RICE EDUCATION

Daily

Current Affairs

FOR RAILWAYS EXAMS

DATE

16 Nov 2026

Daily Current Affairs for Railways

Appointments & Persons in News

National & International Appointments



- **Pratap Singh Appointed MD & CEO of Fino Payments Bank :** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the appointment of **Pratap Singh** as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Fino Payments Bank for a three-year term , succeeding interim CEO Ketan Merchant .
- **RBI Grants In-Principle PPI Authorisation to Paytm Payments Services Ltd :** The Reserve Bank of India granted in-principle authorization to Paytm Payments Services Limited (PPSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of One 97 Communications, to issue and operate Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) including digital wallets .
- **RBI Proposes Cap on Private Equity (PE) Firms' Controlling Stakes Across Multiple NBFCs:** The RBI issued draft norms restricting Private Equity firms from holding controlling stakes in more than one Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC), with holdings of 15% or lower subject to lighter regulatory scrutiny.



- **Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri Resigns from Uttar Pradesh Rajya Sabha Seat:** Following his unopposed election to the Rajya Sabha from Madhya Pradesh, Union Petroleum & Natural Gas Minister **Hardeep Singh Puri** formally resigned from his Rajya Sabha seat representing Uttar Pradesh.

Persons in News, Awards & Notable Demises

- **Nation Pays Floral Tributes to Bhagwan Birsa Munda on His 151st Birth Anniversary:** President Droupadi Murmu, Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla paid floral tributes to tribal freedom icon **Bhagwan Birsa Munda** (*Dharti Aaba*) at Prerna Sthal in the Parliament House Complex on his 151st birth anniversary.



- **Global Tributes to Grassroots Educator Sanjit 'Bunker' Roy (Padma Shri):** Nationwide tributes continued following the passing of Barefoot College (Tilonia, Rajasthan) founder **Sanjit 'Bunker' Roy** at age 81, remembered for empowering rural women worldwide as solar engineers under the *'Solar Mamas'* initiative.

Government Schemes, Policies & Welfare Initiatives

Central Government Schemes & National Policies



- **PM Modi Launches 246 Tribal Welfare Projects Worth ~₹3,000 Crore on Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas :** Joining the national *Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas* programme at Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, via video conferencing, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated **173 projects** (including **38 Eklavya Model Residential Schools**, **100 Multi-Purpose Centres** under PM-JANMAN, the **Ropuiliani Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum** at Aizawl, Mizoram, and the **Tribal Research Institute** building at Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh) and laid the foundation stone for **73 projects** (including **19 new EMRS** and **12 Tribal Multi-purpose Marketing Centres**), alongside launching the **Jan-HIT Portal** and **National FRA Digital Platform**.
- **Ministry of Tribal Affairs Showcases 'Adi Vaani' AI Platform as National Tribal Language Repository:** PIB highlighted **Adi Vaani**, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs' AI-powered digital translation and language repository platform working with **13 tribal**

languages (with text translation live in **9 languages** and **AdiKosh** word bank holding 13.9 lakh sentences) to preserve tribal linguistic heritage.

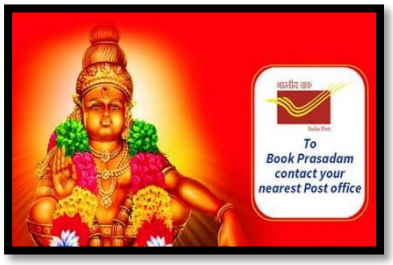
- **Union Home & Cooperation Minister Amit Shah Performs Bhoomi Pujan of NHEC Multi-State Cooperative Society & Launches 'Bharat Taxi' in Pune:** At Talegaon Dabhade in Pune district, Maharashtra, Amit Shah performed the Bhoomi Pujan of the National Heavy Engineering Cooperative (NHEC) Multi-State Cooperative Society, virtually inaugurated the Western Regional Office of the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies (CRCS), and launched cooperative mobility platform **Bharat Taxi** services for Pune.



- **Indian Railways Approves Weekly Cross-Border Train Connecting Janakpur Dham (Nepal) with Ayodhya Cantt. (India):** Indian Railways approved a weekly train service (covering **~604 km**; departing Saturday from Janakpur Dham and Monday from Ayodhya Cantt.) along the Ramayana Circuit.
- **NCRTC Announces 8 Additional Fast 'Namo Bharat' Trains on Delhi–Meerut RRTS Corridor; Ridership Crosses 5 Crore:** NCRTC announced 8 additional limited-stop peak-hour trains (halting at Sarai Kale Khan, Anand Vihar, Ghaziabad, Begumpul, and Modipuram; covering Anand Vihar–Ghaziabad in 8 minutes) effective 16 November, as total corridor ridership crossed **5 crore passenger journeys**.
- **DPDP Act Consent Manager Registration Portal Launched by MeitY:** MeitY Secretary S. Krishnan launched the official online registration portal (**dpbi.gov.in**) for Consent Managers under the **Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023**. Eligible Indian-incorporated companies require a **minimum net worth of ₹2 crore** and must retain consent records for at least 7 years.
- **Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya & Telangana CM A. Revanth Reddy Unveil Logo & Mascot 'Neelamani' of 8th Khelo India Youth Games 2026 :** Unveiled with the official tagline ***"Khel Ka Junoon, Telangana Ki Jaan Aur Pehchaan"*** for the 8th edition across **six Telangana cities** (Hyderabad, Khammam, Karimnagar, Hanumakonda, Mahabubnagar, and Nizamabad) from **11–22 December 2026**, featuring **29 disciplines** (27 competitive sports including debutant **Softball**, plus 2 demonstration sports: **Sailing** and **Karra Samu**) .



- **DoSJE & DGDE Announce MoU to Extend Senior Citizen Welfare Schemes (AVYAY) to Cantonment Boards :** PIB notified an MoU between the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment and Directorate General Defence Estates to extend **Atal Vayo Abhyudaya Yojana (AVYAY)** facilities—including Senior Citizen Homes, Day Care Centres, Geriatric Caregiver Training, and Elderline —across Cantonment Boards nationwide .
- **NITI Aayog Member Dr. M. Srinivas Inaugurates Health Ministry Pavilion at 45th IITF 2026 :** Inaugurated the Union Health Ministry's Pavilion (featuring **39 stalls** across 24 programmes including *Ayushman Arogya Mandir*, *TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan*, *eSanjeevani*, and *Tele-MANAS*) at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi .
- **India Post Partners with Travancore Devaswom Board for Sabarimala 'Swami Prasadam' Doorstep Delivery :** India Post (Kerala Circle) and the Travancore Devaswom Board launched a 24x7 special postal booking counter at Sabarimala Sannidhanam to deliver *Aravana Payasam* and *Swami Prasadam* nationwide via Speed Post ahead of the Mandala pilgrimage season .



- **Centre Fixes 13 Lakh MT Domestic Sugar Quota & Reviews Jal Jeevan Mission 'Jal Arpan Diwas' :** The Union Government allocated **13 lakh metric**

tonnes of domestic sugar quota for the second fortnight of November, while DDWS Secretary **Ashok K. K. Meena** participated in **'Jal Arpan Diwas'** celebrations across five villages handing over rural water assets to Gram Panchayats .

- **57th IFFI Goa Announcements — Spain Named 'Country of Honour', Russia 'Partner Country' & 'I Matter' Selected as Mid-Fest Film :** Ahead of the 57th IFFI in Goa (20–28 Nov, theme *"Stories Without Borders"*), PIB announced **Spain** as the *Country of Honour* (four contemporary Spanish films), **Russia** as *Partner Country* (four-film showcase), Romanian filmmaker Alina Șerban's *'I Matter (Eu Contez)'* as the Mid-Fest film (24 Nov), and 20 years of **WAVES Film Bazaar** .



- **Sacred Piprahwa Relics of Shakyamuni Buddha Arrive at Golden Pagoda (Kongmu Kham), Namsai :** The Ministry of Culture opened the public exposition of the sacred relics of Lord Buddha at the **Golden Pagoda (Kongmu Kham)** in Namsai district, Arunachal Pradesh (14–20 November 2026) .

State Government & Policy Portal Initiatives

- **NITI Aayog Announces 5-Part National Workshop Series on '25 Years of PM Modi as Head of Government' :** NITI Aayog announced a five-part national workshop series (Nov 2026 – Sept 2027) covering five themes (*"Leadership as Mission"*, *"Governance as Delivery"*, *"Development as Inclusion"*, *"Civilisational Identity"*, and *"India as a Global Force"*) to document governance lessons from PM Narendra Modi's 25 years as Head of Government.The inaugural workshop opens on 17 November 2026 at Bharat Mandapam alongside the launch of **'Karmayogi Sankalp'** on the iGOT Karmayogi platform .



- **Telangana Launches Gig Workers' Welfare Registration App Targeting 6 Lakh Workers :** Dedicated at a Hyderabad rally, Telangana rolled out its Gig Workers' Welfare Law registration app targeting **6 lakh platform and gig workers** for social security and accident insurance coverage .
- **Jharkhand Celebrates Bhagwan Birsa Munda Jayanti; Main Statehood Day Events Extended to 28 Nov :** Jharkhand observed its 26th Statehood Foundation Day (carved out of Bihar on 15 Nov 2000) and paid tributes to Bhagwan Birsa Munda, while extending main statehood festivities to 28 November 2026 due to Chhath Puja .
- **Rajasthan Sanctions ₹9,321 Crore Drought Relief Package; Himachal Cabinet Approves ₹1,500 Monthly Women's Aid :** Rajasthan approved a **₹9,321 crore** financial relief package for drought-affected districts, while Himachal Pradesh approved ₹1,500 monthly assistance and 300 units of free electricity for 3.50 lakh eligible women (aged 18–59) and raised natural ginger MSP to ₹40/kg .
- **'Bhagwan Birsa Kala Sangam 2.0' Begins in Gadchiroli; Tamil Nadu Enforces Stock Limits on Rice & Pulses :** National tribal cultural festival *'Bhagwan Birsa Kala Sangam 2.0'* opened in Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, while Tamil Nadu imposed mandatory stock holding limits and online disclosure norms for wholesalers and retailers on rice, paddy, and pulses .

Sports & Games



- **India Defeats Pakistan by 1 Wicket in Last-Ball Thriller to Win Record 9th Men's U-19 Asia Cup Title :** Chasing 338 at Al Amerat Cricket Ground in Muscat, Oman, India U-19 edged past Pakistan U-19 by **1 wicket** (339/9 in 50 overs) off the final delivery to lift a **record-extending 9th Men's U-19 Asia Cup trophy**.

Mohit Ulva (49* off 26 balls) won Player of the Match, and **Aaryavir Sehwag** (361 runs in 5 innings) won Player of the Tournament .

- **2026 ISSF World Shooting Championships Conclude in Doha, Qatar :** The 14-day ISSF World Championships (1–14 November 2026) officially concluded in Doha, Qatar, with India securing **three Olympic shooting quotas for Los Angeles 2028** (earned by Jaypal Malviya in Men's 10m Air Pistol, Niraj Kumar in Men's 50m Rifle 3P, and Vivaan Kapoor in Men's Trap)

Maritime Exercises & Defence News



- **Indian Army Announces 6th India–Malaysia Joint Military Exercise 'HARIMAU SHAKTI 2026' :** The Indian Army officially announced that the 2026 edition of the bilateral joint military exercise **HARIMAU SHAKTI** between the Indian Army and the Malaysian Army will be conducted from **18 to 30 November 2026** in Malaysia to enhance jungle warfare, counter-insurgency, and tactical interoperability .



- **8th India–Myanmar Bilateral Naval Exercise (IMNEX-26) Concludes at Visakhapatnam :** The five-day bilateral maritime exercise **IMNEX-26** between the Indian Navy (**INS Rana** and **INS Sumedha**) and the Myanmar Navy (**UMS King Sin Phyu Shin**) successfully concluded off Visakhapatnam after completing Harbour Phase professional exchanges and Sea Phase tactical manoeuvres aligned with India's **MAHASAGAR** vision .

- **Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Dhiraj Seth Embarks on Official Visit to the Czech Republic :** PIB notified that COAS General Dhiraj Seth departed for an official visit to the Czech Republic (16–19 November 2026) to strengthen bilateral defence cooperation, visiting the General Staff HQ in Prague, the Defence University in Brno, and the NATO JCBRN Defence Centre of Excellence .

Space, Synchrotron Research & Frontier Science

- **India Commits Over €7 Million as Co-Partner in 'Elettra 2.0' Synchrotron in Italy :** Union Science & Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh reaffirmed India's commitment of **over €7 million** as a co-partner in **Elettra 2.0** (next-generation synchrotron beamline upgrade at Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste, Italy .

- **ISRO Successfully Conducts Ground Static Test of Upgraded PSLV Third Stage (PS3) Solid Motor :** ISRO successfully carried out the ground static test of the upgraded **PS3 solid motor** at the Static Test Facility of Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC-SHAR), Sriharikota, incorporating strengthened nozzle margins and redundant sealing systems .



- **India's Deep-Ocean Submersible 'MATSYA-6000' Set for 500-Metre Trial Dive in Early 2027 :** At the 92nd Annual Meeting of the Indian Academy of Sciences (IASc) in Thiruvananthapuram, officials confirmed that **MATSYA-6000** (developed by NIOT under MoES's *Samudrayaan Mission* with an ISRO-built titanium hull) will execute its maiden 500-metre crewed trial dive in the Bay of Bengal in January–February 2027 .

Summits, Bills & International Affairs

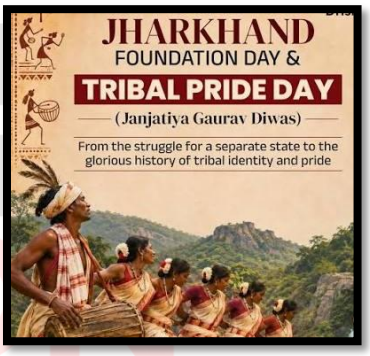
International Affairs, Summits & Bilateral Agreements

- **Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal Co-Chairs 7th India–Egypt Joint Trade Committee (JTC) Meeting in Cairo :** Arriving in Cairo on 14 November, Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal co-chaired the **7th India–Egypt Joint Trade Committee** meeting (elevated to Ministerial level) on 15 November alongside Egyptian Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade Dr. Mohamed Farid Saleh, accompanied by a 130+ member Indian CEO and startup delegation .

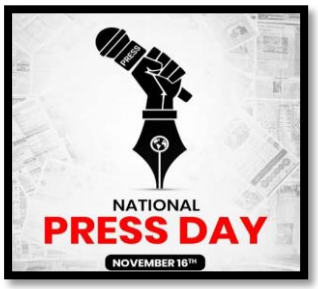


- **India Participates as 'Country Guest of Honour' at 8th UAE National Festival of Tolerance and Coexistence :** India participated as the **Country Guest of Honour** at the 8th edition of the UAE's National Festival of Tolerance and Coexistence at Umm Al Emarat Park in Abu Dhabi, featuring over 22 nations .
- **EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar Asserts National Interest Guides India's Ukraine & Gulf Diplomacy :** External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar reiterated that sovereign national interest and dialogue guide India's approach to conflicts in Ukraine and the Gulf region .
- **Global Microsoft Cloud & US FAA Air Traffic Telecommunications Outage Disrupts Flights :** A widespread telecommunications and Microsoft cloud network disruption temporarily grounded US flights (halting ~7,000 flights before operations resumed) and disrupted enterprise services globally, prompting an Air India passenger travel advisory .

Important Days & Observances



- **Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas (Tribal Pride Day) – 15th November:** Observed nationwide to mark the **151st birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda** (born 15 November 1875 at Ulihatu, Khunti district, Jharkhand), honouring tribal freedom fighters and cultural heritage .
- **World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims – 15th November:** Observed globally on the third Sunday of November under the UN and WHO to honour victims of road traffic crashes and promote safe mobility.
- **International Day for Tolerance: 16th Nov** - Proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1996, this day promotes public awareness, mutual understanding, respect, and appreciation for global cultural diversity.



- **National Press Day (India): 16th Nov** - Celebrated annually to commemorate the founding of the Press Council of India in 1966, honoring the role of a free and responsible press in a democracy.

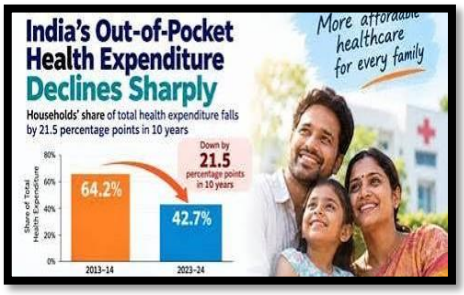
Environment

- **Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav Directs Sealing of 191 Polluting Industries in Delhi-NCR; ANPR Deadline Set for 30 Nov :** Chairing a high-level Delhi-NCR air pollution review meeting as Delhi's AQI stood at **348 ('Very Poor')**, Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav ordered the CPCB to seal **191 non-conforming industrial units** .
- **India Promotes 'Sundays on Cycle' as Climate Action at COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye :** At the UNFCCC COP31 climate summit in Antalya, Türkiye, the Indian delegation showcased

the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports' nationwide **'Sundays on Cycle'** fitness-cum-sustainability campaign as a model for low-carbon active mobility .

- **Mild Earthquakes Recorded in J&K, Ladakh & Assam :** The National Centre for Seismology (NCS) recorded mild tremors in Jammu & Kashmir's Chenab Valley, Leh (Ladakh), and Assam (magnitude 4.0), with no casualties or structural damage reported .

Reports and Indexes



- **National Health Accounts (NHA) Estimates 2023–24 Released — Government Health Spending Triples, OOPE Drops to 42.7% :** Released by the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (11th round, prepared by NHATS at NHSRC), **Government Health Expenditure (GHE)** more than tripled from ₹1,29,778 crore (2013–14) to **₹4,14,196 crore** (2023–24), while households' **Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE)** fell by **21.5 percentage points** from **64.2% to 42.7%** of Total Health Expenditure (down from 43.4% in 2022–23). Per capita GHE rose from ₹1,042 to **₹2,959**, Government primary healthcare spending reached **₹1.53 lakh crore**, and Social Security Expenditure on Health increased from 6% to **11%** .
- **PIB Export Performance Report (April–October FY 2026–27) — India's Total Exports Rise 16.66% to US$ 568.84 Billion :** PIB reported that India's cumulative merchandise and services exports during April–October 2026–27 grew **16.66% YoY** to reach **US$ 568.84 billion** (up from US$ 487.59 billion), with **October 2026 monthly exports reaching an all-time high of US$ 89.99 billion** (+29.90% YoY) .

Practice Questions

Q1. On the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas (15th November 2026), Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the Ropuiliani Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum in which state?

(A) Arunachal Pradesh

(B) Mizoram

(C) Jharkhand

(D) Nagaland

Answer: (B) Mizoram

Q2. According to the National Health Accounts (NHA) Estimates 2023–24 released by the Union Health Ministry on 15th November 2026, households' Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE) as a share of Total Health Expenditure declined from 64.2% in 2013–14 to what percentage in 2023–24?

(A) 38.5%

(B) 42.7%

(C) 45.2%

(D) 48.0%

Answer: (B) 42.7%

Q3. Which Indian shuttler became the first Indian ever to win the Kumamoto Masters Japan BWF Super 500 men's singles title on 15th November 2026?

(A) Kidambi Srikanth

(B) H. S. Prannoy

(C) Lakshya Sen

(D) Priyanshu Rajawat

Answer: (C) Lakshya Sen

Q4. What is the official mascot of the 8th edition of the Khelo India Youth Games 2026, unveiled in Telangana on 15th November 2026?

(A) Veer

(B) Neelamani

(C) Gajasimha

(D) Savaj

Answer: (B) Neelamani

Q5. 'Adi Vaani', highlighted by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs on 15th November 2026 as a National Tribal Language Repository, is an AI-powered platform working with how many tribal languages across India?

(A) 9

(B) 13

(C) 18

(D) 22

Answer: (B) 13

***