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Prime Minister Modi to Participate Virtually in the 22nd ASEAN-India Summit

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will take part virtually in the 22nd ASEAN-India Summit on October 26.
- ✓ He will join the meeting at the invitation of Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim.
- ✓ The Prime Minister said that India is committed to deepening the ASEAN-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.
- ✓ The External Affairs Ministry said that Modi and ASEAN leaders will review the progress of their partnership.
- ✓ External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will attend the 20th East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur on October 27.
- ✓ The East Asia Summit will discuss peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region.



Defence Acquisition Council Approves Rs. 79,000 Crore Projects to Boost India's Armed Forces

- ✓ **The Defence Acquisition Council has approved defence projects worth about Rs. 79,000 crore.**
- ✓ These projects aim to strengthen India's Armed Forces.
- ✓ The meeting of Defence Acquisition Council was chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- ✓ The Defence Ministry announced several major acquisitions for the Indian Army.
- ✓ The Army will get the Nag Missile System (Tracked) Mk-II. It will also receive Ground-Based Mobile ELINT Systems.
- ✓ High Mobility Vehicles equipped with Material Handling Cranes have also been approved.
- ✓ For the Indian Navy, several projects received approval. These include Landing Platform Docks and 30mm Naval Surface Guns.
- ✓ The Navy will also get Advanced Lightweight Torpedoes and Electro-Optical Infrared Search and Track Systems.



- ✓ Smart Ammunition for 76mm Super Rapid Gun Mounts has also been cleared.
- ✓ The Indian Air Force received approval for the Collaborative Long Range Target Saturation/Destruction System.
- ✓ This system can operate autonomously. It can take off, land, navigate, identify targets, and deliver payloads within mission zones.
- ✓ These new acquisitions will boost the technological capabilities of the Armed Forces.
- ✓ They will also improve the operational readiness of all three defence services.

Emerging Science, Technology & Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2025 to Be Held in New Delhi from November 3-5

- ✓ **The Emerging Science, Technology, and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2025 will take place at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from November 3 to 5.**
- ✓ The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology held a curtain-raiser event to mark the upcoming conclave.
- ✓ During the event, MeitY Secretary S. Krishnan emphasized the importance of leveraging Artificial Intelligence for societal benefit and inclusive growth.
- ✓ He highlighted that AI will be a key driver in India's journey toward becoming a developed nation.
- ✓ The conclave is being organized by the Department of Science and Technology.
- ✓ ESTIC 2025 will spotlight frontier innovations shaping India's technology-driven development.



Key Provisions of Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025 to Take Effect from November 1

- ✓ **The key provisions of the Banking Laws (Amendment) Act, 2025, related to nomination will take effect from the first day of November 2025.**
- ✓ The Finance Ministry made an announcement about this. The changes will give depositors greater flexibility.
- ✓ Depositors can now make nominations more easily. Customers can nominate up to four individuals for their bank deposits.
- ✓ The new rules are meant to simplify the claim settlement process. This will help both depositors and their nominees.
- ✓ The amendment also aims to improve governance practices. It seeks to increase accountability in the banking system.
- ✓ The Act will create uniform standards for banks' reporting to the Reserve Bank of India.
- ✓ It focuses on enhancing depositor protection. It also aims to strengthen audit quality in public sector banks.



Vishvajit More Wins Bronze in 55 kg Greco-Roman Category at Under-23 Wrestling World Championships in Serbia

- ✓ **Vishvajit More secured a bronze medal in the 55 kg Greco-Roman category at the Under-23 Wrestling World Championships.**
- ✓ The event took place in Serbia. He won over Kazakhstan's Yerassyl Mmayrbekov.
- ✓ The victory was by a narrow 5-4 margin. The match was held in Novi Sad.
- ✓ This win was India's first medal at the 2025 Under-23 Wrestling World Championships.
- ✓ Three Indian female wrestlers were eliminated in their opening rounds.
- ✓ They were Hanny Kumari, Diksha Malik, and Priya Malik.
- ✓ A total of 29 Indian wrestlers are participating in the event. The event will run until October 27.
- ✓ Approximately 700 wrestlers are competing in the 2025 World Championships. The championships are taking place in Serbia.



Lassa Fever Outbreak in Nigeria Claims 172 Lives in 2025

- ✓ **The death toll from the Lassa fever outbreak in Nigeria has increased to 172 in 2025.**
- ✓ A total of 924 confirmed Lassa fever cases have been reported out of 8,041 suspected cases between January and October 2025.
- ✓ Poor sanitation, limited public awareness, and delayed treatment are aggravating the spread of the disease in Nigeria.
- ✓ The current case fatality rate is 18.6%. This is more than the 17% case fatality rate recorded during the same period in 2024.
- ✓ Individuals aged 21 to 30 years are the most affected by the outbreak.
- ✓ Lassa fever is a virus illness. It is found in West Africa. Lassa virus causes it.
- ✓ Lassa fever is transmitted to humans through contact with urine or feces of infected rodents.
- ✓ Lassa virus also spreads from human to human through direct contact with the blood, urine or other body fluids of infected person.
- ✓ Its symptoms vary from mild (fever, headache, sore throat) to severe hemorrhagic disease.



Indian-American Paul Kapur Appointed as US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia

- ✓ **Paul Kapur took oath as the US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia.**
- ✓ He is an Indian-American security expert. He was one of 107 nominees approved by the Senate.
- ✓ Kapur will now oversee America's diplomatic relations with South and Central Asian nations. This includes India.
- ✓ Kapur succeeds Donald Lu. Donald Lu held the position from September 2021 to January 2025.
- ✓ Before this role, Kapur worked in the State Department's Policy Planning Staff.
- ✓ He worked there from 2020 to 2021. He focused on South and Central Asia, Indo-Pacific strategy, and US-India relations.



Tuvalu Becomes 90th Member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

- ✓ **Tuvalu has officially joined the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as its 90th State Member.**
- ✓ The country consists of nine atolls and islands. It covers a small land area of only 26 square kilometers.
- ✓ Tuvalu has large Exclusive Economic Zone of around 900,000 square kilometers. This is rich in marine biodiversity.
- ✓ Tuvalu's ecosystems, including coral reefs, fisheries, and seabird populations, threatened by climate change and rising sea levels.
- ✓ Tuvalu was welcomed into the IUCN during the IUCN World Conservation Congress held in Abu Dhabi.
- ✓ The membership also opens doors for Tuvalu to collaborate with global funding initiatives, like the Green Climate Fund.
- ✓ The IUCN Congress 2025 took place in Abu Dhabi from October 9-15, 2025.
- ✓ Tuvalu lies in the South Pacific. Funafuti is its capital.
- ✓ International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) was created in 1948. It is headquartered in Gland, Switzerland.
- ✓ It brings together governments, NGOs, and experts to promote sustainable development and conserve nature.



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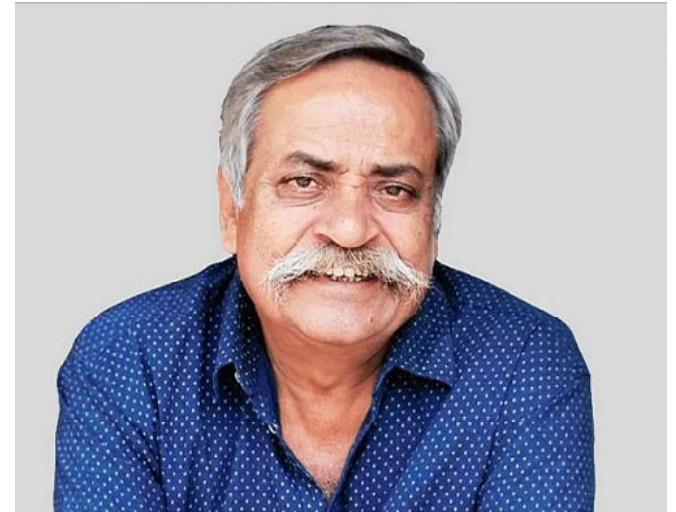
World Polio Day: 24 October

- ✓ World Polio Day is observed every year on 24 October to increase awareness about importance of polio vaccination to keep every child safe from poliomyelitis (polio).
- ✓ This year, the theme of World Polio Day is “End Polio: Every Child, Every Vaccine, Everywhere”.
- ✓ It was started by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who had led the first team that made a vaccine against poliomyelitis.
- ✓ World Health Assembly committed to eradicate polio in 1988.
- ✓ Polio is a life-threatening disease. It is caused by the poliovirus.
- ✓ It spreads mainly through contact with feces of an infected person or contaminated water.
- ✓ World Health Organisation declared India as polio-free on 27 March 2014.



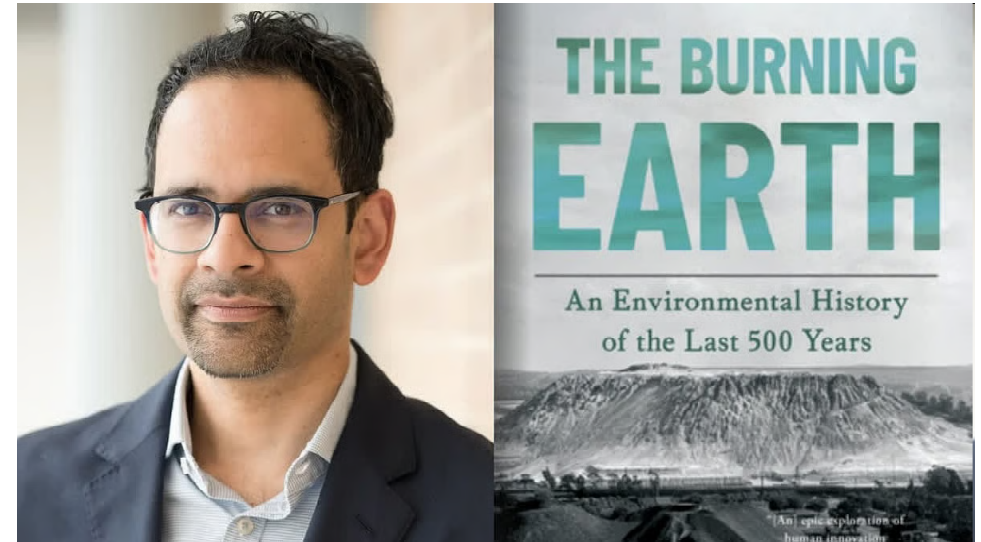
Advertising Icon and Padma Shri Awardee Piyush Pandey Passes Away at 70

- ✓ **Piyush Pandey, advertising legend and Padma Shri recipient, died at the age of 70.**
- ✓ He was ad agency Ogilvy's Executive Chairman and Chief Creative Officer Worldwide.
- ✓ He is remembered for his lasting impact on Indian advertising.
- ✓ In 2004, he became the first Asian who served as jury president at the Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity.
- ✓ He received Padma Shri in 2016. He became first Indian advertising professional to get this honor.
- ✓ In 2018, he and his brother Praseon were the first Asians to get the Lion of St. Mark, Cannes Lions' lifetime achievement award, for promoting Indian creativity globally.
- ✓ He helped in creation of political slogan, "Ab ki baar, Modi sarkar."
- ✓ His ad portfolio includes advertisements such as 'Kuch Khaas Hai Zindagi Mein' for Cadbury Dairy Milk, Asian Paints' 'Har Ghar Kuch Kehta Hai', and 'ZooZoo' characters for Vodafone.
- ✓ Pandey also led public service campaigns such as the 'Do Boond Zindagi Ke' polio campaign with Amitabh Bachchan.



Global Recognition for Environmental History: Sunil Amrith Wins the British Academy Book Prize 2025

- ✓ Sunil Amrith, an Indian-origin historian and Harvard professor, received the British Academy Book Prize 2025.
- ✓ His book titled *Burning Earth: A History* focuses on the long-term relationship between humans and the environment.
- ✓ The award recognizes outstanding non-fiction writing in the humanities and social sciences.
- ✓ The prize amount is £25,000 (about Rs. 25 lakh).
- ✓ Sunil Amrith's research explores environmental change, migration, and Indian diaspora connections.
- ✓ His book examines 500 years of environmental transformation due to colonialism, industrialization, and development.
- ✓ It highlights how human activity has shaped the planet in the modern Anthropocene era.
- ✓ The work combines scientific, historical, and sociological perspectives to trace ecological change.
- ✓ The British Academy praised the book for its scholarly depth and global historical scope.
- ✓ This recognition marks a major achievement for Indian scholars contributing to global academic research.



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Bathou religion of Bodo community in Assam gets a separate code in the upcoming census

- ✓ The **Bodo Community**, primarily located in **Assam**, practices the **Bathou religion**, which has now been granted a separate code in the upcoming Indian Census.
- ✓ This recognition marks an important **national acknowledgment** of the Bathou faith and its followers.
- ✓ The **Registrar General of India** has instructed census enumerators to **record each respondent's religion exactly as stated**, ensuring accurate documentation of all faiths.
- ✓ The **core philosophy** of Bathou religion revolves around “**the deep mystery of the creator of the five elements.**”
- ✓ The **five elements** central to the religion are **Fire, Air, Earth, Sky, and Water.**
- ✓ A **national census** in India is conducted **once every 10 years.**
- ✓ The **first complete Indian census** was conducted in **1881**, and after independence, the first was held in **1951.**



- ✓ The **last census** took place in **2011**, while the **2021 census** was **delayed due to COVID-19** and is now expected in **2026 for Himalayan states** and **2027 for the rest of India**.
- ✓ The **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** oversees all census operations through the **Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India**, responsible for data collection and analysis.
- ✓ The **upcoming census** will be **India's first digital census**, allowing **online self-enumeration via a mobile app**, marking a major modernization step.