



DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

> 07 OCTOBER 2025

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. Union Cabinet Approves Major Schemes Including BRCP Phase III, Pulses Mission, DA Hike & 57 New Kendriya Vidyalayas on October 1, 2025.



On October 1, 2025, the Union Cabinet of India, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved several key policy and development initiatives spanning science, agriculture, social welfare, education, and fiscal relief for central employees.

- The Cabinet approved continuation of the Biomedical Research Career Programme (BRCP) through Phase III for the period 2025-26 to 2030-31 (with an additional extension up to 2037-38). The total outlay is ₹1,500 crore, to be jointly funded by the Department of Biotechnology and the Wellcome Trust, UK.
- A six-year scheme was approved to boost domestic pulse production and reduce import dependence. The Mission has a budget of ₹11,440 crore and targets increasing output to 350 lakh tonnes by 2030-31.
- A 3% increase in DA for central government employees and DR for pensioners was approved, raising the combined rate from 55% to 58%, with an estimated fiscal impact of about ₹10,083.96 crore per year.

Key Points:-

- (i) The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved establishment of 57 new KVs under the civil sector, with a total investment of about ₹5,862 crore, to expand access to central school education.
- (ii) CCEA approved upgradation of the 85.675 km Kalibor–Numaligarh section of NH-715 in Assam to a 4-lane highway, with a budget outlay of ₹6,957 crore.
- (iii) The Cabinet approved a rise in MSPs for all six mandated rabi crops for the 2026-27 marketing season, to provide better returns for farmers.

2. Navi Mumbai International Airport Renamed as Loknete D. B. Patil Navi Mumbai International Airport.



Introduction: In October 2025, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced that the new Navi Mumbai International Airport will be officially named Loknete Dinkar Balu (D. B.) Patil Navi Mumbai International Airport. The renaming proposal received approval from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and both Houses of the Maharashtra State Legislature.

- The renaming recognizes Loknete D. B. Patil's contribution as a farmers' leader who fought for fair compensation and rehabilitation during Navi Mumbai's development phase, reflecting his lasting influence on Maharashtra's social and political landscape.
- The official name — Loknete D. B. Patil Navi Mumbai International Airport — will be adopted when passenger flight operations begin, marking a significant milestone in Maharashtra's aviation infrastructure expansion.
- The Maharashtra government has also proposed naming Pune Airport after Jagadguru Sant Tukaram and Aurangabad Airport after Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, awaiting final approvals.

3. Tamil Nadu Partners with Borussia Dortmund to Establish India's First Sports-Tech Incubation Centre.



On October 3, 2025, the Government of Tamil Nadu (TN) announced a strategic partnership with German football club Borussia Dortmund to set up India's first dedicated sports-technology incubation centre in Tamil Nadu, marking a major step in promoting innovation-driven sports development.

- The sports-tech incubation centre will be established under the state's nodal agency, StartupTN, and will be officially launched through a formal agreement signed by Chief Minister (CM) M.K. Stalin during the Tamil Nadu Global Startup Summit 2025 in Coimbatore. This collaboration aims to foster innovation and global partnerships in sports technology and athlete performance analytics.

Key Points:-

- (i) In addition to sports-tech initiatives, Tamil Nadu announced plans to launch a space-tech incubation centre at Anna University (Chennai) and a dedicated space-tech startup hub in Thoothukudi. These projects will strengthen TN's role as a national leader in technology-driven entrepreneurship and research innovation.
- (ii) Tamil Nadu's startup ecosystem has shown exponential growth — from around 2,000 registered startups in 2021 to over 12,000 in 2025, with a target of reaching 15,000 startups by 2027.
- (iii) The partnership with Borussia Dortmund aligns with the state's vision to promote international collaborations and establish Tamil Nadu as a global innovation hub.

4. Maharashtra Launches Electronic Bond (E-Bond) System for High-Value Import and Export Transactions in October 2025.



In October 2025, the Government of Maharashtra launched an Electronic Bond (E-Bond) system to replace traditional paper-based stamp bonds for high-value import and export transactions. With this initiative, Maharashtra became the 16th state in India to adopt the digital system. The system was inaugurated by Chandrashekhar Bawankule, Revenue Minister, at Mantralaya, Mumbai.

- The E-Bond system enables importers and exporters to complete, submit, and access bonds digitally across the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) in Maharashtra, eliminating dependence on physical documents.
- It drastically reduces processing times and simplifies procedures by removing the need for physical Rs. 500 stamp papers, streamlining high-value trade transactions.

Key Points:-

- (i) The system improves transparency, curbs revenue leakages, and strengthens state revenue collection through e-signatures, real-time verification, and digital record-keeping.
- (ii) The E-Bond system acts as a key reform to enhance ease of doing business, support trade facilitation, and promote digital governance within the state.

(iii) The initiative aligns with the central government's 'Ekal Anubandh' digital initiative and supports the broader vision of 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India), promoting digitization and modernization of trade processes.

INTERNATIONAL

1. 42nd Session of ICAO Assembly Held in Montréal, Canada and India Participates in Shaping Global Civil Aviation Priorities.



The 42nd Session of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Assembly was held in Montréal, Canada, from September 23 to October 3, 2025, with participation from 192 Member States. The Assembly focused on setting priorities for global civil aviation, including safety, accessibility, sustainability, and regional connectivity.

- The 36-member ICAO Council was elected for a three-year term during the 42nd Assembly. Part I members included Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom (UK), and the United States of America (USA).

- Part II members included Argentina, Colombia, Denmark, Egypt, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, and

Switzerland. Part III members included Angola, Belize, Cuba, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, and Uruguay.

- India was represented by Ramesh Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA), along with senior officials from the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and other aviation stakeholders.

Key Points:-

- The African Civil Aviation Commission (ACFAC) and its partner organization, the African Civil Aviation and Flight Safety Foundation (ACVFFI) were conferred the prestigious Edward Warner Award 2025 for outstanding contributions to international civil aviation.
- The Assembly approved the ICAO budget for 2026–2028 to ensure financial stability and support strategic initiatives. The budget will fund projects enhancing aviation safety, security, and efficiency across all member states.
- ICAO and the Airports Authority of India (AAI) announced joint efforts to develop Indian airports as economic hubs. The collaboration aims to improve airport infrastructure, operational efficiency, and regional connectivity, contributing to India's economic growth and global aviation competitiveness.

2. India Wins ISSA Award 2025 at World Social Security Forum (WSSF) 2025 Held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



The World Social Security Forum (WSSF) 2025, organized by the International Social Security Association (ISSA), took place from September 29 to October 3, 2025, at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia. The event was held under the theme “Shaping Social Security for a World in Transition.”

- India received the ‘ISSA Award 2025 for Outstanding Achievement in Social Security’ for its transformative expansion of social security coverage and welfare reforms. Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoL&E), accepted the award on behalf of the Government of India.
- Dr. Mohammed Azman, CEO & Director General (DG) of Malaysia’s Social Security Organization (PERKESO), was re-elected as ISSA President, while Jean-Marc Vandenberghe, DG of Belgium’s National Employment Office (ONEM), was re-elected as Treasurer.

Key Points:-

- ISSA released new Guidelines on Administrative Solutions for Long-Term Care Services and revised nine existing sets of social security guidelines to improve administrative efficiency and digital inclusion.

(ii) The forum focused on strengthening Universal Social Protection 2030 and achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through innovative and adaptive social security systems.

(iii) WSSF 2025 also launched the International Social Security Video Festival to promote knowledge-sharing through films on global best practices and successful social protection models.

compliance among regulated financial entities. This marks a key regulatory development to strengthen the NBFC ecosystem in India.

- As an SRO, FIDC will frame and implement a code of conduct, monitor regulatory adherence, and coordinate with the RBI to resolve sectoral challenges. It will act as a bridge between the industry and the regulator to promote transparency and fair practices.

Key Points:-

(i) FIDC represents nearly 400 NBFCs engaged in asset and loan financing across India. Membership to the SRO will remain voluntary, allowing eligible NBFCs to join the body for better governance and representation.

(ii) Raman Aggarwal, former Director of FIDC, has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to lead the organization in its expanded role as a Self-Regulatory Organisation.

(iii) Prior to FIDC, the RBI had granted SRO status to two microfinance entities—Sa-Dhan and the Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN)—and to the Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment (FACE) for the fintech sector, reflecting RBI's broader move toward sector-wise self-regulation.

BANKING & FINANCE

1. RBI Grants Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO) Status to Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC).



In October 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) granted Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO) status to the Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC), the representative body of asset and loan financing Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs). This recognition was given under RBI's 'Omnibus Framework for Recognition of SROs for Regulated Entities,' issued on March 21, 2024.

- FIDC's recognition as an SRO aligns with the RBI's Omnibus Framework, which aims to promote accountability, ethical practices, and

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

1. Zomato and HDFC Pension Launch National Pension System (NPS) Platform Workers Model under PFRDA Supervision.



On 1st October 2025, Zomato, in collaboration with HDFC Pension Management Company Limited, launched the National Pension System (NPS) Platform Workers Model under the supervision of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA). The initiative aims to provide structured retirement planning for gig-based delivery partners and integrate them into the formal financial ecosystem.

- The model leverages a fully digital process through Know Your Customer (KYC/eKYC) verification, enabling easy, paperless registration for gig workers. This ensures seamless participation and accessibility across India's delivery network.

Key Points:-

- (i) Registered delivery partners can retain their NPS benefits even when switching jobs or delivery platforms, ensuring long-term pension continuity and financial security irrespective of employment changes.
- (ii) Within just 72 hours of launch, over 30,000 Zomato delivery partners successfully generated their Permanent Retirement Account Numbers (PRANs), reflecting strong participation and trust in the new pension model.

(iii) Zomato has set a goal to onboard more than 1,00,000 delivery partners under the NPS Platform Workers Model by December 2025, promoting financial inclusion and retirement readiness among India's growing gig workforce.

MOUs and Agreement

1. Thomas Cook India Signs MoU with Ministry of Tourism to Collect Real-Time Traveller Feedback on India's Destinations.



In September 2025, Thomas Cook (India) Limited (TCIL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Tourism (MoT), Government of India (GoI) to collect real-time traveller feedback aimed at evaluating and improving the performance of India's tourism destinations.

- The MoU, valid for an initial period of three years, was signed by Ms. Seema Jain, Director, Destination Development Division (MoT), and Mr. Romil Pant, Executive Vice President & Head – Holidays (TCIL).

- The partnership focuses on assessing tourism destinations across India based on key parameters such as cleanliness, safety, accessibility, service quality, and overall visitor satisfaction.

- Under the agreement, Thomas Cook India will integrate a co-branded feedback mechanism—developed and standardized by the Ministry of Tourism—into its digital and physical platforms. This will allow both domestic and international travellers to share their feedback in real-time across various touchpoints during their journeys.

Key Points:-

- (i) The collected feedback will be anonymized, aggregated, and shared with the Ministry of Tourism for analytical review. This data will guide the government in implementing targeted interventions for infrastructure, safety, and service quality improvement at key tourist sites across India.
- (ii) Founded in 1881, Thomas Cook (India) Limited (TCIL) is one of India's leading omnichannel travel services providers, offering solutions in foreign exchange, leisure travel, corporate travel, visa services, and MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions).
- (iii) TCIL operates across 28 countries spanning 5 continents, serving as a global tourism facilitator.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. World Animal Day 2025 Observed on October 4.



World Animal Day (WAD), also known as Animal Lovers Day, is annually observed on October 4 to highlight the importance of animals and promote awareness of their welfare. The year 2025 marks the centenary of WAD, first observed in 1925.

- The theme for WAD 2025 is “Save Animals, Save the Planet”, emphasizing the critical role of animal protection in maintaining a healthier and more sustainable planet.
- WAD was first proposed by Heinrich Zimmermann, a German cynologist and animal welfare advocate. It was initially observed on 24th March 1925 in Berlin, Germany, laying the foundation for a global animal welfare movement.
- October 4 was officially designated as World Animal Day in 1931 at the Florence Congress in Florence, Italy. Since 2003, the UK-based Naturewatch Foundation has coordinated global observances of the day.

Key Points:-

- (i) October 4 coincides with the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals, linking the day to compassion, care, and ethical treatment of all animal species.
- (ii) Global populations of mammals, birds,

fish, reptiles, and amphibians have declined by approximately 69% since 1970. The World Wide Fund (WWF) reported a 73% decline over 50 years, highlighting the urgency of conservation efforts.

(iii) Over 38,500 species worldwide face some level of threat, with more than 16,300 endangered. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List identifies nearly 18,000 threatened species, including around 22.2% of all mammal species (~5,500) being at risk or extinct globally.

2. 71st National Wildlife Week 2025 Observed in India from 2nd to 8th October under Theme 'Sewa Parv'.



National Wildlife Week is annually observed across India from 2nd to 8th October to raise awareness about wildlife conservation and protect the country's rich biodiversity. The year 2025 marks the 71st observance of this week-long celebration.

- The 2025 celebrations are organized under the theme "Sewa Parv", highlighting service and responsibility towards nature and the importance of protecting wildlife.

- National Wildlife Week was conceptualized in 1952 when the Government of India (GOI) constituted the Indian Board for Wildlife (IBWL) as an advisory body to promote wildlife conservation policies and initiatives.

Key Points:-

(i) The first National Wildlife Week was observed in 1957. Initially, it was celebrated as National Wildlife Day in 1955 before expanding into a week-long observance to strengthen awareness campaigns.

(ii) The week-long celebration emphasizes the conservation of India's wildlife heritage, encourages public participation, and fosters a sense of responsibility for protecting endangered species and natural habitats.

3. World Space Week 2025 Observed Globally from 4th to 10th October under Theme 'Living in Space'.



World Space Week (WSW), observed annually from 4th to 10th October, promotes global unity by highlighting collaboration between space technology and climate science. The 2025 edition focuses on humanity's efforts to live in space, showcasing technological advancements, challenges, and teamwork.

- The 2025 theme is “Living in Space”, emphasizing new technologies, human adaptability, and collaborative efforts for sustainable life beyond Earth. The theme is selected annually by the World Space Week Association (WSWA) Board.

- In December 1999, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted resolution A/RES/54/68, officially declaring October 4–10 as World Space Week. The first-ever celebration was held from October 4–10, 2000.

- WSW is coordinated globally by the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) and the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), ensuring alignment with international space initiatives.

Key Points:-

(i) October 4 commemorates the launch of Sputnik 1 in 1957, marking the start of space exploration, while October 10 marks the signing of the “Magna Carta of Space” in 1967, establishing legal frameworks for outer space activities.

(ii) Globally, the Space Foundation Discovery Center in Colorado Springs, USA, is hosting events for WSW 2025 under the theme “Living in Space”. In India, the celebrations are led by Dr. Sachin Bahmba, Founder & Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of SPACE India, serving as National Coordinator for WSW.

(iii) The WSWA has released the official WSW 2025 poster for digital download, serving as a global invitation for communities worldwide to engage in discussions on humanity’s future in space.

4. World Habitat Day 2025 Observed on 6 October under Theme ‘Urban Crisis Response’.



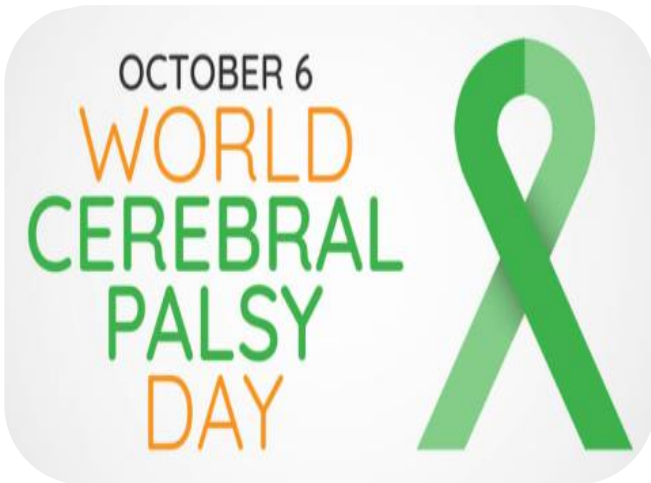
World Habitat Day, observed on the first Monday of October, 6 October 2025, celebrates the right to adequate shelter and promotes sustainable urban living. The day highlights the need for safe, affordable, and inclusive cities amid urban crises.

- The 2025 theme, “Urban Crisis Response”, emphasizes tackling urban challenges such as climate change, conflicts, and inequality while promoting resilience, inclusive urban planning, and effective crisis management.

- Established by the United Nations in 1985, World Habitat Day draws attention to the challenges of rapid urbanization and the importance of sustainable housing for all.

- Global observances include panels, workshops, and the UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour Awards, supporting Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 and the New Urban Agenda to improve urban living standards worldwide.

5. World Cerebral Palsy Day 2025 Observed on 6 October under Theme ‘Unique and United’.



World Cerebral Palsy (CP) Day, observed on 6 October 2025, raises global awareness about CP, a lifelong movement and posture disorder affecting approximately 1.8 crore people worldwide. The day promotes inclusion, support, and education for individuals with cerebral palsy.

Key Points:-

- (i) The 2025 theme, “Unique and United”, highlights recognizing individuality while fostering global unity to improve access, opportunities, and rights for persons with CP.
- (ii) Established in 2012 by the Cerebral Palsy Alliance, the day emphasizes outreach, advocacy, and education to promote understanding and inclusion of people living with cerebral palsy.
- (iii) Awareness campaigns focus on prevention through healthy pregnancy practices, infection avoidance, and managing health risks. CP remains one of the least understood disabilities, making global awareness vital for improving quality of life.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. Goodluck India Signs Tripartite MoU with BATL and Axiscades for Indigenous AMCA Programme.



On 30th September 2025, Goodluck India signed a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with BrahMos Aerospace Thiruvananthapuram Limited (BATL) and Axiscades Technologies Limited to participate in India’s Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) programme under the Expression of Interest (EOI) issued by the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA), Bengaluru.

- **The collaboration strengthens private-sector involvement in India’s military-industrial base and next-generation aerospace technology development.**
- **To pool expertise in engineering, systems integration, and defence-grade manufacturing for contributing to India’s next-generation stealth fighter aircraft development.**

Key Points:-

- (i) Goodluck Defence & Aerospace Limited, the defence arm of Goodluck India, holds an industrial licence under the Indian Arms Act, 1959, for manufacturing medium-calibre

artillery shells (105–155 mm).

(ii) The consortium can respond to ADA's EOI and actively support design, systems integration, and technological contributions to India's indigenous AMCA programme.

Static GK

Tamil Nadu	Chief minister: M K Stalin	Governor: R. N. Ravi
Thomas Cook Ltd.	CEO: Mahesh Iyer	Headquarters: Lower Parel, Mumba
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)	Secretary General : Juan Carlos Salazar	Headquarters : Montreal, Canada
International Social Security Association (ISSA)	President : Mohammed Azam Aziz bin Abdul Rahman	Headquarters : Geneva, Switzerland
RBI	Governor : Sanjay Malhotra	Headquarter : Mumbai
United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)	Director : Aarti Holla-Maini	Headquarters : Vienna, Austria
Maharashtra	Capital: Mumbai	Chief minister: Devendra Fadnavis