The project was executed under the PRASHAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive) scheme at a cost exceeding ₹54 crore.

- The ₹54 crore redevelopment was funded jointly, with ₹34.43 crore contributed by the Union Government and ₹17.61 crore by the Tripura Government under the Ministry of Tourism's PRASHAD scheme.
- This marked PM Modi's 11th visit to Tripura and his second visit to the shrine since 2014. He participated in a 12-km roadshow, offered puja, and visited an exhibition on the temple's history and royal traditions, alongside Governor Indra Sena Reddy Nallu and CM Manik Saha.
- Built in 1501 by Maharaja Dhanya Manikya, the temple is one of the holiest Shakti Peethas. Its sanctum is designed in the Bengali Ek-Ratna style and situated on a hillock shaped like a tortoise's hump, known as Kurma Pīṭha. It houses two black stone idols of Goddess Tripura Sundari and Goddess Chandi.

#### Key Points:-

- The temple is renowned for its annual

Diwali Mela that draws lakhs of devotees. With redevelopment, daily pilgrim footfall is projected to rise from 3,000–3,500 to 5,000–7,000, boosting local employment and benefitting hoteliers, guides, transporters, and vendors.

(ii) The temple's cultural identity received a major boost with the granting of the Geographical Indication (GI) tag to Matabari Peda, the sweet offered as prasad. This adds to the temple's heritage and strengthens its recognition at the national level.

## INTERNATIONAL

### 1. India and Greece Conduct First Bilateral Maritime Exercise in the Mediterranean.



The inaugural bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy (IN) and the Hellenic Navy (HN) was held from September 13 to 18, 2025, at Salamis Naval Base, Greece, and in the Mediterranean Sea, marking a significant milestone in defence cooperation and strategic maritime partnership between India and Greece.

- The Indian Navy was represented by INS Trikan, a guided missile stealth frigate, while the Hellenic Navy participated with HS

Themistokles, an Elli-class frigate, enhancing bilateral naval interoperability and operational familiarity.

- This phase included cross-deck visits, professional interactions among crew members, and a pre-sail conference aboard HS Themistokles.

- Cultural exchange events were conducted onboard INS Trikan, attended by Indian Ambassador Rudrendra Tandon, and included a visit to the Sacred Rock of the Acropolis.

#### Key Points:-

(i) Tactical exercises conducted at sea comprised night-time Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure (VBSS) operations, replenishment-at-sea procedures, joint Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) operations, coordinated gunfire exercises, and cross-deck helicopter operations.

(ii) The exercise strengthened maritime security cooperation, enhanced operational coordination, and promoted mutual understanding of naval procedures, contributing to regional stability and deepening India-Greece defence ties.

### 2. BBNJ High Seas Treaty to Come into Force on 17 January 2026 After Securing 60 Ratifications.





On September 19, 2025, the Agreement under the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ agreement) achieved 60 ratifications, followed by Morocco. The treaty, also called the High Seas Treaty, will officially come into force on 17 January 2026.

- The BBNJ Treaty, the first legally binding framework for high-seas biodiversity (covering two-thirds of oceans), focuses on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA), equitable benefit-sharing of marine genetic resources, and scientific cooperation.

- As of September 2025, the BBNJ Agreement has been signed by 145 countries and ratified by 61 countries, with Morocco being the latest to ratify. The ratification threshold of 60 countries is required for the treaty to enter into force.

#### Key Points:-

- (i) India signed the BBNJ Treaty on September 25, 2024, demonstrating support for marine biodiversity conservation, but has not yet completed the ratification process.
- (ii) Following the 60th ratification, the treaty will enter into force on 17 January 2026, 120

days after meeting the minimum threshold for legal enforcement, allowing countries to implement its provisions.

(iii) The BBNJ Treaty represents a historic milestone in international maritime law, providing a comprehensive framework to conserve high-seas biodiversity, regulate sustainable use, and ensure equitable benefit-sharing for all nations, reinforcing global marine environmental governance.

### 3. ICAR Launches Maitri 2.0 Brazil-India Cross-Incubation Programme in Agritech to Strengthen Bilateral Innovation and Food Security.



In September 2025, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) launched the second edition of the Brazil-India Cross-Incubation Programme in Agritech, named Maitri 2.0, in New Delhi. The initiative aims to foster innovation-driven growth, agritech collaboration, and strengthen India-Brazil agricultural partnerships.

- Maitri 2.0 is designed as a two-way learning and co-creation platform to strengthen incubator linkages, exchange best practices, and promote co-incubation in agritech. It focuses on digital technologies, sustainable agriculture, and

value-chain development to address global food and nutritional security challenges.

- The launch event was graced by Dr. M. L. Jat, Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR), Kenneth Nobrega, Ambassador of Brazil to India, senior ICAR officials, and representatives from leading Brazilian research and innovation institutions, reflecting high-level bilateral cooperation.

- Dr. Jat highlighted the 77-year-long India–Brazil agricultural partnership and their shared roles in BRICS and G20. He also termed the recent ICAR–EMBRAPA MoU a milestone in advancing bilateral collaboration across the agri-food value chain, further cementing their strategic partnership.

#### Key Points:-

- (i) ICAR has transformed from producing just 74 patents in 1996 to over 1,800 annually today, supported by incubation centers and over 5,000 licensing agreements.
- (ii) This reflects ICAR's strong role in delivering publicly funded innovations to end-users and supporting over 400 agri-startups.
- (iii) Ambassador Nobrega emphasized Maitri 2.0 as strategically important for creating synergies in agritech and food security, while ICAR officials underscored the need to view agriculture as both livelihood and business.

## MOUs and Agreement

**1. Ministry of Rural Development Signs MoUs with NIRD&PR and Four States to Strengthen DAY-NRLM Interventions.**



In September 2025, the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) signed five Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR) and the State Rural Livelihoods Missions (SRLMs) of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Telangana to strengthen interventions under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana–National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).

- The MoUs were signed by T.K. Anil Kumar, Additional Secretary, MoRD, with Dr. Vanishree Joseph, Director, NRLM Resource Cell, NIRD&PR, and representatives of the four SRLMs.

- The primary objective of the MoUs is to enhance community institutions, improve livelihood opportunities, promote digital innovations, and deepen social inclusion for rural households under DAY-NRLM.

- NIRD&PR will provide strategic and technical support through leadership training, capacity building, creation of a resource pool, and systematic documentation of best practices to scale up rural development interventions.

#### Key Points:-

- (i) The SRLMs of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Telangana have been designated as National Resource

Organisations (NROs) for their pioneering role in digitisation and rural livelihood innovations.

(ii) The collaboration will strengthen digital governance and livelihood linkages by leveraging the LokOS (Lok = People, OS = Operating System) platform to streamline operations and ensure transparency in Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and their federations.

## 2. IIT Kanpur and Vietnam National University Sign MoU to Boost Academic and Research Collaboration.



**Introduction:** In September 2025, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, and Vietnam National University (VNU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to foster academic and research collaboration.

- The agreement was formalized during a visit by a VNU delegation including Dr. Nguyen Thu Huong (Vice Rector), Prof. Nguyen Dinh Duc (Dean, Faculty of Civil Engineering), and Dr. Tran Quoc Quan (Lecturer).

- The agreement establishes a formal framework to facilitate collaborative research, academic exchange, and scientific development

on a reciprocal basis between IIT Kanpur and VNU.

- The MoU focuses on Artificial Intelligence (AI) for healthcare and education, infrastructure monitoring, material science innovations, and drone technology, aiming to advance research and technological development in these critical sectors.

### Key Points:-

(i) The MoU formalizes joint initiatives including research projects, academic exchanges, and scientific development programs in science and engineering, promoting a long-term partnership between the two institutions.

(ii) Researchers, faculty members, and students at both IIT Kanpur and VNU will benefit from enhanced knowledge exchange, exposure to advanced research methodologies, and opportunities for innovation-driven collaborations.

## 3. NTPC Limited Signs MoU with Saudi Electricity Company to Strengthen Electricity Sector Cooperation.



In September 2025, NTPC Limited, formerly National Thermal Power Corporation and an



Indian Public Sector Undertaking (PSU), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Saudi Electricity Company (SEC) to enhance technical collaboration and knowledge exchange in the electricity sector.

- The agreement was signed by Dr. Jatinder Singh Chandok, General Manager and Head of International Business Development, NTPC, and Eng. Abdulrahman AlRehaimi, Executive Vice President of Generation, SEC.
- The MoU focuses on cooperation in power plant operation and maintenance, modernization, development, procurement, engineering services, and project management, aiming to improve efficiency and technological standards in electricity generation.
- A key feature of the agreement is the creation of a Joint Venture (JV) company between NTPC and SEC to provide power plant services in the Middle East, facilitating collaboration on operations, investments, and technical expertise.

#### Key Points:-

- The MoU promotes structured knowledge exchange programs and joint investment initiatives in new electricity projects, enhancing research, innovation, and project execution capabilities between the two companies.
- The collaboration aligns with India's Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) initiative and Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, supporting economic diversification, strengthening non-oil sectors, and advancing power and renewable energy development.

## APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

### 1. Amita Chaudhary Appointed as Chair of UNEP FI Principles for Sustainable Insurance, Becomes First Indian-Origin Woman to Lead Global Board.



In September 2025, the United Nations (UN) appointed Amita Chaudhary, Group Head of Sustainability at American International Assurance Company (AIA), as Chair of the United Nations Environment Programme Financial Initiative (UNEP FI) Principles for Sustainable Insurance (PSI). She became the first woman of Indian origin to lead the Global Sustainable Insurance Board.

- Amita Chaudhary brings over 20 years of leadership experience across Singapore, the United Kingdom, and India. She is internationally recognized for promoting sustainability, diversity, and business transformation across global organizations.
- Since 2021, Amita has led AIA's sustainability strategy, integrating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) considerations into operations and investments, reinforcing the company's commitment to responsible business practices.
- Before joining AIA, she served as Global Director for Sustainable Business and Diversity at Unilever, was Senior Advisor for Sustainability

at the UN Global Compact, and Board Member and Vice-Chair of PSI since January 2024.

#### Key Points:-

- (i) The Principles for Sustainable Insurance (PSI), established in 2012 under UNEP FI, is a global governance body overseeing sustainable insurance practices.
- (ii) The PSI Board consists of up to 15 members, with a maximum of 14 senior officers elected from PSI signatory institutions, guiding the strategic direction of the initiative.

## SPORTS

### 1. 20th World Athletics Championships 2025 Held in Tokyo, Japan; USA Tops Medal Table



The 20th edition of the World Athletics (WA) Championships was recently organised at the Japan National Stadium, Tokyo, Japan, from September 13 to 21, 2025. The championship featured 49 athletic events with participation from 198 nations, showcasing the world's top talent in track and field.

- The championships were held at the Japan National Stadium, Tokyo, marking the third time Japan hosted the event after the 1991 and 2007

editions. The stadium is equipped with world-class athletic facilities, accommodating a range of track and field competitions including sprints, distance races, jumps, throws, and relay events.

- The event witnessed participation from 2,202 athletes representing 198 nations. Competitors took part in 49 events, covering both men's and women's categories in track, field, and combined events, testing speed, endurance, strength, and skill.
- Athletes qualified for the 2025 edition through the 2025 World Athletics Relays held in Guangzhou, China. The top 14 relay teams in each category secured their spots for the Tokyo championships, ensuring a high level of competition in relay events.

#### Key Points:-

- (i) The United States of America (USA) dominated the championships, finishing first in the medal tally with a total of 26 medals: 16 gold, 5 silver, and 5 bronze. Kenya secured second place with 11 medals (7 gold, 2 silver, 2 bronze), while Canada ranked third with 6 medals (3 gold, 1 silver, 2 bronze). Host nation Japan won 2 bronze medals, finishing 40th overall.
- (ii) India marked a historic achievement in high jump as Sarvesh Anil Kushare finished 6th in the men's high jump final with a personal best of 2.28m. He became the first Indian high jumper to reach a final at the World Athletics Championships, highlighting the country's emerging presence in global athletics.
- (iii) The 21st World Athletics Championships is scheduled to be held in Beijing, China, in 2027. With increasing global participation and improved performance from nations like India, the event continues to serve as a

platform for rising talents and established athletes to showcase their skills on an international stage.

## 2. 73rd Inline Speed Skating World Championships 2025 Held in Beidaihe, China.



The 73rd edition of the Inline Speed Skating World Championships was recently organised by World Skate and held at Beidaihe, China, from September 13 to 21, 2025. The championship featured both track and road competitions, witnessing participation from over 40 nations.

- The championship took place at the Beidaihe International Roller Skating Center, which includes a 200m indoor track and an outdoor road circuit. Both track and road events were conducted to test speed and endurance across multiple disciplines.

- Over 40 nations participated in this edition. Athletes and officials from Russia and Belarus were barred from competing due to the ongoing geopolitical situation, affecting the competitive landscape.

- Colombia dominated the championship, finishing first in the overall medal table with a total of 44 medals, comprising 20 gold, 16 silver,

and 8 bronze. Italy ranked second with 18 medals, followed by Chile (6), Ecuador (4), and India (5).

### Key Points:-

(i) India showcased its best-ever result at the championships. The Indian team delivered a dominant performance with multiple medals, highlighting the country's growing prowess in inline speed skating.

(ii) Key Indian performers included Anandkumar Velkumar, who won gold in Senior Men's 1000m and 42 km marathon, and bronze in 500 m sprint. Krish Sharma clinched gold in Junior Men's 1000m sprint, while Anish Raj secured bronze in the Junior one-lap road sprint. These performances underscore India's emerging talent in the sport.

## 3. Max Verstappen Wins 8th Edition of F1 Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2025 in Baku.



On September 21, 2025, Max Verstappen, a Belgian-Dutch driver representing Austria-based Red Bull Racing, won the 8th Edition of Formula One (F1) Azerbaijan Grand Prix (GP), officially titled as Qatar Airways F1 Azerbaijan GP 2025, held at the Baku City Circuit, Azerbaijan.



- The win marked Verstappen's second consecutive victory in 2025 and his fourth overall this season after Italian GP, Emilia Romagna GP, and Japanese GP.

- Verstappen achieved his 6th career Grand Slam, starting from pole, leading all 51 laps, winning the race, and recording the fastest lap — his first Grand Slam since the 2024 Bahrain GP.

- With this, Verstappen equalled Lewis Hamilton's 6 career Grand Slams, placing him joint second in F1 history, behind Jim Clark with 8.

#### Key Points:-

(i) George Russell (Mercedes, UK) finished second, while Carlos Sainz Jr. (Ferrari, Spain) came third, marking Williams' first podium finish since the 2021 Belgian GP.

(ii) McLaren struggled as Oscar Piastri (Australia) crashed on Lap 1, marking his first retirement since the 2023 US GP, while teammate Lando Norris finished 7th and reduced his Driver's Championship deficit.

(iii) The Baku City Circuit, first hosting a Grand Prix in 2016 as the European GP, featured a 6.003 km track with a total race distance of 306.049 km for the 2025 edition.

## AWARDS

### 1. Mohanlal to Receive 55th Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2023.



In September 2025, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) announced that legendary Malayalam actor and Padma awardee Mohanlal Viswanathan Nair will be conferred with the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2023, India's highest recognition in cinema.

- Mohanlal becomes the 55th recipient of the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, honoured for his exceptional contribution to Indian cinema. He is the second Malayalam film personality to receive the award after acclaimed filmmaker Adoor Gopalakrishnan in 2004.

- The Dadasaheb Phalke Award was instituted in 1969 by the Government of India to commemorate the contribution of Dhundiraj Govind Phalke, also known as Dadasaheb Phalke, to Indian cinema. It is regarded as the highest honour in Indian film.

#### Key Points:-

(i) Dhundiraj Govind Phalke, remembered as the Father of Indian Cinema, directed India's first full-length feature film "Raja Harishchandra" in 1913, laying the foundation of the Indian film industry.

(ii) In 2024, veteran actor-turned-politician and Padma Bhushan awardee Mithun Chakraborty was conferred the Dadasaheb

Phalke Award for the year 2022, becoming the 54th recipient of the honour.

## 2. Andhra Pradesh Wins 'Best State Award' under CSB's Mera Resham-Mera Abhiman Programme.



In September 2025, Andhra Pradesh (AP) received the prestigious Best State Award under the flagship initiative Mera Resham-Mera Abhiman of the Central Silk Board (CSB), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Textiles (MoT). The award recognized AP's exemplary efforts in promoting sericulture and supporting silk farmers across the state.

- The award was conferred during the 76th Foundation Day celebration of the Central Silk Board (CSB), held in Bengaluru, Karnataka, highlighting the importance of sericulture in strengthening India's textile sector.
- The award was jointly presented by Padmini Singla, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Textiles (MoT); Shivakumar, Member-Secretary of CSB; and Ambika Lakshminarayana, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) and Member of CSB.

### Key Points:-

(i) The AP government collaborated with

CSB scientists and district-level sericulture officers to organize awareness drives in districts including Sri Sathya Sai, Chittoor, Annamayya, Anantapur, and Prakasam, leading to enhanced cocoon production and motivating new farmers to adopt mulberry cultivation.

(ii) Mera Resham-Mera Abhiman is a flagship CSB initiative that acknowledges outstanding contributions by states in sericulture promotion, aiming to increase awareness, improve silk productivity, and ensure sustainable livelihoods for silk farmers.

(iii) Earlier in August 2025, Andhra Pradesh's sericulture department also won the Best Tableau Award during the Independence Day Celebrations, reflecting the state's continuous achievements in the field of sericulture and silk development.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 1. International Red Panda Day (IRPD) 2025 Observed on 20 September.



International Red Panda Day (IRPD) is observed every year on the third Saturday of September to spread awareness about the endangered Red Panda, the first panda species. The 2025 observance was held on

20 September 2025, following the 2024 edition on 21 September, while the next IRPD will be marked on 19 September 2026.

- **International Red Panda Day was launched in 2010 by the Red Panda Network (RPN) to highlight conservation needs, with the first observance held on 18 September 2010. Since then, it has been observed annually as a global awareness campaign.**

- **The Red Panda (*Ailurus fulgens*), also called the first panda or original panda, is a small mammal native to the eastern Himalayas including Nepal, India, Bhutan, Myanmar, and southwestern China. It inhabits temperate broadleaved forests at altitudes ranging from 2,400 to 3,900 metres.**

- **Taxonomically, the Red Panda belongs to the unique family Ailuridae and is also known as Firefox, Lesser Panda, or Red-cat-bear. It was first described by French zoologist Frédéric Cuvier in 1825, several decades before the Giant Panda was scientifically recorded.**

#### Key Points:-

(i) The species is classified as 'Endangered' on the IUCN Red List and is legally protected under Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is also recognised as the state animal of Sikkim. Fewer than 10,000 Red Pandas survive in the wild, making habitat destruction their primary threat.

(ii) Two distinct species of Red Panda are recognised. *Ailurus fulgens* is found in Nepal, northeastern India covering West Bengal, Sikkim and western Arunachal Pradesh, Bhutan and southern Tibet. *Ailurus fulgens styani*, larger and brighter than the Himalayan Red Panda, is found in eastern Arunachal Pradesh, Myanmar, and parts of

China.

(iii) Red Pandas are arboreal mammals with dense reddish-brown fur, black bellies, and long bushy tails with red, buff or black rings. They spend nearly 55 percent of their day sleeping in trees, relying on forest habitats for survival.

## 2. International Day of Peace 2025 observed on 21 September.



The United Nations (UN) International Day of Peace (IDP) is observed every year on 21 September to promote peace and non-violence across the globe. The 2025 observance carried the theme "Act Now for a Peaceful World" and highlighted global unity.

- **The year 2025 marks the 26th anniversary of the adoption of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, which was first endorsed in 1999 to strengthen peace efforts worldwide.**

- **The IDP was initially established by the UNGA through resolution A/RES/36/67 in 1981, designating the 3rd Tuesday of September as Peace Day, coinciding with the UNGA's opening sessions.**



- The first celebration took place on 21 September 1982.

#### Key Points:-

- (i) In 2001, the UNGA passed resolution A/RES/55/282, fixing 21 September each year as the permanent date for IDP and declaring it a day of global ceasefire and non-violence to honor cessation of hostilities.
- (ii) The dove carrying an olive branch serves as the universal symbol of IDP, representing freedom, hope, and the timeless message of peace from ancient traditions.

### 3. World Alzheimer's Day 2025 observed on 21 September.



World Alzheimer's Day (WAD) is observed every year on 21 September to raise awareness about Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. It is a key part of World Alzheimer's Month, which is observed throughout September to expand education and advocacy efforts globally.

- World Alzheimer's Day 2025 was observed with the theme "Ask about Dementia. Ask about Alzheimer's." The theme emphasizes open dialogue to reduce stigma, promote early

diagnosis, and empower families with information and supportive care.

- The day was first observed in 1994 by Alzheimer's Disease International (ADI) to mark its 10th anniversary.
- Later, in 2012, World Alzheimer's Month was established following ADI's 2010 pilot campaign in 12 countries to extend awareness on a global scale.

#### Key Points:-

- (i) The World Health Organization (WHO) has recognized dementia as a global public health priority, stressing the urgent need for coordinated international action, stronger healthcare systems, and caregiver support.
- (ii) The World Alzheimer Report 2025, published by ADI, is titled "Global Changes in Attitudes to Dementia." It highlights evolving perceptions of dementia as a medical condition rather than simply a part of ageing, while also pointing out challenges like stigma and misinformation.
- (iii) The 2025 report calls for greater investment in dementia-friendly policies, expansion of healthcare infrastructure, and stronger support systems for caregivers to meet the rising global burden of dementia.

## Static GK

<b>Gujarat</b>	Chief Minister (CM) : Bhupendra Patel	Governor : Acharya Dev Vrat
<b>Greece</b>	Capital: Athens	Official language: Greek
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	Chief minister: N. Chandrababu Naidu	Capital: Amaravati
<b>Tripura</b>	Chief minister: Manik Saha	Governor: N. Indrasena Reddy
<b>Brazil</b>	Capital: Brasília	President: Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva
<b>United Nations Environmental Programme Financial Initiative (UNEP FI)</b>	Head : Eric Eric Usher	Headquarters : Geneva, Switzerland
<b>Red Panda Network (RPN)</b>	Executive Director (ED) : Ang Phuri Sherpa	Headquarters : Eugene, Oregon, the United States of America (USA)
<b>Alzheimer's Disease International</b>	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	Headquarters : London, the United

<b>(ADI)</b>	: Paola Barbarino	Kingdom (UK)
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