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16 OCTOBER 2026



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IMPORTANT DAYS

Q1. What is the theme of World Food Day 2026, observed on 16 October?

16 अक्टूबर को मनाए जाने वाले विश्व खाद्य दिवस 2026 की थीम क्या है?

(a) Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow.
(b) Water is life, water is food
(c) Right to foods for a better life
(d) Leave no one behind
(e) None of these

Answer: (a) Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow.

Explanation:

1. The 2026 observance uses the theme **Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow.** It connects better food systems with new solutions in farming, storage and distribution.

2. The annual date is **16 October**, the anniversary of the establishment of the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** in **1945**.

3. Innovation includes improved seeds, efficient irrigation, cold chains and methods that reduce food losses. The purpose is access to adequate, nutritious food rather than higher output alone.

4. The associated development objective is **SDG 2: Zero Hunger**. For revision, link the theme, date, UN agency and goal number.

RBI, SEBI & BANKING

Q2. According to the September 2026 update, approximately how much did total bank deposits in India reach?

सितंबर 2026 की जानकारी के अनुसार भारत में कुल बैंक जमा लगभग कितनी हो गई?

(a) ₹254 trillion
(b) ₹264 trillion
(c) ₹274 trillion
(d) ₹284 trillion
(e) None of these

Answer: (d) ₹284 trillion

Explanation:

1. The reported aggregate was approximately ₹**284 trillion** in the latter half of **September 2026**. One trillion rupees equals one lakh crore rupees.

2. The six-month increase was ₹**21.67 trillion**, representing growth of **8.4%** from the end of March. The final September fortnight added ₹7.73 trillion.

3. The report connects part of the inflow with an **RBI foreign-currency swap window** that closed on 31 August 2026. Such a facility exchanges foreign currency against rupees under specified terms.

4. Bank deposits are liabilities of banks. Growth in deposits expands their funding base, while actual lending also depends on capital, liquidity rules and credit demand.

ECONOMY & FINANCE

Q3. What was India's reported current account deficit for August 2026?

अगस्त 2026 में भारत का रिपोर्ट किया गया चालू खाता घाटा कितना था?

(a) $6.1 billion
(b) $5.2 billion
(c) $8.0 billion
(d) $18.3 billion
(e) None of these

Answer: (b) $5.2 billion

Explanation:

1. The source reports a **$5.2 billion** current account deficit for **August 2026**, against $6.1 billion in the corresponding month a year earlier.

2. A **current account** covers goods, services, primary income and secondary income. A deficit means the combined balance of these components is negative.

3. The reported merchandise deficit was **$26.6 billion**, partly offset by positive services receipts and transfers. The April-August cumulative deficit was $18.3 billion.

4. A current account deficit and a **balance of payments surplus** can coexist when net financial inflows more than cover the current account gap. Do not confuse the two balances.

Q4. India's net direct tax collections reached what amount by 14 October 2026?

14 अक्टूबर 2026 तक भारत का शुद्ध प्रत्यक्ष कर संग्रह कितना हो गया?

(a) ₹16.03 lakh crore
(b) ₹26.97 lakh crore
(c) ₹13.38 lakh crore
(d) ₹2.65 lakh crore
(e) None of these

Answer: (c) ₹13.38 lakh crore

Explanation:

1. The reported net collection was ₹**13.38 lakh crore**, showing **13.21%** year-on-year growth as of **14 October 2026**.

2. Gross receipts were ₹16.03 lakh crore and refunds were ₹**2.65 lakh crore**. Net collection is calculated after subtracting refunds from gross receipts.

3. The annual direct-tax target was ₹**26.97 lakh crore**; the amount collected represented approximately 49.6% of that target.

4. Direct taxes include corporate income tax and personal income tax. STT is a tax on specified securities transactions. In a numerical question, distinguish gross, net and budgeted figures.

Q5. Which GDP growth range did Deloitte India project for FY2026-27 in its October outlook?

अक्टूबर के आर्थिक परिदृश्य में डेलॉइट इंडिया ने वित्त वर्ष 2026-27 के लिए कितनी GDP वृद्धि का अनुमान लगाया?

(a) 7.1–7.3%
(b) 6.6–7.0%
(c) 5.5–6.0%
(d) 8.0–8.5%
(e) None of these

Answer: (a) 7.1–7.3%

Explanation:

1. Deloitte India projected **7.1–7.3%** growth for **FY2026-27** in the outlook released on **16 October 2026**. This is a forecast, rather than a final GDP outcome.

2. The drivers identified were household demand, public infrastructure investment and a prospective revival in private investment.

3. The following year, **FY2027-28**, carried a lower projected range of **6.6–7.0%**. Matching each forecast with its financial year avoids a common examination error.

4. Gross fixed capital formation measures investment in fixed assets. The report placed its first-quarter growth at 11.9% and highlighted electronics, clean energy and AI infrastructure as potential investment areas.

Q6. What petrol export duty became effective from 16 October 2026 under the reported revision?

रिपोर्ट किए गए संशोधन के तहत 16 अक्टूबर 2026 से पेट्रोल पर कितना निर्यात शुल्क लागू हुआ?

(a) ₹0.50 per litre
(b) ₹8.50 per litre
(c) ₹10.50 per litre
(d) ₹2.50 per litre
(e) None of these

Answer: (d) ₹2.50 per litre

Explanation:

1. The revised petrol export levy was **₹2.50 per litre**, increased from ₹0.50, with effect from **16 October 2026**.

2. The corresponding diesel export levy was reduced to **₹8.50 per litre** from ₹16. The direction of change therefore differed between the two fuels.

3. For **aviation turbine fuel**, the reported export duty remained **₹10.50 per litre**. ATF is the fuel used by turbine-powered aircraft.

4. These figures concern exports. They should not be treated as an identical change in domestic petrol or diesel retail prices; the source states that domestic-clearance duties were unchanged.

STATE NEWS

Q7. Where did IMFA commission its ₹800-crore greenfield ferro chrome plant?

IMFA ने अपना ₹800 करोड़ का ग्रीनफील्ड फेरो क्रोम संयंत्र कहाँ स्थापित किया?

(a) Durgapur, West Bengal
(b) Kalinganagar, Odisha
(c) Bhilai, Chhattisgarh
(d) Salem, Tamil Nadu
(e) None of these

Answer: (b) Kalinganagar, Odisha

Explanation:

1. The new facility is at **Kalinganagar, Odisha**. Its developer is **Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys Ltd (IMFA)**, and the reported investment is **₹800 crore**.

2. It adds **100,000 tonnes** of annual capacity, bringing installed capacity to 534,000 tonnes. Installed capacity represents potential output, rather than guaranteed actual production.

3. The plant includes two 33 MVA submerged arc furnaces and an off-gas power unit. Recovering energy from process gas can improve resource efficiency.

4. **Ferro chrome** supplies chromium for stainless steel manufacture. Chromium is important because it improves resistance to corrosion. Remember the company, location and industrial use together.

Q8. Which state signed an MoU with the Digital India Bhashini Division to promote multilingual AI in October 2026?

अक्टूबर 2026 में बहुभाषी AI को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किस राज्य ने डिजिटल इंडिया भाषिनी डिवीजन से समझौता किया?

(a) Tripura
(b) Odisha
(c) Manipur
(d) Mizoram
(e) None of these

Answer: (c) Manipur

Explanation:

1. The partner state is **Manipur**. The agreement was signed on **14 October 2026** and discussed at the Bhashini Rajyam Workshop in **Imphal**.

2. The initiative focuses on local-language datasets, translation tools and accessible digital public services. A demonstration translated English into Manipuri in real time.

3. **Bhashini** is associated with Digital India Corporation and the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**. It aims to reduce language barriers in digital access.

4. Multilingual AI can help people use public information and services in familiar languages. It requires reliable language resources and evaluation, rather than translation software alone.

Q9. Which place was announced as Ladakh's eighth district on 16 October 2026?

16 अक्टूबर 2026 को किस स्थान को लद्दाख का आठवाँ जिला घोषित किया गया?

(a) Sankoo
(b) Drass
(c) Nubra
(d) Changthang
(e) None of these

Answer: (a) Sankoo

Explanation:

1. The announced district is **Sankoo**, situated in the **Suru Valley** of the **Kargil region**. The stated aim is to bring administration closer to residents.

2. The report attributes the announcement to Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on 16 October 2026. It describes Sankoo as the eighth district after the earlier reorganisation.

3. The source lists Sham, Nubra, Changthang, Zanskar and Drass as the five other additions approved in April 2026, beyond the original Leh and Kargil districts.

4. **Ladakh** became a Union Territory on **31 October 2019**. In exams, separate the UT formation date from the dates of later district announcements.

NATIONAL NEWS

Q10. The Kanda Express onion consignment sent to Agartala operates under which fund?

अगरतला भेजी गई कांदा एक्सप्रेस की प्याज खेप किस कोष के अंतर्गत संचालित होती है?

(a) Agriculture Infrastructure Fund
(b) Rural Infrastructure Development Fund
(c) National Investment Fund
(d) Price Stabilization Fund
(e) None of these

Answer: (d) Price Stabilization Fund

Explanation:

1. The programme uses the **Price Stabilization Fund (PSF)** and is administered through the **Department of Consumer Affairs**.

2. The reported first consignment for **Agartala, Tripura**, contains about **440 metric tonnes** of buffer onions. Arrival was expected on 18 October 2026.

3. Buffer stocks can be released when supplies are tight or prices rise sharply. Rail and road transport help move stocks from supply centres to consuming regions.

4. The consignment was intended to support seven districts of Tripura. This is a price-management intervention; it should not be confused with a separate farm-credit or infrastructure fund.

Q11. India's first certified organic Palmyra jaggery powder export consignment in October 2026 was sent to which country?

अक्टूबर 2026 में भारत की प्रमाणित जैविक ताड़ गुड़ पाउडर की पहली निर्यात खेप किस देश भेजी गई?

(a) Romania
(b) Bulgaria
(c) Poland
(d) Hungary
(e) None of these

Answer: (b) Bulgaria

Explanation:

1. The destination was **Bulgaria**, with the consignment headed for **Varna**. The shipment originated in **Erode district, Tamil Nadu**.

2. **APEDA** facilitated the export of 1.755 metric tonnes through Chennai Port on 15 October 2026. It promotes exports of scheduled agricultural and processed food products.

3. The report identifies compliance with India's **National Programme for Organic Production** and European Union organic standards. Organic certification provides assurance about prescribed production practices.

4. Palmyra jaggery is made from palm sap. The exam connections are product, origin state, destination country and export-promotion agency.

Q12. What principle did the Supreme Court emphasise in the reported October 2026 case concerning reservation after religious conversion?

धर्म परिवर्तन के बाद आरक्षण से जुड़े अक्टूबर 2026 के रिपोर्ट किए गए मामले में सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने किस सिद्धांत पर जोर दिया?

(a) Previous caste automatically establishes every backward-class claim
(b) Reconversion always restores benefits without inquiry
(c) Eligibility requires factual assessment under applicable legal rules
(d) OCI registration determines backward-class eligibility
(e) None of these

Answer: (c) Eligibility requires factual assessment under applicable legal rules

Explanation:

1. The reported ruling stresses **case-specific assessment** under the applicable legal requirements. A previous identity alone does not automatically prove membership of a different notified backward class.

2. The dispute arose from a **Tamil Nadu** challenge concerning claims in the **Backward Class (Muslim)** category after conversion to Islam.

3. The report also states that reconversion does not automatically restore a reservation entitlement. The competent authority must examine relevant facts and evidence.

4. For constitutional revision, **Articles 15(4) and 16(4)** concern enabling provisions for advancement and reservation, while **Articles 341 and 342** concern Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These categories are legally distinct.

Q13. Which pair of wetlands took India's reported Ramsar site total to 103 in October 2026?

अक्टूबर 2026 में किन दो आर्द्रभूमियों के जुड़ने से भारत के रामसर स्थलों की रिपोर्ट की गई संख्या 103 हुई?

(a) Sukhna Wetland and Sauj Jheel
(b) Loktak Lake and Chilika Lake
(c) Wular Lake and Harike Wetland
(d) Deepor Beel and Bhoj Wetland
(e) None of these

Answer: (a) Sukhna Wetland and Sauj Jheel

Explanation:

1. The reported additions are **Sukhna Wetland** in **Chandigarh** and **Sauj Jheel** in **Uttar Pradesh**, taking the total to **103**.

2. Sauj Jheel is described as a shallow Ganga-floodplain lake supporting large numbers of waterbirds. Sukhna also provides habitat for resident and migratory birds.

3. A Ramsar designation recognises a wetland's international importance. The Convention promotes conservation and wise use, rather than requiring every designated site to be a national park.

4. The treaty was adopted in Ramsar, Iran, on 2 February 1971. India joined in 1982. Remember the site-state pair separately from the treaty's adoption date.

Q14. Which ministry organised Crafts Samagam Mela 2026 in Mysuru?

मैसूरु में क्राफ्ट्स समागम मेला 2026 का आयोजन किस मंत्रालय ने किया?

(a) Ministry of Textiles
(b) Ministry of Culture
(c) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

(d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(e) None of these

Answer: (d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Explanation:

1. The organiser is the **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**. The fair was scheduled in **Mysuru, Karnataka**, from **11 to 19 October 2026**.

2. The event provides market exposure for traditional handicrafts, handloom goods and regional products. The report mentions 83 stalls and participation from 12 states and Union Territories.

3. The supporting corporations are **NSFDC, NBCFDC and NSKFDC**. They serve different beneficiary groups, including Scheduled Castes, backward classes and Safai Karamcharis.

4. Market access helps artisans connect with buyers and improve livelihood opportunities. The associated **India Tulip** initiative is another link between artisans and wider markets.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Q15. India and Canada aim to double bilateral trade by which year, according to the October 2026 report?

अक्टूबर 2026 की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार भारत और कनाडा किस वर्ष तक द्विपक्षीय व्यापार दोगुना करने का लक्ष्य रखते हैं?

(a) 2028
(b) 2030
(c) 2035
(d) 2040
(e) None of these

Answer: (b) 2030

Explanation:

1. The stated target year is **2030**. The report also describes a proposed visit by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to **Canada** on **11–12 December 2026**.

2. The Canadian Prime Minister named in the report is **Mark Carney**. Priority areas include trade, energy, technology, security and people-to-people engagement.

3. The proposed **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)** is intended to broaden economic cooperation and improve market access. A negotiation objective is different from a signed agreement.

4. For revision, distinguish the trade target year from the scheduled visit dates. The visit was still a future event at the time of the source article.

Q16. Under which provision is cancellation of OCI registration separately governed, as highlighted by the reported Imran Khan exit-notice case?

इमरान खान के रिपोर्ट किए गए निकास-नोटिस मामले में उल्लिखित OCI पंजीकरण का निरस्तीकरण अलग से किस प्रावधान के अंतर्गत आता है?

(a) Article 75(3)
(b) Section 80C of the Income-tax Act
(c) Section 7D of the Citizenship Act, 1955
(d) Article 342
(e) None of these

Answer: (c) Section 7D of the Citizenship Act, 1955

Explanation:

1. The relevant provision is **Section 7D** of the **Citizenship Act, 1955**. It concerns cancellation of registration as an Overseas Citizen of India.

2. The source reports an exit notice issued by **Mumbai FRRO** to actor Imran Khan under the **Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025**, with a reported departure deadline of 28 October 2026.

3. **OCI** is a registration status with specified immigration privileges. It does not make its holder an Indian citizen or create ordinary dual citizenship.

4. An exit direction and cancellation of OCI registration are separate legal actions. The question tests the governing provision, rather than making a conclusion about the merits of the individual case.

APPOINTMENTS

Q17. Which Union minister's resignation was accepted by President Droupadi Murmu in the reported October 2026 update?

अक्टूबर 2026 की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने किस केंद्रीय मंत्री का इस्तीफा स्वीकार किया?

(a) L. Murugan
(b) Ashwini Vaishnaw
(c) Kiren Rijiju
(d) Jitendra Singh
(e) None of these

Answer: (a) L. Murugan

Explanation:

1. The minister was **L. Murugan**. The President accepted his resignation on the advice of **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**.

2. He had served as Minister of State for **Information and Broadcasting** and Parliamentary Affairs. The source links his departure with organisational work in Tamil Nadu.

3. **Article 75(2)** provides that ministers hold office during the pleasure of the President. Constitutional practice operates within the parliamentary system.

4. **Article 75(3)** establishes collective responsibility of the Union Council of Ministers to the Lok Sabha. This is distinct from the provision concerning tenure in office.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Q18. According to the reported Tesla Roadster demonstration, which year was indicated as the production target?

टेस्ला रोडस्टर के रिपोर्ट किए गए प्रदर्शन के अनुसार उत्पादन के लिए किस वर्ष का लक्ष्य बताया गया?

(a) 2026
(b) 2027
(c) 2030
(d) 2028
(e) None of these

Answer: (d) 2028

Explanation:

1. The source reports a production target of **2028** for the next-generation **Tesla Roadster**. It describes a demonstration near **Waco, Texas**, on 15 October 2026.

2. The claimed technology includes **compressed-air thrusters** developed with SpaceX and a fan-based suction system. The report describes brief airborne movements.

3. These are reported prototype claims. They do not establish that a commercially available flying car has received all necessary operating approvals.

4. The report explicitly leaves final specifications, pricing and launch timing unconfirmed. For exam purposes, retain the announced target while distinguishing a prototype demonstration from production readiness.

DEFENCE

Q19. Where was INS Samarthak commissioned on 16 October 2026, according to the source?

स्रोत के अनुसार 16 अक्टूबर 2026 को INS समर्थक को कहाँ कमीशन किया गया?

(a) Visakhapatnam
(b) INS Kadamba, Karwar
(c) Mumbai Naval Dockyard
(d) Kochi
(e) None of these

Answer: (b) INS Kadamba, Karwar

Explanation:

1. The location was **INS Kadamba, Karwar**, in **Karnataka**. The ship was built by **Larsen & Toubro** at Kattupalli in Tamil Nadu.

2. The vessel supports weapons and sensor trials, surveillance and unmanned-system operations. Such support helps test equipment before wider operational use.

3. The source reports **over 75% indigenous content** and a two-vessel contract value of ₹**887 crore**. Its sister vessel is Utkarsh.

4. A Dynamic Positioning System helps a vessel hold its location using controlled propulsion. The ship can also contribute to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions.

SPORTS & GAMES

Q20. Punam Raut, who announced international retirement in October 2026, represented India in which sport?

अक्टूबर 2026 में अंतरराष्ट्रीय संन्यास की घोषणा करने वाली पूनम राउत किस खेल में भारत का प्रतिनिधित्व करती थीं?

(a) Hockey
(b) Badminton
(c) Cricket
(d) Shooting
(e) None of these

Answer: (c) Cricket

Explanation:

1. **Punam Raut** is a **cricketer** who played as a top-order batter for India. The reported retirement announcement was made on **15 October 2026**.

2. Her international record includes **73 ODIs**, 35 T20 Internationals and four Tests. Together these account for **112 international appearances**.

3. The report places her India career between 2009 and 2021. An announcement in 2026 does not mean that her last international match was played in that year.

4. She acknowledged the Mumbai Cricket Association's role in her development. Remember the player-sport association first, then use match totals for secondary revision.

AWARDS & HONOURS

Q21. Which Mizoram farmer was recognised among FAO's 100 Women Heroes in 2026?

2026 में मिजोरम की किस महिला किसान को FAO की 100 वुमेन हीरोज में मान्यता मिली?

(a) Mari ZT Lalrithangi
(b) Saikhom Mirabai Chanu
(c) Hima Das
(d) Lovlina Borgohain
(e) None of these

Answer: (a) Mari ZT Lalrithangi

Explanation:

1. The recipient is **Mari ZT Lalrithangi**, a farmer from **Sangau** in Mizoram's **Lawngtlai district**.

2. The recognition is associated with **FAO's 100 Women Heroes** during the **International Year of Women Farmers 2026**. The reported presentation was at the World Food Forum in Rome.

3. Her enterprise centres on strawberry cultivation, expanding from about 1,000 saplings in 2024 to more than 10,000 plants. The source also mentions processed products such as wine and candy.

4. Value addition means converting a basic farm product into a form with greater market value. This example connects women's enterprise, horticulture and agrifood-system development.