

# 22<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> November

## IMPORTANT CURRENT AFFAIRS

Our weekly Current Affairs PDF covers essential updates in Banking, Finance, National News, International Affairs as well as important days. Stay informed with key developments to enhance your preparation and stay ahead in competitive exams.

### NATIONAL NEWS

- 1. Union Cabinet Approves ₹2,481 Crore for National Mission on Natural Farming:** The scheme, launched on **November 25, 2024**, will promote **natural farming** across **750,000 hectares** and benefit **1 crore farmers** over two years, integrating past initiatives like the **Bhartiya Prakratik Krishi Paddhati** and **Gobardhan Mission**.
- 2. Prime Minister Modi Celebrates Odisha's Cultural Heritage at Odisha Parba 2024:** Held from **November 22-24, 2024**, at **Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium**, the event showcased **Odisha's culture, history, and its future potential**.
- 3. Launch of the VISION Portal for Uplifting Underprivileged Youth:** **Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh** inaugurated the **VISION Portal**, developed by the **Utsav Foundation**, to provide **education, skill development, and sustainable livelihoods** to **underprivileged youth**.
- 4. India Re-elected to UN Peacebuilding Commission for 2025-2026:** India's **re-election** underscores its commitment to **global peace and stability**, reaffirming its role as a major contributor to **UN peacekeeping efforts**.

5. **Government Approves ₹6,000 Crore for One Nation One Subscription (ONOS):** The initiative aims to provide **digital access to scholarly articles** for **1.8 crore students, faculty, and researchers** in **6,300 government-managed institutions**.
  
6. **Launch of "Bal Vivah Mukta Bharat" Campaign to Eradicate Child Marriage:** Union Minister Annapurna Devi launched the campaign on **November 25, 2024**, which includes the **Child Marriage Free Bharat Portal** to report incidents and support **girls' education and health**.
  
7. **National Seed Congress 2024 Held in Varanasi:** The three-day event, inaugurated by Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, focused on **innovation and collaboration** to enhance the **global seed industry**, with over **700 delegates** in attendance.
  
8. **Indian Railways Introduces 'Sanraksha' Mobile App for Passenger Safety:** The app, aimed at improving **safety through training and real-time feedback** for railway staff, is being rolled out across **16 divisions**, following a successful **pilot in Nagpur**.
  
9. **Supreme Court Upholds Land Acquisition for Yamuna Expressway:** The **Supreme Court** validated the **Uttar Pradesh government's use of urgency provisions** to acquire land for the development of the **Yamuna Expressway**, facilitating the project's progress.
  
10. **India Launches Its First Green Hydrogen Fuelling Station in Leh:** Amara Raja Infra, in partnership with **NTPC Ltd**, inaugurated the station in **Ladakh**, producing **80 kg of green hydrogen** daily to fuel **hydrogen buses**, supporting India's **green mobility** goals.

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## BANKING AND FINANCE

- RBI and Maldives Monetary Authority Sign MoU for Cross-Border Currency Use:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA) signed a MoU to promote the use of **Indian Rupee (INR)** and **Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR)** in **cross-border transactions**, aiming to enhance **bilateral trade**, reduce **transaction costs**, and optimize **settlement times**.
- IndusInd Bank and UNICEF Launch Climate Resilience Initiative:** IndusInd Bank, in collaboration with UNICEF, launched a program under its **CSR** to promote **Disaster Resilient Communities** in **five districts** across India. The initiative focuses on enhancing **climate-informed frameworks** and resilience against **climate-induced disasters**.

3. **PNB Joins PCAF for Climate Transparency:** Punjab National Bank (PNB) has joined the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF), aligning with global standards for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions accounting and the RBI's draft framework on climate-related financial risk disclosures.
4. **India Signs Trade Agreement with EFTA:** India signed a Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) with Switzerland, Iceland, Norway, and Liechtenstein, collectively known as the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), granting India access to 99.6% of the EFTA market, with projected benefits of \$100 billion in FDI and 1 million jobs.
5. **Canara HSBC Life Insurance Launches OmniGen AI for Risk Evaluation:** Canara HSBC Life Insurance introduced OmniGen AI, an AI-powered underwriting solution designed to improve risk evaluation accuracy, reduce errors, and speed up policy issuance, powered by Amazon Web Services (AWS).
6. **India's Milk Production Reaches 239.30 Million Tonnes in 2023-24:** India remains the world's largest producer of milk, with 239.30 million tonnes produced in 2023-24, reflecting a 3.78% increase. Per capita milk availability rose from 459 gm to 471 gm per day.
7. **India Secures \$98 Million Loan for Horticulture from ADB:** India has secured a \$98 million loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to improve horticulture productivity through plant health management under the Atmanirbhar Clean Plant Programme (CPP), aiming to develop disease-free planting systems for better crop yield and climate resilience.
8. **India's GDP Growth Slows to 5.4% in Q2 FY 2024-25:** India's GDP growth slowed to 5.4% in Q2 FY 2024-25, down from 6.7% in Q1, marking the lowest growth in seven quarters, with Gross Value Added (GVA) growth dropping to 5.8% from 6.8%.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1. **Yamandu Orsi Elected President of Uruguay:** Yamandu Orsi, former history teacher and mayor of Canelones, was elected Uruguay's president with **49.8% of the vote**. His victory signals a **shift back to center-left governance** after five years of **conservative rule**, promising change while maintaining Uruguay's **moderate ethos**.
2. **Sri Lanka's Central Bank Introduces New Overnight Policy Rate:** Sri Lanka's Central Bank (CBSL) introduced a **single Overnight Policy Rate (OPR)** of **8%** to support the country's recovery post-financial crisis, replacing the previous **Standing Deposit Facility Rate (SDFR)** and **Standing Lending Facility Rate (SLFR)**.
3. **India-Japan Dialogue on Economic Security and Technology:** The **India-Japan Dialogue on Economic Security, Strategic Trade, and Technology** was held in **Tokyo on November 27, 2024**, focusing on enhancing bilateral cooperation in **economic security, supply chain resilience, and emerging technologies**, strengthening the **India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership**.
4. **India-Sri Lanka Anti-Narcotics Operation in Arabian Sea:** The **Indian and Sri Lankan Navies** seized **500 kg of crystal methamphetamine** in a joint **anti-narcotics operation** in the **Arabian Sea on November 24-25, 2024**, highlighting growing cooperation between the two nations in combating **transnational crimes**.
5. **Australia Bans Social Media for Children Under 16:** Australia introduced groundbreaking legislation banning children under **16** from using **social media platforms** like **TikTok, Facebook, and Instagram** to protect minors from online harm. The law imposes fines of up to **AUD 50 million** for non-compliance, with platforms given **one year** to implement changes.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### November 22:

1. **National Education Day (India)** – Observed to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad**, India's first Minister of Education, recognizing his contributions to the development of the education system in India.
2. **Teacher's Day (Czech Republic, Slovakia)** – Honoring the birth of **John Amos Comenius**, a philosopher and educator.

### November 23:

1. **Fibonacci Day** – Celebrating the Fibonacci sequence (1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, ...), observed on 23/11 because the numbers appear in the sequence starting with 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, etc.

2. **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women** – A United Nations observance to raise awareness about gender-based violence and advocate for the elimination of violence against women.

### November 24:

1. **National Thanksgiving Day (USA)** – Celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November, it's a day for families to give thanks for the blessings of the harvest and the past year.
2. **All India Congress Committee (AICC) Foundation Day (India)** – The formation of the **Indian National Congress** was on this day in 1885.

### November 25:

1. **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women** – Promoted by the United Nations, it aims to raise awareness of the negative impacts of violence against women globally.
2. **National Pyramid Day (USA)** – Celebrating the ancient marvels of pyramid-shaped structures across cultures, especially in Egypt.

### November 26:

1. **Constitution Day (India)** – Also called **Samvidhan Divas**, it marks the adoption of the **Constitution of India** in 1949.
2. **Thanksgiving Day (USA)** – This day is a celebration of the harvest and blessings of the past year. It falls on the **fourth Thursday** of November each year.

### November 27:

1. **Small Business Saturday (USA)** – Celebrated on the Saturday after **Thanksgiving** in the U.S., this day encourages consumers to support small businesses.
2. **National Craft Day (USA)** – A day dedicated to promoting the love for crafting and creativity in the U.S.

### November 28:

1. **Red Planet Day** – Commemorating the anniversary of the launch of the first successful mission to **Mars** in 1964.
2. **National French Toast Day (USA)** – Celebrating this classic breakfast dish, which became popular in the U.S.

### November 29:

1. **International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People** – The **United Nations** observes this day to express solidarity with the Palestinian people.
2. **Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare** – This day honors the victims of chemical warfare.

### November 30:

1. **St. Andrew's Day** – Celebrated in **Scotland**, it is the feast day of **St. Andrew**, the patron saint of Scotland.
2. **National Personal Space Day** – Observed in the United States to recognize the importance of personal space in human interaction and well-being.
3. **Computer Security Day** – Dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of computer security and protecting data in the digital age.

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