



DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

> 15 OCTOBER 2025

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. PM Narendra Modi Launches PM Dhan Dhaanya Krishi Yojana and Mission for Atmanirbharta in Pulses.



In October 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched two major agriculture schemes — PM Dhan Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY) and Mission for Atmanirbharta in Pulses — under a special Krishi programme with a combined outlay of Rs 35,440 crore at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi.

- The schemes were launched during a special Krishi programme at IARI, New Delhi, where PM Modi also inaugurated projects worth over Rs 5,450 crore in agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, and food processing, and laid foundations for new projects valued at approximately Rs 815 crore.
- Certificates were distributed to farmers certified under the National Mission for Natural Farming, MAITRI Technicians, and Primary Agriculture Cooperative Credit Societies (PACS) converted into Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samridhhi Kendras (PMKSKs) and Common Service Centres (CSCs).

Key Points:-

- (i) Designed to catalyse growth in 100 agri-

districts through saturation-based convergence of 36 Central schemes across 11 Ministries, with an annual outlay of Rs 24,000 crore for six years starting FY26. The scheme is modelled on the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP).

(ii) Also called the Dalhan Atmanirbharta Mission, launched with a total outlay of Rs 11,440 crore, to be implemented from FY26 to FY31.

(iii) The mission aims to achieve self-sufficiency in pulses by increasing domestic production, reducing import dependence, and sustainably improving farmers' incomes.

2. Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma Launches 'Shraddhanjali' Scheme to Repatriate Mortal Remains of Assamese Residents from Outside the State.



In October 2025, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched the 'Shraddhanjali' Scheme at Lok Sewa Bhawan, Guwahati, to ensure the dignified and free transportation of mortal remains of Assamese residents who pass away outside the state.

- The primary aim of the Shraddhanjali Scheme is to facilitate respectful and hassle-free

repatriation of mortal remains of Assamese residents who die outside the state, particularly targeting low-income families unable to bear transportation expenses.

- The scheme is implemented by the State Bank of Assam (SB), Assam Police, and the Home and Political Department of Assam, with operational coordination through the Special Branch Control Room and Seva Setu Portal.
- The scheme covers students and youth working in low-income jobs outside Assam. However, it excludes financially well-off families and cases of deaths occurring during medical treatment outside the state.

Key Points:-

- Under the scheme, the government bears an estimated repatriation cost between Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000 per case, ensuring financial relief for families struggling to afford the transportation of mortal remains back to Assam.
- Beneficiaries can avail of the service by contacting 112 (Police Control Room), 0361-2381511 (Special Branch Control Room), the Seva Setu Portal, or WhatsApp at +91 91810-14888, ensuring 24-hour assistance for repatriation support.

INTERNATIONAL

1. Rajnath Singh Undertakes Historic Visit to Australia to Strengthen Defence Ties.



From October 9–10, 2025, Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defence (MoD), visited Australia at the invitation of Richard Marles, Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Australia. This marked the first-ever visit of an Indian Defence Minister to Australia since 2014 and coincided with the 5th anniversary of the India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) signed in 2020.

- Rajnath Singh met Anthony Albanese, Prime Minister of Australia, at Parliament House, discussing enhancement of the India-Australia CSP with a focus on shared democratic values and regional security.
- Rajnath Singh and Marles co-chaired the inaugural India-Australia Defence Ministers' Dialogue (DMD) to strengthen maritime domain awareness, intelligence sharing, and tri-service interoperability, during which three key defence cooperation agreements were signed.

Key Points:-

- On October 10, 2025, the two ministers co-chaired the India-Australia Defence Industry Business Roundtable in Sydney, focusing on joint research and co-development in emerging defence technologies.

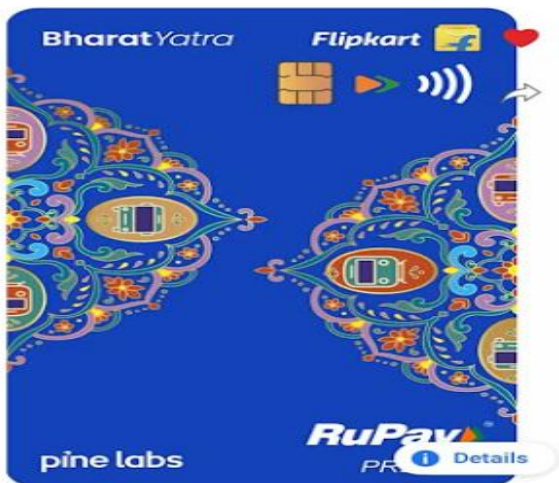
(ii) The discussions emphasized collaboration in Artificial Intelligence (AI), unmanned systems, and space capabilities, aiming to boost defence innovation and industry partnerships between both nations.

counters, via the Bharat Yatra app, through UPI apps, or by scanning the card's QR code.

(iii) Multiple cards can be linked in the companion app for easy management, balance tracking, and transaction history.

BANKING & FINANCE

1. Flipkart Launches Bharat Yatra Card for Seamless Public Transport Payments.



In October 2025, Flipkart, in collaboration with global fintech platform Pine Labs Limited, launched the “Flipkart Bharat Yatra Card”, a prepaid transit card enabling cashless travel across metros, buses, and other public transport systems compatible with the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) standard.

- The card is currently available in New Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, and Ahmedabad.

Key Points:-

- (i) The card is priced at Rs. 50, is reloadable, and does not require Know Your Customer (KYC) verification. It allows offline transactions up to a balance of Rs. 2,000, facilitating convenient travel across supported networks.
- (ii) Users can recharge the card at metro

2. Gurugram Launches India's First QR-Based Kiosk for Traffic Fine Payments.



In October 2025, Gurugram introduced India's first QR code-based kiosk for paying traffic fines, launched at Ambience Mall, Haryana. The initiative aims to simplify the payment process, reduce courthouse visits, and promote road safety through behavioral change campaigns.

- The kiosk was jointly developed by the Gurugram Police (GP) and the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA).

Key Points:-

- (i) The project is part of a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) partnership between Gurugram Traffic Police, Narayana Hospital Trust, and Ambience Mall.
- (ii) It supports the “Challan Nahi, Salah Milegi” campaign, aimed at encouraging road safety and responsible behavior among

commuters.

(iii) The QR-based kiosk allows round-the-clock payment of fines but cannot process cases pending over 90 days or already referred to court.

MOUs and Agreement

1. Netflix India Partners with FICCI and IICT to Support Students in AVGC-XR Sector.



Intro: In October 2025, Netflix India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) and the Indian Institute of Creative Technology (IICT) to promote skill development and opportunities for Indian students in the AVGC-XR (Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics, and Extended Reality) sector.

- The MoU was signed during the 25th FICCI FRAMES event in Mumbai, Maharashtra, in the presence of Sanjay Jaju, Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (MIB).
- Netflix will provide scholarships to selected students through the Netflix Fund for Creative Equity, in collaboration with IICT, to support talent development in the AVGC-XR sector.

- Netflix will assist IICT in designing industry-driven curricula, ensuring students gain skills aligned with real market needs and emerging global trends.

Key Points:-

- The partnership will enable students to attend workshops, masterclasses, and guest lectures by industry professionals, offering hands-on experience and exposure to international best practices.
- Netflix India will actively participate in R&D, academic, and industry development councils to guide collaboration, joining other tech leaders like Nvidia, Google, Apple, Microsoft, and Adobe in supporting IICT initiatives.

SPORTS

1. India Hosts 11th Asian Aquatics Championships 2025 in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.



The 11th edition of the Asian Aquatics Championships 2025 was held from 28 September to 11 October 2025 at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex, Ahmedabad, Gujarat. This marked the first time India hosted the event and the second time it was held in South Asia.

- The Asian Aquatics Championships 2025 was inaugurated by Gujarat Chief Minister (CM) Bhupendra Patel on 28 September 2025.
- The event was jointly organized by the Swimming Federation of India (SFI) and the Government of Gujarat, featuring over 1,100 athletes from 29 Asian countries competing across four aquatic disciplines.
- China dominated the overall standings with 54 medals, followed by Kazakhstan with 23 and Japan with 21. India registered its best-ever performance, securing a total of 13 medals across swimming and diving categories, marking a historic milestone for Indian aquatics.

Key Points:-

- (i) The championships featured 65 medal events across four sports: swimming (42 events), artistic swimming (11 events), diving (10 events), and water polo (2 events). The diverse range of competitions showcased Asia's top aquatic talents in both individual and team events.
- (ii) India achieved multiple breakthroughs during the event. The men's 4×200m freestyle relay team—Aneesh Gowda, Sajan Prakash, Shoan Ganguly, and Srihari Nataraj—set a new national record (NR) of 7:23.38, winning silver.
- (iii) Srihari Nataraj emerged as India's top performer with seven medals, while Bhavya Sachdeva earned India's first women's medal (bronze in 400m freestyle).

AWARDS

1. "Nobel Prize in Economics 2025 Awarded to Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion, and Peter Howitt for Innovation-Driven Economic Growth".



On 13 October 2025, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2025, commonly known as the Nobel Prize in Economics, awarded to Joel Mokyr (USA), Philippe Aghion (France), and Peter Howitt (Canada) for their research on innovation-driven economic growth.

- The prize will be presented on 10 December 2025 in Stockholm, Sweden.
- From Northwestern University, USA, Mokyr received half of the Nobel Prize for identifying the prerequisites for sustained economic growth through technological progress, emphasizing the role of practical knowledge, scientific understanding, and a culture open to new ideas.
- Aghion (Collège de France, INSEAD & LSE) and Howitt (Brown University, USA) jointly received half of the Nobel Prize for developing the theory of sustained growth through creative destruction, explaining long-term economic development.

Key Points:-

- (i) The Nobel Prize in Economics will be formally presented on 10 December 2025, commemorating the death anniversary of

Alfred Nobel, in Stockholm, Sweden.

(ii) Between 1969 and 2025, the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences has been awarded 57 times to 99 laureates, including 3 women, recognizing outstanding contributions to economic research.

(iii) The medal of the prize was designed by Swedish artist Gunvor Svensson-Lundqvist, featuring symbolic elements representing economic sciences and innovation.

2. Maharashtra Secures Blue Flag Certification for 5 Beaches for the First Time, Taking India's Total to 18.



In October 2025, Aditi Thakre, Maharashtra's Women & Child Development (WCD) Minister, announced that five beaches from Maharashtra have received the international Blue Flag certification for the first time, marking a significant milestone in India's coastal environmental management.

- The five Maharashtra beaches awarded the Blue Flag certification are Shrivardhan and Nagaon beaches in Raigad district, Parnaka beach in Palghar district, and Guhagar and Ladghar beaches in Ratnagiri district. This inclusion brings India's total number of Blue Flag-certified beaches to 18.

- The Blue Flag certification is one of the world's most prestigious voluntary eco-labels, granted for high environmental and quality standards. It covers three main categories — beaches, marinas, and sustainable tourism operators.

- The programme was launched in 1985 by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), France, to raise awareness about marine pollution. The first Blue Flag sites were awarded in 1987 across 10 European countries, and the initiative was expanded globally in 2001.

Key Points:-

(i) The certification is awarded by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), headquartered in Denmark. It operates under a strict set of global standards to encourage eco-friendly and sustainable tourism practices.

(ii) Beaches are assessed on 33 parameters across four main areas — environmental education and information, water quality, environmental management, and safety & services. Compliance with these parameters ensures environmental excellence.

(iii) After national-level audits and jury reviews, eligible sites are recommended to an international jury comprising representatives from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO), and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). As of May 2025, there are 5,195 Blue Flag sites across 51 countries worldwide.

3. Shah Rukh Khan Becomes First Actor to Join the Billionaire Club with ₹12,490 Crore Net Worth.



Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan has achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first actor to enter the billionaire club. According to the Hurun India Rich List 2025, his net worth is estimated at ₹12,490 crore (approximately \$1.4 billion), solidifying his position as the world's richest entertainer.

- Shah Rukh Khan's net worth of ₹12,490 crore (approximately \$1.4 billion) surpasses that of global pop icon Taylor Swift, who has a net worth of \$1.3 billion, making Khan the wealthiest entertainer worldwide.

- Khan's substantial wealth is attributed to multiple ventures, including his successful film career, ownership of the Kolkata Knight Riders IPL team, and his entertainment company, Red Chillies Entertainment, which he co-founded with his wife, Gauri Khan.

Key Points:-

(i) In 2023, Time magazine named Shah Rukh Khan one of the 100 most influential people in the world, and he topped the list per a readers' poll, highlighting his global impact and enduring popularity.

(ii) Despite his immense wealth, Khan's journey began with modest beginnings, earning just ₹50 for his first job in the 1990s. His rise from these humble origins to global

stardom is a testament to his dedication and resilience.

(iii) Shah Rukh Khan's entry into the billionaire club not only marks a personal achievement but also sets a new benchmark for success in the entertainment industry, inspiring future generations of artists and entrepreneurs.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. United Nations Observes International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDRR) 2025 Highlighting the Theme “Fund Resilience, Not Disasters”.



Empowering the Next Generation for a Resilient Future

The United Nations (UN) annually observes the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDRR) on 13 October to promote global awareness, preparedness, and resilience against disasters. The 2025 theme, “Fund Resilience, Not Disasters,” urges a global shift from reactive disaster response to proactive investment in resilience-building measures.

- The observance originated from the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution A/RES/44/236, which in 1989 proclaimed 1990–1999 as the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR). Initially observed

on the second Wednesday of October, the first IDNDR took place on 10 October 1990.

- In 2009, the UNGA passed Resolution A/RES/64/200, officially designating 13 October as the permanent date for the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDRR). Since 2010, it has been observed annually to promote disaster preparedness and reduce global vulnerability.

- The IDRR reinforces the global commitment to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030), adopted at the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai, Japan, in 2015.

Key Points:-

(i) The 2025 theme, “Fund Resilience, Not Disasters,” underscores the importance of redirecting global financial priorities from emergency response to preventive action and resilience financing.

(ii) The UNDRR (United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction) released the report titled “Resilience Pays: Financing and Investing for our Future.” The report revealed annual global disaster-related losses exceeding USD 202 billion, yet less than 1% of public budgets and 2% of aid projects are directed toward DRR, highlighting a critical investment gap.

(iii) The UN urges nations to make risk-informed investments and enhance financial resilience in both public and private sectors. Given that the private sector controls 75% of total investments, it must adopt sustainable risk assessment models to reduce climate vulnerabilities and future economic losses.

2. World Arthritis Day 2025 Marks 30th Year with the Theme “Achieve Your Dreams”.



World Arthritis Day (WAD) is observed globally every year on 12 October to raise awareness about Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases (RMDs) and highlight the importance of early prevention and effective arthritis treatments. The 2025 observance marks the 30th anniversary of WAD, promoting global solidarity for people living with arthritis.

- The theme for World Arthritis Day 2025 is “Achieve Your Dreams.” It emphasizes personal empowerment, resilience, and the pursuit of goals by individuals living with RMDs, inspiring them to overcome challenges and lead fulfilling lives.

- WAD was first established in 1996 by Arthritis and Rheumatism International (ARI), with the first celebration held on 12 October 1996. Since then, it has been observed annually across the world to promote awareness and patient support.

- Arthritis is a musculoskeletal disorder that causes inflammation, tenderness, or swelling in joints such as the knees, hands, feet, and hips. Common types include rheumatoid arthritis,

osteoarthritis, gout, and psoriatic arthritis. It affects nearly 1 in 4 adults globally.

Key Points:-

- (i) Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases (RMDs) include over 200 chronic conditions affecting joints, muscles, and bones. These diseases often lead to pain, disability, and reduced quality of life, making awareness and early diagnosis critical.
- (ii) The European Alliance of Associations for Rheumatology (EULAR) plays a major role in promoting WAD globally. EULAR supports research, advocates patient care, and raises awareness to improve life for those suffering from RMDs.
- (iii) The 2025 WAD campaign titled “It’s in your hands, take action” encourages people to raise awareness by sharing #WADHigh5 messages and photos, symbolizing unity in fighting arthritis and supporting those affected.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. GalaxEye Space to Launch “Mission Drishti”, World’s First Multi-Sensor Earth Observation Satellite in Q1 2026.



GalaxEye Space announced the launch of “Mission Drishti”, the world’s first multi-sensor Earth Observation (EO) satellite. Scheduled for Q1 2026, it will provide high-resolution, real-time data to support agriculture, urban planning, environmental monitoring, disaster management, and scientific research.

- **Mission Drishti is a 160-kg satellite equipped with Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) and optical sensors, expected to be launched aboard ISRO’s Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) or a SpaceX rocket, with an operational life of 5 years.**
- **It integrates SAR, optical, and infrared sensors, allowing 1.5-metre resolution imaging under all conditions, including night and adverse weather.**

Key Points:-

- (i) The satellite’s data will support agriculture (crop health, soil moisture), urban planning (mapping, land-use), environmental monitoring (deforestation, water bodies), and disaster management (early-warning, damage assessment).
- (ii) Mission Drishti aligns with India’s “Make in India” and “Atmanirbhar Bharat” initiatives, promoting domestic space technology and strengthening India’s global space-tech presence.

OBITUARY

1. Renowned Actress and Oscar Winner Diane Keaton Passes Away at 79.



In October 2025, acclaimed American actress and Oscar winner Diane Keaton passed away at the age of 79 in California, USA. Born on January 5, 1946, in Los Angeles, she enjoyed a celebrated career in film and theater, earning international recognition for her versatile acting and iconic roles.

- Diane Keaton began her acting journey in off-Broadway theater in New York, USA, before transitioning to major film roles in Hollywood. Her breakthrough came with critically acclaimed performances in the early 1970s.

- She starred in numerous iconic films, including *Lovers and Other Strangers* (1970), *The Godfather* (1972), *Sleeper* (1973), *Annie Hall* (1977), *Manhattan* (1979), *Looking for Mr. Goodbar* (1977), *Reds* (1981), *Baby Boom* (1987), *Father of the Bride* (1991), *Father of the Bride Part II* (1995), *The First Wives Club* (1996), and *Marvin's Room* (1996).

Key Points:-

(i) In 1978, she won the Academy Award (Oscar) for Best Actress for *Annie Hall*. She also received the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress in a Musical or Comedy and the British Academy Film (BAFTA) Award for Best Actress in a Leading Role.

(ii) Diane Keaton earned three more

Academy Award nominations for her performances in *Reds* (1981), *Marvin's Room* (1996), and *Something's Gotta Give* (2003), highlighting her enduring impact on cinema.

2. Rajputana Royals Win Inaugural Archery Premier League Title in Thrilling Shoot-Off.



The Rajputana Royals of Rajasthan became the champions of the inaugural Archery Premier League (APL) by defeating Delhi's Prithviraj Yodhas in a nail-biting contest. The match concluded 4-4 after four sets, with Rajputana Royals clinching victory in a shoot-off at the Yamuna Sports Complex, New Delhi, Delhi.

- The inaugural Archery Premier League (APL) witnessed top archery teams from across India competing in a league format.

- The final match between Rajputana Royals and Prithviraj Yodhas ended 4-4 after four intense sets, showcasing a high level of skill and competition.

- The championship was decided through a thrilling shoot-off, where Rajputana Royals emerged victorious, marking their first-ever APL title. The shoot-off highlighted precision,

composure, and competitive spirit under pressure.

Key Points:-

(i) The final took place at the Yamuna Sports Complex, New Delhi, Delhi, in October 2025. The venue hosted a large audience, including sports enthusiasts, officials, and dignitaries supporting the archery league.

(ii) The victory of Rajputana Royals underscores the growing popularity of archery in India and promotes competitive team-based archery.

(iii) The APL provides a platform for emerging and professional archers to showcase talent, enhancing the sport's visibility nationally.

Static GK

Australia	Prime Minister (PM) : Anthony Albanese	Capital : Canberra
Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE)	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)- Daniel Schaffer	Headquarters- Copenhagen, Denmark
United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)	Head : Kamal Kishore	Headquarters : Geneva, Switzerland
Assam	Chief minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma	Governor: Lakshman Acharya
Swimming Federation of India (SFI)	President : R.N. Jayprakash	Headquarters : Ahmedabad, Gujarat