



BENEVOLENT IAS ACADEMY

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TODAY'S IMPORTANT CURRENT AFFAIRS

BANKING

Date: 17.10.2025

IMPORTANT DAYS

Global Handwashing Day 2025



1. Global Handwashing Day (GHD) is observed annually on October 15 to highlight the importance of washing hands with soap and water as a simple, effective, and affordable method to prevent infections.
2. The **theme** of the day is “**Be a Handwashing Hero!**”.
3. **The first-ever GHD was celebrated on 15th October 2008**, marking the beginning of an annual global initiative.

World Students' Day 2025



1. World Students' Day (WSD) is celebrated every year on 15 October to mark the birth anniversary of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.
2. The theme of the day is “Empowering Students as Agents of Innovation and Change”.
3. This year marks the 94th birth anniversary of Dr. A.P.J Abdul kalam.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

India-Indonesia Naval Exercise “Samudra Shakti 2025” commenced in Visakhapatnam

1. The Indian Navy and the Indonesian Navy, commenced the 5th edition of joint bilateral maritime exercise “Samudra Shakti 2025” in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
2. The exercise is scheduled from October 14 to 17, 2025 and is conducted in two phases: the Harbour Phase and the Sea Phase.
3. The 4th edition of the Samudra Shakti exercise was, held from May 17-19, 2023, in the South China Sea.

DRDO Signs MoU with SECI for 300 MW Solar Projects Across India

1. DRDO signed a MoU with the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI), under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), to develop 300 megawatt (MW) capacity of solar-based renewable energy(RE) projects across DRDO establishments in India.
2. The target Net-Zero energy campuses across all strategic DRDO locations by 2027.

A.R. Rahman Collaborate with Google Cloud to Develop AI-Powered Music Avatars

1. **A.R. Rahman** has collaborated with Google Cloud, to develop “**Secret Mountain**”, an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered metahuman digital avatar band.
2. The band will showcase six diverse digital avatars, such as Cara, an Irish singer-songwriter; Zen Tam, a Tamil rapper; and Blessing, an African percussionist and vocalist.

Dr. Ambedkar Foundation Signs MoU to Set Up Dr. Ambedkar Chairs in Three Universities

1. Dr. Ambedkar Foundation, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment signed MoUs with Mumbai University, Mumbai (Maharashtra), Jaipur National University, Jaipur (Rajasthan) and GB Pant University of Technology and Agriculture (Uttarakhand) to establish three new Dr. Ambedkar Chairs in their universities.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Henley Passport Index 2025

1. Henley & Partners, a British consultancy expertized in investment migration, released Henley Passport Index 2025 Global Ranking.
2. According to the index, **the Indian passport has fallen to 85th position from 77th in July 2025**, providing visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to **57 countries**, and is tied with Mauritius.
3. **Singapore retains its position as the most powerful passport**, offering visa-free access to 193 of 227 destinations.
4. **Japan and South Korea secured 2nd & 3rd positions** respectively.

India and Panama Established 20-Member Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group

1. The Embassy of India in Panama announced the establishment of a 20-

member India-Panama Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group at the National Assembly of Panama, marking a new phase in bilateral relations between India and Panama.

2. The significance is to Strengthen the India-Panama parliamentary cooperation and bilateral ties.

BANKING & FINANCE

India's GIFT City climbs 3 places to 43rd in 38th GFCI rankings

1. The China Development Institute (CDI) in Shenzhen (China) and Z/Yen Partners in London, UK released the **38th edition of the Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI 38)**.
2. According to the index, Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (**Gift City**) in Gujarat, has climbed from the 46th position in the previous edition to **43rd position in the 38th edition**.
3. The **top position** was retained by **New York**, followed by **London in 2nd place** and **HK(China) in 3rd place**.

Universal Sompo Partners with APGB to Expand Insurance Services Across AP

1. Universal Sompo General Insurance Company Limited (USGIC) partnered with Andhra Pradesh Grameena Bank (APGB) to offer range of insurance products across 26 districts of Andhra Pradesh.
2. Under the partnership, **Universal Sompo will utilize the “State Insurance Plan” to provide affordable insurance solutions**.
3. The collaboration will offer customized products for rural and farming communities, covering risks such as crop loss, property damage, and health emergencies.

APPOINTMENTS

Military Leader Michael Randrianirina Sworn in as Transitional President of Madagascar

1. Colonel Michael Randrianirina is sworn in as the Transitional President of Madagascar (interim), following a military coup that ousted President Andry Rajoelina.



2. He succeeds the former President Andry Rajoelina

3. He previously served as Governor of Androy and later as a senior military commander leading the elite CAPSAT unit, since 2022.

Taken by
Ms. A. Natchal

Edited by
Mrs. D. Rajakali Thomas

**BENEVOLENT IAS ACADEMY
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Study Schedule:

- paper reading + Discussion - 11 am
- Speed Maths - 15 min
- 3. Topic Tests with Review
 - Aptitude - 15 min
 - Reasoning - 15 min
 - English - 15 min
- 4. Yesterday's Current Affairs - 15 min
- 5. Today's CA discussion - 15 min
- WEEKLY**
 - Monday - Descriptive writing - 15 min
 - Friday - Test