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TODAY'S IMPORTANT CURRENT AFFAIRS BANKING

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IMPORTANT DAYS

International Snow Leopard Day 2025



- 1. World Snow Leopard Day (WSLD), also known as International Snow Leopard Day, is observed globally on 23rd October each year to raise awareness about the conservation of the Snow Leopard (Panthera uncia).
- 2. The theme of the day is "Protecting the Mountain Guardian".
- 3. The first WSLD was celebrated on 23 October 2014.
- 4. On the occasion of WSLD 2025, Project BRAHMANK of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) under the Ministry of Defence(MoD) joined the worldwide campaign "#23for23: "23 Minutes for Snow Leopards", highlighting its support for global snow leopard conservation efforts.

National Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2025

- 1. National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NCSAM) is observed every year in October globally, including India and the United States, to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity and promote safe online practices among individuals, families, businesses, and communities.
- 2. The theme is "Cyber Jagrit Bharat" translating to a Cyber Safe India.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Indian Army Signed Rs 2,700 Crore Deal to Procure 4.25 Lakh Indigenous Carbines

- 1. The Indian Army (IA) signed a contract worth Rs. 2,700 crore to procure 4.25 lakh close-quarter battle (CQB) carbines, marking a significant step in modernising infantry small arms and promoting indigenous defence production.
- 2. Of the total order, 2.5 lakh carbines will be supplied by Bharat Forge while the remaining 1.75 lakh will be provided by Adani PLR Systems.

India and UK Launch Ramanujan Junior Researchers Programme

- 1. India and the United Kingdom launched the 'Ramanujan Junior Researchers Programme', a fellowship designed to support young Indian scientists in theoretical physics and mathematics at the London Institute for Mathematical Sciences (LIMS), Royal Institution, London, the UK.
- 2. The programme will be implemented in **two phases**.
 - A. Phase 1 Ramanujan Junior Visitors
 - B. Phase 2 Ramanujan Junior Fellowships

Coal India and IIT Madras Signs MoU to build a center for Sustainable Energy

1. The Coal India Limited (CIL) and IIT Madras signed a MoU to establish the 'Centre for Sustainable Energy' at IIT Madras.

2. It support India's aim to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Global Forest Resource Assessment Report 2025

- 1. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations released a report titled "Global Forest Resource Assessment (GFRA) 2025".
- 2. As per the report, **India ranks 9th globally with 72.74 million hectares (Mha)** of forest cover, representing 2% of the world's total forests, up from 10th in the previous assessment.
- 3. Russian Federation ranks first globally with 832.6 Mha, accounting for 20% of the world's forests, followed by Brazil(486.08 Mha) and Canada(368.81 Mha).

Japan-India Maritime exercise 'JAIMEX 2025' Held in Japan



- 1. The Indian Navy and the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Forceconducted the Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JAIMEX) 2025 off the coast of Kyushu and Yokosuka, Japan.
- 2. The participants of this exercise are INS

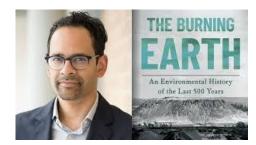
Sahyadri; JS Asahi, JS Oumi, Submarine Jinryu.

3. The aim is to Enhance interoperability & strengthen maritime security cooperation.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Indian-origin historian Sunil Amrith wins British Academy Book Prize

1. Indian-origin historian Sunil Amrith has won the 2025 British Academy Book Prize for the book—"The Burning Earth: An Environmental



History of the Last 500 Years".

2. The British Academy Book Prize, a prestigious GBP 25,000 award celebrating the world's best works of non-fiction, was presented to the winner. In addition, each shortlisted author received GBP 1,000.

Neeraj Chopra Honored with rank of Lieutenant Colonel in Territorial Army

- 1. Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defence formally conferred the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Territorial Army (TA) upon star javelin thrower and two-time Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra New Delhi, Delhi.
- 2. This honors his outstanding contributions to Indian sports and his embodiment of discipline and patriotism.
- 3. Recipient of prestigious national awards including the Arjuna Award (2018), Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award (2021), Padma Shri (2022) in the field of Sports, Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM, 2022), and Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM, 2022).

OBITUARY

Veteran Space Scientist Eknath Vasanth Chitnis Passed Away



- 1. Dr. Eknath Vasant Chitnis, Pioneering Indian Space Scientist and Key Architect of Early Space Programme, passed away at the age of 100 in Pune, Maharashtra.
- 2. He received the Padma Bhushan, India's third-highest civilian honour, in 1985 for his contributions in the field of science and technology.
- 3. This marked ADB's 1st EEA with World Bank and 6th EEA with other Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) since 2020.

SPORTS

Indian Olympic Gold Medalist Abhinav Bindra Appointed as Torchbearer



- 1. Indian former sport shooter and Olympic Gold medalist Abhinav Bindra appointed as torchbearer for the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics, scheduled to be held from February 6 to 22, 2026, in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy.
- 2. He won the gold medal in the 10 metre (m) air rifle event at the 2008 Beijing Olympics held in China, becoming the first Indian to achieve an Individual Olympic gold.
- 3. In 2006, he won the gold medal in the 10-m air rifle event at the World Championships, becoming the first Indian to secure a shooting World Championship title.

Taken by Ms. A. Natchal Edited by Mrs. D. Rajakali Thomas

