

Daily Current Affairs

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Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2026

- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs will observe Janjatiya Gaurav Pakhwada nationwide from November 1 to 15, 2026. The fortnight will culminate in Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas on November 15, the birth anniversary of tribal freedom fighter Dharti Aaba Bhagwan Birsa Munda.
- The Government of India designated November 15 as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas in 2021 to honour tribal heroes and their contributions.
- The Pakhwada is scheduled to promote awareness of government schemes and entitlements and to facilitate delivery of benefits to tribal families. More than 300 projects are planned for tribal communities, including 228 inaugurations and 74 foundation-stone layings.
- Birsa Munda was a tribal freedom fighter associated with the Munda community. The Ulgulan, or “Great Tumult”, was a movement led by Birsa Munda against British rule and the exploitation of tribal communities in the late nineteenth century.
- Article 342 of the Constitution provides for the specification of Scheduled Tribes by Presidential order for each State or Union Territory. The Fifth Schedule concerns the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes in specified States.



Global Coral Reef Ecosystems Face Collapse Risk

- According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), almost all assessed shallow-water coral reef ecosystems are in danger of collapsing by 2075 due to an extremely high risk.
- The first global evaluation by the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems found that out of 127 ecosystems analyzed, 122, or 96% of them, were categorized as Critically Endangered.
- The report was launched on 22 October 2026 at CBD COP17 in Yerevan, Armenia, where climate-change-induced ocean warming and marine heatwaves are identified as the main threats.
- The assessment was carried out in 127 tropical and subtropical marine ecoregions covering over 80 countries and territories, which is about 188,362 square kilometers of light and shallow coral reefs. More than 250 experts participated in the global assessment.



Poland and UK Sign Three-Year Defence Plan

- Poland and the United Kingdom signed a three-year defence cooperation plan in Warsaw on 27 October 2026. Named the Warsaw Defence Plan, it was signed by Polish Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Władysław Kosiniak-Kamysz and UK Defence Secretary Wes Streeting.
- The plan implements the UK-Poland Security and Defence Partnership Treaty, also known as the Northolt Treaty, signed by Prime Ministers Donald Tusk and Keir Starmer on 27 May 2026.
- The plan covers military capabilities, defence technology and coordination against security threats attributed to Russia. Its stated operational domains include sea, land, air, cyber and defence industry.
- Cooperation includes artificial intelligence, drones, anti-drone systems, modern deterrence measures and military exercises. The two countries also plan to increase joint defensive maritime activity and coordination in the Baltic Sea.
- The Miecznik naval programme involves the construction of multi-purpose frigates. Integrated air defence cooperation includes Poland's Narew, Pilica and Pilica+ programmes. The plan also includes establishing an independent production line for 155mm ammunition.
- Defence-industry cooperation includes procurement coordination and production capacity development, with existing cooperation involving MBDA UK, BAE Systems and Poland's PGZ. Poland has procured the Narew air defence system from MBDA UK.

- The plan addresses Russian hybrid activity, including drone incursions that have prompted the mobilisation of Polish forces and air defences. Poland and the UK affirmed support for Ukraine amid the ongoing conflict.
- Both governments support stronger European defence capabilities alongside the transatlantic alliance, rather than complete European defence independence from the United States. Poland joined NATO in 1999, while the UK was a founding member of the alliance in 1949.



UP Approves PRAGATI AI and Robotics Park

- Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved a 69.52-acre AI and robotics park in Greater Noida on 27 October 2026. Named the Platform for Robotics and AI Growth Through Technology and Innovation (PRAGATI) Park, it is projected to generate more than 100,000 direct and indirect jobs and contribute about ₹2,000 crore annually in Gross Value Added (GVA) at full scale.
- PRAGATI Park is divided into an eight-acre zone developed through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) and a 61.52-acre zone for private investment. A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), a company established to carry out a specific project, will develop and operate the PPP zone.
- The Greater Noida Authority will hold a 26% equity stake in the SPV, while the selected industrial partner will hold 74%.
- Private enterprises will develop the second zone through investments in industrial units and related activities. The state government will have no capital liability for that zone. The SPV's industrial partner will be selected through a quality-based process.

- For the eight-acre zone, the Greater Noida Authority will contribute ₹21.1 crore in equity, and the state government will provide an interest-free loan of ₹126.2 crore for 30 years.
- The combined support is ₹147.3 crore. The state's IT and Electronics Department will reimburse the lease premium for the plot to the Greater Noida Authority under the prescribed arrangement.



India and Mexico Launch PTA Negotiations

- India and Mexico formally launched negotiations for a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) after signing the Terms of Reference (ToR) in Mexico City on 26 October 2026. The signing took place during the visit of India's Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal.
- The proposed agreement follows an understanding reached by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum at the G7 Summit in Canada in June 2025.
- A Preferential Trade Agreement provides tariff concessions on selected goods traded between participating countries. Its coverage is generally narrower than that of a free trade agreement, which can cover a wider range of goods and services.
- The ToR sets out the framework, scope, negotiating modalities and roadmap for the India–Mexico negotiations. Mexico's tariffs of up to 50% on 1,463 items from countries without bilateral trade agreements took effect on 1 January 2026.

- The proposed PTA is intended to address the effect of these tariffs on Indian exports, including automobiles, textiles, footwear, plastics, steel, chemicals and toys.
- Bilateral merchandise trade between India and Mexico was approximately US\$7.83 billion in fiscal year 2025–26. India exported goods worth US\$5.73 billion to Mexico during that period, including automobiles valued at US\$1.92 billion. Mexico has expressed interest in an “early harvest” arrangement, which would liberalise trade in selected goods before the full negotiations conclude.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

Q1. When is Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas observed in India?

- A) 2 October
- B) 15 November
- C) 26 November
- D) 9 August

Answer: B) 15 November

Q2. The Ulgulan movement was led by which tribal freedom fighter?

- A) Sidhu Murmu
- B) Tantia Bhil
- C) Bhagwan Birsa Munda
- D) Alluri Sitarama Raju

Answer: C) Bhagwan Birsa Munda

Q3. According to the supplied presentation, how many coral reef ecosystems were classified as Critically Endangered in the IUCN assessment?

- A) 105 out of 127
- B) 112 out of 127
- C) 122 out of 127
- D) 127 out of 127

Answer: C) 122 out of 127

Q4. Where was the report on global coral reef ecosystem risks launched, according to the presentation?

- A) Geneva, Switzerland
- B) Yerevan, Armenia
- C) Nairobi, Kenya
- D) Baku, Azerbaijan

Answer: B) Yerevan, Armenia

Q5. Which two countries signed the Warsaw Defence Plan on 27 October 2026?

- A) Poland and Germany
- B) Poland and France
- C) Poland and the United Kingdom
- D) United Kingdom and Ukraine

Answer: C) Poland and the United Kingdom

Q6. What is the full form of PRAGATI in the name of Uttar Pradesh's proposed AI and robotics park?

- A) Platform for Robotics and AI Growth Through Technology and Innovation
- B) Programme for Research and Advanced Governance in Technology and Industry
- C) Platform for Research, Automation, Growth and Artificial Technology Integration
- D) Programme for Robotics and Advanced Technology in Industry

Answer: A) Platform for Robotics and AI Growth Through Technology and Innovation

Q7. What is the total area proposed for PRAGATI Park in Greater Noida?

- A) 49.52 acres
- B) 59.52 acres
- C) 69.52 acres
- D) 79.52 acres

Answer: C) 69.52 acres

Q8. What percentage of equity will the Greater Noida Authority hold in the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for PRAGATI Park's PPP zone?

- A) 26%
- B) 49%
- C) 51%
- D) 74%

Answer: A) 26%

Q9. India and Mexico formally launched negotiations for which type of trade agreement in October 2026?

- A) Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement
- B) Preferential Trade Agreement
- C) Bilateral Investment Treaty
- D) Customs Union Agreement

Answer: B) Preferential Trade Agreement

Q10. According to the supplied presentation, what was the approximate value of India–Mexico bilateral merchandise trade in FY 2025–26?

- A) US\$5.23 billion
- B) US\$6.50 billion
- C) US\$7.83 billion
- D) US\$10.25 billion

Answer: C) US\$7.83 billion