



Weekly **Current Affairs**

4th to 10th October 2026

NATIONAL NEWS



Ladakh Launches India's First Snow Leopard Safari



- Ladakh launched India's first high-altitude wildlife safari focused on snow leopards during Wildlife Week celebrations in Leh.
- The initiative is implemented by the Snow Leopard and High-Altitude Nature (SHAN) Conservation Society, in collaboration with the Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Ladakh.
- Proposed safari locations include Hemis National Park, Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary, Karakoram Wildlife Sanctuary, Nubra, Zaskar, Sham, Kargil and Drass.

Nameri Tiger Reserve Receives CA|TS-Approved Status



- Nameri Tiger Reserve in Assam received Conservation Assured | Tiger Standards (CA|TS)-Approved status.
- CA|TS stands for Conservation Assured | Tiger Standards, a globally recognised framework for assessing the effectiveness of tiger conservation and protected-area management.
- CA|TS was launched in 2013 at the first Asian Parks Congress in Japan.

GST Council Removes Arrest Powers of Tax Officers



- The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council recommended significant changes to the Central Goods & Services Tax Act, 2017, to rationalise offences and reduce compliance burdens.
- The Council recommended omission of Section 69 of the CGST Act, which provides for the power to arrest in specified GST-related offences.
- It recommended increasing the monetary threshold for prosecution from ₹1 crore to ₹5 cr. GST Council is a constitutional body established under Article 279A of the Constitution of India.

Padma Shri Kathak Dancer Roshan Kumari Passes Away



- Renowned Indian classical dancer, choreographer, Padma Shri awardee Roshan passed away at age of 82 in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- She was a prominent exponent of Kathak, one of India's eight recognised classical dance forms, and belonged to the Jaipur gharana.
- She received the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Kathak in 1975 for her contribution to Indian classical dance.

Health Ministry to Launch JOSH Teams for TB Elimination



- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched the JOSH (Joint Squad for Health) Teams initiative.
- The initiative is aimed at strengthening community participation in India's fight against Tuberculosis (TB).
- Both CBNAAT and Truenat are fast and accurate molecular tests used for the diagnosis of tuberculosis (TB).

Uttarakhand Becomes India's Sixth Fully Literate State



- The achievement has been recognised under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- It has been achieved through the ULLAS – Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society programme.
- Uttarakhand joins Mizoram, Goa, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim as states recognised as fully literate.

Veteran Actor Nana Patekar Passes Away at 75

- Nana Patekar won three National Film Awards—in 1990 for Parinda, in 1995 for Krantiveer, and in 1997 for Agni Sakshi.

- He was honoured with the Padma Shri in 2013, India's fourth-highest civilian award, for his contribution to the arts.
- He worked extensively in Hindi and Marathi cinema, as well as theatre.

Nagaland Launches Samaveshi Aajeevika Yojana for Households



- Nagaland State Rural Livelihoods Mission (NSRLM), under the Department of Rural Development, Govt. of Nagaland, launched Samaveshi Aajeevika Yojana (SAY-SOBLOK).
- The launch was accompanied by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between NSRLM and BRAC International.
- SAY-SOBLOK is aligned with the Samaveshi Aajeevika Yojana (SAY) under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana–National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).

10th India Mobile Congress 2026 Begins at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi



- The 10th edition of India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2026 is being held at Yashobhoomi (India International Convention & Expo Centre), New Delhi.
- The theme of IMC 2026 is “Scale Without Boundaries.”
- IMC is jointly organised by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, and the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI).

Odisha Launches India's First MICE Incentive Portal



- The Odisha Government launched India's first dedicated MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) Incentive Portal to promote business tourism and MICE events in the state.
- The initiative aims to attract corporate conventions, conferences, destination weddings and other large-scale events to Odisha.
- The portal was launched during the 7th Odisha Travel Bazaar 2026 in Bhubaneswar.

17th Pension Adalat Held in New Delhi

- The 17th All India Pension Adalat was held at T. N. Chaturvedi Memorial Hall, IIPA, New Delhi.
- The Pension Adalat was organised by the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW).
- The grievances pertained to 24 Ministries/Departments and were filed through the CPENGRAMS Portal.

19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention to be Held in Kolkata



- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated every year on 9 January to recognise the contribution of the Overseas Indian community to India's development.

- 9 January was chosen because Mahatma Gandhi returned to India from South Africa on 9 January 1915.
- The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention, organised by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India, was last held as the 18th PBD Convention in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

Mumbai's Jawahar Dweep Becomes India's 1st Plastic-Free Oil Terminal



- Jawahar Dweep Marine Oil Terminal, operated by the Mumbai Port Authority (MbPA), has been declared India's first plastic-free oil terminal.
- The plastic-free status reflects Mumbai Port's effort to reduce single-use plastic and improve waste management across its operations.
- The terminal achieved this distinction as part of Swachhata Abhiyan 2026, promoting cleaner and more sustainable port operations.

Bhadohi District Renamed as Sant Ravidas Nagar Bhadohi



- The renaming is associated with the 650th birth anniversary of Sant Ravidas.
- His birthplace is Seer Govardhanpur in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, which is a major centre associated with the celebrations.
- He followed the path of Nirguna Brahma, was a cobbler, founded the Ramdasi Sampradaya, and was a disciple of Saint Ramananda.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



India and Mali Mark World Cotton Day at UN Headquarters



- India and Mali commemorated World Cotton Day on 7 October 2026 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, United States.
- Theme of event was “Cotton for Sustainability: Livelihoods, Value Addition and Partnership.”
- Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations, highlighted cotton's association with Mahatma Gandhi, the spinning wheel, self-reliance and India's freedom struggle.

India-Ghana Sign 2 MoUs on Science, Education & Agriculture



- India and Ghana exchanged two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) to strengthen cooperation in scientific research, academics, capacity building, agricultural research and education.
- The first MoU covers cooperation between the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) and the University of Ghana in academics, scientific research and capacity building.
- The second MoU establishes collaboration between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Ghana's CSIR-Crops Research Institute in agricultural research and education.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS



Smit Machchhar to Receive Israel's Civilian Heroism Award



- Indian pilot Captain Smit Machchhar, employed by Flydubai, will receive Israel's Presidential Award for Civilian Heroism for his bravery during a mid-air emergency.
- The incident occurred on 30 September 2026 aboard Flydubai Flight FZ1073, travelling from Dubai to Tel Aviv, Israel.
- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also invited Machchhar to attend Israel's Independence Day celebrations.

Anne Carson Wins the Nobel Prize in Literature 2026



- Canadian poet, essayist and translator Anne Carson won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Literature.
- The award was announced by the Swedish Academy in Stockholm, Sweden.
- She was recognised for her bold and inventive literary works that engage with classical traditions and create new forms of contemporary literature.

Nobel Chemistry 2026 Awarded to Henri B. Kagan and Kenso Soai



- The 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded to Henri B. Kagan of France and Kenso Soai of Japan.
- The award recognised their pioneering work in asymmetric organic synthesis.
- Their research focused on non-linear effects and autocatalysis in chemical reactions.

Indian Mathematician Mahesh Kakde Wins 2026 Ramanujan Prize

- Professor Mahesh Kakde of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru has been awarded the 2026 Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians for his contributions to algebraic number theory.

- The 2026 Ramanujan Prize recognises Kakde's fundamental results in noncommutative Iwasawa theory.
- The prize is administered jointly by the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), International Mathematical Union (IMU).

Francis Halzen Wins Nobel Prize in Physics 2026



- Francis Halzen, Professor at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, USA, has been awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics.
- Halzen received the Nobel Prize “for decisive contributions to the IceCube Neutrino Observatory and the discovery of high-energy neutrinos of astrophysical origin.”
- Halzen's work laid the foundation for the IceCube Neutrino Observatory, located at the South Pole in Antarctica.

Deisseroth, Hegemann & Nagel Win 2026 Nobel Medicine Prize



- Karl Deisseroth (USA), Peter Hegemann and Georg Nagel (Germany) were awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.
- They received prize “for discoveries concerning light-gated ion channels and optogenetics.”
- Peter Hegemann and Georg Nagel discovered channelrhodopsin, while Karl Deisseroth demonstrated that blue light could trigger nerve signals by introducing the channelrhodopsin gene into nerve cells.

NEW APPOINTMENTS



Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit Appointed Next Chief of Air Staff



- He will succeed Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh, who will superannuate on 31 Oct. 2026.
- Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit was awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) in 2026 for distinguished service.
- He took over as Vice Chief of the Air Staff on 1 July 2026, succeeding Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor.

Smriti Mandhana Appointed Captain of Women's Cricket Team



- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) appointed Smriti Mandhana as the captain of the Indian Women's Cricket Team.
- She takes over the captaincy from Harmanpreet Kaur, who stepped down from the role on the same day. Harmanpreet will continue playing for India.
- Mandhana will be the full-time white-ball captain, leading India in ODIs and T20Is.

ICICI Prudential Life Appoints Sidharatha Mishra as MD & CEO

- ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has appointed Sidharatha Mishra as its Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO).
- He will succeed Anup Bagchi, who will step down as MD & CEO on 13 October 2026.
- Mishra has been appointed for a period of five consecutive years.

Anup Bagchi Named HDFC Bank MD & CEO



- Anup Bagchi has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of HDFC Bank after receiving approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- He will succeed Sashidhar Jagdishan, whose tenure ends on 26 October 2026.
- His appointment is for a three-year term.

Federal Bank Appoints Virat Sunil Diwanji as Executive Director

- Federal Bank has appointed Virat Sunil Diwanji as Executive Director (ED) on the Board of the Bank.
- His appointment is for a period of three years from the date of assuming charge, subject to the approval of shareholders within three months.
- He has been serving as National Head – Consumer Banking at Federal Bank.

BANKING NEWS



RBI Removes Paytm Payments Bank from List of Scheduled Banks



- PPBL has been excluded from the Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- There are 5 active payment banks in India as of 2026, following the cancellation of Paytm Payments Bank's license.
- Paytm Payments Bank Limited was a Payments Bank, a category regulated by the RBI.

RBI Raises Repo Rate by 25 bps After Over 3 Years

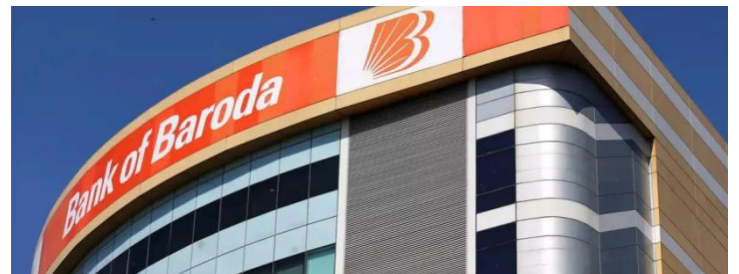
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) raised the policy repo rate by 25 basis points (bps) from 5.25% to 5.50% on 7 October 2026.
- The decision was taken by the six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).
- RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra announced the monetary-policy decision.

SEBI Launches Project Jagrook Investor Awareness Campaign



- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has launched Project JAGRook, a nationwide investor-awareness initiative aimed promoting informed, responsible and disciplined investing.
- The initiative uses a 360-degree communication approach, combining multiple traditional and digital channels to reach investors.
- A key campaign under Project JAGRook “Samajh Se Investing Simple”, which focuses on simplifying investment concepts for common investor.

Bank of Baroda Becomes 2nd PSU Bank to Sponsor a Pension Fund



- PFRDA issued a Certificate of Appointment as Sponsor of a Pension Fund to Bank of Baroda under Section 27 of the PFRDA Act, 2013.
- SBI was the first public sector bank to enter the pension fund business in 2008.
- BoB holds an 80.10% stake in the pension fund management company, while Baroda BNP Asset Management Company holds 19.90%.

NABKISAN Lists India's First WASH-Focused Social Bond on NSE

- NABKISAN Finance Limited, a subsidiary of NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development), listed India's first Social Bond dedicated exclusively to the WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) sector on the National Stock Exchange (NSE), Mumbai.
- It has been assigned CRISIL AAA (Stable) and CARE AAA (Stable) ratings.
- The bond has a five-year tenure and carries a coupon rate of 8.10%.

SPORTS



Bhagat & Patel Named India's Asian Para Games Flag Bearers



- Paralympic champions Pramod Bhagat and Bhavina Patel have been named the flag bearers of Indian contingent for the Opening Ceremony of the Aichi-Nagoya 2026 Asian Para Games.
- Pramod Bhagat is a leading Indian para-badminton player, while Bhavina Patel is a leading Indian para-table tennis player.
- Devendra Jhajharia is the President of the Paralympic Committee of India.

Kumkum Mohod & Sujeet Kalkal Get New IOA Awards



- Kumkum Mohod was named the first recipient of the Jaspal Rana Award for the Best Female Sportsperson of the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games 2026.
- Sujeet Kalkal was named the first recipient of the Raja Randhir Singh Award for the Best Male Sportsperson of the Games.
- Kumkum Mohod, aged 17, won three medals, including two gold medals, on her Asian Games debut while Sujeet Kalkal, aged 23, won gold in the men's 65 kg freestyle wrestling category.

India Beat Pakistan to Win Asian Games 2026 Men's Cricket Gold



- India defeated Pakistan by 19 runs in the men's cricket final of the 2026 Asian Games to win the gold medal.
- India scored 211/6 in 20 overs after winning the toss and choosing to bat first.
- Pakistan scored 192/6 in 20 overs, falling 19 runs short of India's target.

Doha Receives Asian Games Flag for 2030 Asian Games



- Qatar officially received the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) Flag during the closing ceremony of the 20th Asian Games Aichi-Nagoya 2026 in Japan.
- The handover officially marked the beginning of Qatar's preparations to host the 21st Asian Games in Doha in 2030.
- The Doha 2030 Asian Games has adopted the slogan "The Games We Live For," reflecting Qatar's vision for hosting the 21st Asian Games in Doha in 2030.

DEFENCE & TECHNOLOGY



India's First 3D-Printed Rural Housing Pilot Launched in A.P.



- The project was launched at Burripalem village in Guntur district, with houses planned in Burripalem and Obulnayudupalem.
- The project will construct 177 houses in Burripalem, Obulnayudupalem under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana–Gramin (PMAY-G).
- The Ministry of Rural Development is the central implementing authority, while the CSIR–Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Roorkee, is involved in the project's technical planning and oversight, according to pre-launch reporting.

Raksha Mantri Launches First Fleet Support Ship 'INS Surya'



- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh launched the Indian Navy's first indigenous Fleet Support Ship (FSS-1), named 'INS Surya', at Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- INS Surya is 1st of five Fleet Support Ships being built indigenously by HSL for Indian Navy.

- Hindustan Shipyard Limited, a Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Defence, attained Miniratna Category-I status in 2025.

India-UAE Mountain Guardian 2026 Begins in Uttarakhand



- Mountain Guardian 2026 is the 3rd edition of the India-UAE joint military exercise.
- The exercise is being conducted at the Foreign Training Node, Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.
- The exercise focuses on Mountain Warfare and aims to enhance interoperability, mutual understanding and cooperation between the two armies.

Elon Musk to Rename SpaceX AI Arm as SpaceSI



- SpaceSI uses "SI" for "Super Intelligence", replacing "AI" (Artificial Intelligence).
- SpaceX (Space Exploration Technologies Corp.) was founded in 2002 by Elon Musk and is headquartered in Hawthorne, California.
- Falcon 9 is a reusable two-stage rocket designed to transport satellites, spacecraft and other payloads into orbit.