



# BENEVOLENT IAS ACADEMY

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## **TODAY'S IMPORTANT CURRENT AFFAIRS**

### **BANKING**

**Date: 18.09.2025**

#### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

##### **International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer 2025**

- 1. The United Nations International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, or World Ozone Day or Global Ozone Day, is annually observed across the globe on 16th September**
- 2. The day is observed to raise awareness about the significance of the ozone layer and the impact of its depletion, which contributes to global warming and climate change.**
- 3. This year marks the 31st observance of the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.**
- 4. The theme of the day is “From Science to Global Action.”**
- 5. The inaugural International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer was observed on 16 September 1995.**

##### **International Day of Science, Technology, and Innovation for the South 2025**

- 1. The United Nations (UN) observes the International Day of Science, Technology, and Innovation for the South on 16th September**

2. This year marks the 2nd observance of the International Day of Science, Technology, and Innovation for the South.
3. The **theme** of the day is “**From Voice to Action**”
4. **The day was first observed on 16th September 2024.**

### **International Day of Cardiology 2025**

1. **The United Nations (UN) observes the International Day for Interventional Cardiology every year on 16th September.**
2. The day is observed to raise global awareness about Cardiovascular Diseases (CVDs) and the role of interventional cardiology procedures in their treatment.
3. **This year marks the 3rd International Day for Interventional Cardiology.**
4. **The first-ever International Day for Interventional Cardiology was observed on 16th September 2023.**
5. It commemorates the first coronary angioplasty performed in 1977 by Dr. Andreas Roland Grüntzig, a German physician-scientist, at the University Hospital Zürich (USZ) in Switzerland.

### **NATIONAL AFFAIRS**

#### **PM Narendra Modi's Visit to Bihar on September 15 - Overview**

PM Narendra Modi visited Bihar to lay the foundation stone and inaugurate multiple development projects in various sectors, including railways, aviation, power, and water, **worth more than Rs.40,000 crores in Purnea, Bihar.**

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **Aviation**

He inaugurated the **Interim Terminal Building at New Civil Enclave of Purnea Airport** and flagged off the first commercial flight from Purnea, connecting the

Seemanchal region to the national aviation network.

## **Railways**

1. Inaugurated the Araria-Galgolia (Thakurganj) Rail Line worth Rs.4,140 crores, enhancing connectivity in north Bihar and towards North Bengal
2. He laid foundation stone for the Bikramshila-Katareah Rail Line, worth Rs.2,170 crores, providing direct rail link across the river Ganga.

## **Water**

Kosi-Mechi Intra-State River Link Project: Laid the foundation stone of Phase 1 of Kosi-Mechi Intra-State River Link Project worth over Rs.2680 crores, benefitting multiple districts in northeastern Bihar.

## **Govt launches AI for Viksit Bharath Roadmap and Frontier Tech Repository by NITI Aayog**

1. Union Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, the Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Information & Broadcasting launched 2 initiatives of NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog at the Road to India Artificial Intelligence (AI) Impact Summit 2026, New Delhi.
  2. The launched two key initiatives are : the ‘AI for Viksit Bharat Roadmap’ to accelerate economic growth, and the ‘Frontier Tech Repository’
- Startup India signs MoU with CarDekho group.**

## **MoES Signed Agreement with ISA to Explore New Part of Indian Ocean for Precious Metals**

1. The Ministry of Earth Sciences has signed a new exploration agreement with International Seabed Authority (ISA), to explore a class of precious metals, ‘Polymetallic Sulphur Nodules (PMS)’ in the north-west of Indian Ocean for period of 15 years.
2. This is the world’s first licence for polymetallic sulphide exploration in the Carlsberg Ridge.

3. The newly signed agreement is India's third exploration contract with ISA and its second specifically for PMS exploration.
4. As per the contract, India has secured a license from ISA for exploration of PMS covering 10,000 square kilometer (km<sup>2</sup>) area in the Carlsberg Ridge, a 3,000 km<sup>2</sup> stretch that lies in the Indian Ocean, specifically in the Arabian Sea and north-west of Indian Ocean.

### **Union Minister Pralhad Joshi inaugurates 1st Green Hydrogen R&D Conference; Launches Rs. 100 crore Start-up Fund**

1. Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy inaugurated the 1st Annual Green Hydrogen Research and Development (R&D) Conference in New Delhi, Delhi and announced a **new Rs. 100 crores Call for Proposals scheme to support startups in green hydrogen innovation.**

#### **2. The scheme is being implemented in two parts,**

**Part A:** For biomass-based and other technology-based pilot projects, with total support of Rs. 100 crores, capped at Rs. 25 crore per project.

**Part B:** For start-ups working on innovative hydrogen production/utilisation, with total support of Rs. 100 crores, capped at Rs. 5 crore per project.

3. Applicants must be startups recognized by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), incorporated as private limited companies, partnerships, or LLPs, and operational for less than 10 years with an annual turnover not exceeding Rs. 100 crores.

4. The Call for Proposals is open from September 12 to October 13, 2025.

**The Government of India(GoI) approved NGHM in January 2023, with a financial outlay of Rs.19,744 crore.**

#### **5. The NGHM is implemented by the MNRE.**

6. NGHM targets producing 5 million metric tonnes (MMT) of green hydrogen annually by 2030, along with adding 125 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy capacity.

## **Indian Army Conducts 'Exercise Jaal Shakti' on Water Obstacle Crossing**

- 1. The Indian Army's 1st Armoured Division conducted 'Exercise Jaal Shakti'.**
- The exercise aimed to strengthen operational preparedness and ensure mobility of mechanised and armoured forces in riverine terrain.

## **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

### **WIPO's GII 2025**

- The World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in collaboration with the Portulans Institute (PI) released the 18th edition of 'Global Innovation Index GII 2025): Innovation at a Cross Roads'.
- As per the Index, **India has secured 38th position globally** (up from 39th position in 2024 rankings) with overall score 38.1.
- Switzerland continued to secure 1st position (overall score of 66.0) for a 15th consecutive year.**
- Sweden and the United States of America (USA) retained their 2nd and 3rd positions, respectively for the 3rd consecutive year.**
- For the 1st time, China featured among the top 10 countries in the index (ranked at 10th spot with overall score of 56.6)**

### **INS Nistar Joins Multinational Exercise 'Pacific Reach 2025' in Singapore**

- The Indian Navy (IN)'s indigenously built Diving Support Vessel (DSV), Indian Naval Ship (INS) Nistar.**
- It has participated in the 9th edition of the Exercise Pacific Reach 2025 (XPR 25) at Changi Naval Base, Singapore.
- The biennial multinational submarine rescue exercise, XPR25, hosted by Singapore, began on 15 September 2025 and will continue until 29 September 2025.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> edition was in 1996.**

## **BANKING & FINANCE**

### **CRED, IndusInd Bank Jointly Launch CRED-IndusInd Bank RuPay Credit Card**

1. CRED, a fintech company, in partnership with IndusInd Bank launched CRED IndusInd Bank RuPay Credit Card, offering 5% rewards on all electronic (e)-commerce transactions and 1% on offline transactions, including Unified Payment Interface (UPI) and CRED Scan & Pay transactions.

## **OBITUARY**

### **Hollywood famous Icon Robert Redford Passed Away at 89**



1. **Hollywood ‘Icon’ Robert Redford, an actor and Director** whose career included movies like The Way We Were, All the President’s People, The Sting, The Natural etc. **passed away at the age of 89 in Utah, USA.**
2. Best Director in 1980 for Ordinary People.
3. Two Golden Globes, for Inside Daisy Clover as New Star of the Year – as the Best Actor (1965), Ordinary People as Best Director (1980), and won the Cecil B. DeMille Award in 1994.
4. **He was awarded the Screen Actors Guild Life Achievement Award in 1995.**

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