

THE DAILY GK DOSE

Sitaram Raul Wins Wildlife Photography Award Category



- Sitaram Raul from India won the Behaviour: Invertebrates category in the Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2026 competition.
- His winning photograph, titled Shifting Sand, shows a scorpion burrowing into the shifting dunes of the Thar Desert.
- The photograph was taken near the village of Sam, Rajasthan.

Kerala Plans India's First Cooperative Airline



- The proposed airline, tentatively named Co-Keralam, is projected to become India's first airline operated by the cooperative sector.
- The project will be spearheaded by C. N. Vijayakrishnan, Chairman of MVR Cancer Centre and Research Institute.
- The initial plan is to lease two 72-seater aircraft, with Kochi as the proposed operational base.

Commerce Ministry Extends RELIEF Scheme Till March 2027

- The Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, extended Component II of RELIEF (Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation) initiative under the Export Promotion Mission until March 31, 2027.
- The extension aims to support Indian exporters affected by geopolitical disruptions in West Asia and their impact on maritime logistics.
- Under Component II, the scheme provides 95% risk coverage to encourage exporters to obtain Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) insurance cover for eligible shipments.

HCLTech and Rapidus Open Semiconductor Centres in Karnataka

- HCLTech, an Indian technology company, and Japan's Rapidus Corporation inaugurated two semiconductor development centres located in Bengaluru and Hubli, Karnataka.
- Rapidus is a Japanese company specialising in the development and manufacturing of advanced logic semiconductors.
- The centres will provide semiconductor engineering services, including mask design, design infrastructure, process design kit (PDK) development, design technology co-optimisation (DTCO) and layout design.

Harry Wins Men's Ballon d'Or



- England captain Harry Kane won 2026 Men's Ballon d'Or at the 70th edition of the awards ceremony held at London Palladium Theatre.
- He became the fifth Englishman to win the award, following Stanley Matthews (1956), Bobby Charlton (1966), Kevin Keegan (1978 and 1979) and Michael Owen (2001).
- Kane also won the Gerd Müller Trophy for the best men's striker of the season.

9th Men's Asian Champions Trophy 2026 Begins in Jalandhar



- The 9th Hero Men's Asian Champions Trophy 2026 began on October 27, 2026, in Jalandhar, Punjab, India.
- Six teams are participating: India, Bangladesh, China, Japan, South Korea and Malaysia.
- The venue in Jalandhar is the Olympian Surjit Singh Hockey Stadium.

Yuki Bhambri, Ryan Seggerman clinch Almaty Open doubles title



- India's Yuki Bhambri and his American partner Ryan Seggerman won the men's doubles title at the ATP 250 Almaty Open 2026 in Kazakhstan.
- Bhambri had previously won ATP doubles titles in Mallorca (2023), Gstaad and Munich (2024), and Dubai (2025).

- The fourth-seeded Indo-American pair defeated top-seeded Austrian players Lucas Miedler and Neil Oberleitner in the final.

Shabari Naturals Wins G-Mark Award for Tribal Packaging



- Shabari Naturals, a Maharashtra government initiative promoting products made by tribal communities and forest gatherers, won the G-Mark Global Design Award for its packaging inspired by traditional art forms.
- The initiative is managed by the Shabari Tribal Finance and Development Corporation (STFDC), headquartered in Nashik, Maharashtra.
- The packaging features traditional Warli, Gond and Chitrakathi art, along with elements depicting tribal culture and legends.

LATEST RBI MONETARY POLICY RATES

Repo Rate: 5.50%

Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) Rate: 5.25%

Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate: 5.75%

Bank Rate: 5.75%

Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR): 3.00%

Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR): 18.00%

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

27-10-2026 / TUESDAY

The Indian Army (IA) observes Infantry Day annually on 27 October to honour the Infantry's contribution to national security and commemorate its historic landing at Srinagar Airfield in 1947, also marked as Shaurya Diwas.