

# Daily Current Affairs

## 26 September 2024

### UN Is A Prisoner Of Past

- **Global South** its due representation. Speaking at the Foreign Ministers' meeting of the **G20 in New York**, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar said that the **United Nations is a prisoner of the past** and it must evolve with the world.
- He said, As a result, the **UN Security Council struggles** to fulfil its mandate of maintaining international peace and stability, undermining its effectiveness and credibility.
- He stressed that the **Global South must be given their legitimate voice**. He emphasised the urgent need to reform the UN to ensure it is representative, credible, and effective.



- Dr. Jaishankar said the reforms should include the **expansion of both permanent and elected seats** on the Security Council. The ministers of the G20, the group of major developed and emerging countries, met on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly's high-level meeting.
- In a speech that dealt at length with the international financial and development organisations, Dr. Jaishankar said that it was imperative to bring in reforms to make the international financial architecture more robust, expansive, and effective.

- During its presidency of the **G20**, **India set up a panel of international economic experts** to recommend reforms to the **Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)**, and their suggestions were adopted by the G20.
- Dr. Jaishankar also stressed the need for reform of **the multilateral trading system**. He said India remains unwavering in its commitment to a rules-based, non-discriminatory, fair, open, inclusive, equitable, and transparent multilateral trading system, with the World Trade Organisation at its core.



- **Dr. Jaishankar also met several delegates and diplomats** on the sidelines of UNGA, including Kazakhstan Foreign Minister Nurtleu, Morocco Foreign Minister Nasser Bourita, and Swiss Federal Councillor Ignazio Cassis, among many others.
- Dr. Jaishankar also held a meeting with the Prime Minister of Belgium, Alexander De Croo, and discussed manufacturing and technology cooperation . He has also held talks with Greek Foreign Minister Giorgos Gerapetritis and discussed an array of topics, including shipping, energy, mobility, connectivity, and defence.

## **Bihar's Marhowra Plant**

- India is set to become a **global locomotive manufacturing** hub with first-ever exports from Bihar's Marhowra Plant. The Railways Ministry has said, Wabtec Locomotive Private Limited, a joint venture between **Indian Railways and Wabtec**, is expanding the capabilities of its plant to export locomotives to Africa.
- It added that for the first time, the plant will manufacture locomotives for export to a global customer.
- The plant will supply **Evolution Series ES43ACmi locomotives** to global customers. The ES43ACmi is a locomotive featuring a 4,500 HP Evolution Series engine, offering best-in-class fuel efficiency and proven performance in high-

temperature environments. The Marhowra plant will begin exporting these locomotives from next year.



- This project holds strategic importance as it positions India as a global locomotive manufacturing hub and aligns with the **“Make in India”** and **“Make for the World”** initiatives under the **“Atmanirbhar Bharat”** vision of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- It will also enable the **Marhowra plant to export standard-gauge** locomotives globally, expanding the local supplier footprint and fostering long-term job creation, thereby benefiting the Indian economy.

## Make in India 10th Anniversary

- The Government’s flagship **initiative Make in India** has completed 10 years today. During this period, the government has implemented several key measures that have revolutionized India’s manufacturing landscape and strengthened our economic growth.
- On 25th September 2014, the **Modi government launched the Make in India initiative to facilitate investment**, foster innovation, build world-class infrastructure, and position India as a hub for manufacturing, design, and innovation.
- Aligning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s vision of establishing **‘Brand India’ as a global benchmark** for innovation and quality, major initiatives have been undertaken across key sectors to boost the startup ecosystem and create employment opportunities.





- From space to **semiconductors and from electronics** to electric vehicles, Make in India has become a reality. Since the launch of this initiative, India has become the **second-largest mobile manufacturer in the world**, with imports of mobile phones declining by around 85 percent. In 2014, India had only two mobile manufacturing units. Number has exploded to over 200. Export Growth: Mobile exports have seen an astounding **increase of 7,500%**, reaching Rs 1.2 trillion. India has transitioned from being a net importer to a net exporter of finished steel.



- Production Linked Incentive scheme** has enabled investments of over 1.28 lakh crore rupees across various sectors. In the past decade, India has launched a startup every hour, creating approximately 1.5 million jobs. This initiative has not only brought global recognition to the country's industries but has also

positioned India as a leader in the production of COVID vaccines, supplying 50 percent of the world's vaccines.

- At the same time, **India's first indigenous semi-high-speed train**, Vande Bharat, equipped with modern facilities, is providing an excellent experience for passengers. Additionally, India continues to **dominate the digital payments** space, with the success of UPI surpassing global digital payment platforms and setting new benchmarks for real-time transactions across the world. **Production Boost:** Steel production has increased by over 50% since 2014.



- India now stands as the **fourth-largest producer** of renewable energy. **Capacity Growth:** The country has seen a **400% increase in renewable energy capacity** over the last decade.
- **Ease of Doing Business Reforms,** The Prime Minister also highlighted the government's concerted efforts to enhance the ease of doing business in India: **Streamlined Processes:** Reforms have simplified regulatory procedures and reduced bureaucratic hurdles.
- **Investor Confidence:** These improvements have boosted investor confidence and attracted both domestic and foreign investments.

## Jagadguru Sant Tukaram Maharaj

- **Maharashtra government** approved a proposal to name Pune airport as **Jagadguru Sant Tukaram Maharaj Pune International Airport**.
- **Airport renaming proposal** put forward last month, Last month, Murlidhar Mohol proposed naming the airport after the 17th-century saint, noting that Lohegaon, where the airport is situated, was the village of Sant Tukaram Maharaj's mother.



- **Procedure to Change Name** : According to the procedure, the state government submits the proposal to the central government, which then makes the final decision. . To rename an airport, a resolution must first be approved by the state assembly. It then requires approval from the Union cabinet before being officially notified in the Gazette of India.
- **About Sant Tukaram Maharaj** : Sant Tukaram Maharaj was a 17th-century Marathi poet, and Hindu saint, popularly known as Tuka, Tukobaraya, Tukoba in Maharashtra.. He was a sant of Warkari (Varkari) sampradaya which venerates the god Vithoba. He was part of the egalitarian, personalized Varkari devotionalism tradition.
- **Abhangas** : Tukaram is best known for his devotional poetry called Abhanga and community-oriented worship with spiritual songs known as kirtans.
- **The Warkari sect** : Sant Tukaram and his work are central to the Warkari sect spread across Maharashtra.
- **Wari pilgrimage** : Sant Tukaram is credited with starting the Wari pilgrimage.
- The Wari sees lakhs of devotees congregating in the temple towns of Dehu and Alandi to accompany the padukas of Sant Tukaram and Sant Dyaneshwar respectively as they start for Pandharpur.



## ‘Powder Keg’

- **UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres** has warned the world leaders that the world is edging towards the unimaginable **situation of a powder keg** which risks engulfing the world.
- Mr Guterres said this at **the 79th United Nations General Assembly** which opened yesterday. **A powder keg is also a metaphorical term** for a region that political, socioeconomic, historical or other circumstances have made prone to outbursts.



- The analogy is drawn from a **perception that certain territories may seem peaceful and dormant** until another event triggers a large outburst of violence. Citing deepening geopolitical divisions, the UN Chief said, the solutions to the crises require the reform of the international institutions, including the Security Council, and commitment to the UN Charter.
- The **world leaders’ meeting is taking place amid increasing global divisions**, major wars in Gaza, Ukraine and the threat of an even larger conflict in the West Asia.
- The **UN Assembly’s annual meeting, followed the two-day Summit** of the Future, which adopted a Pact for the Future, to tackle the challenges of the 21st century including conflicts, climate change, artificial intelligence and women’s rights.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. Anura Kumara Dissanayake Has Been Elected As President Of Which Country**

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. Bhutan
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Nepal

**ANSWER: A**

**2. Which Country Proposed New Climate Fund To Be Financed Through Voluntary Contributions From Fossil-fuel Producing Countries**

- A. Algeria
- B. Azerbaijan
- C. India
- D. Australia

**ANSWER: B**

**3. Which States Recorded The Highest Number Of Atrocities Cases On Dalits**

- A. Uttarakhand, Haryana and Punjab
- B. Jharkhand and Bihar
- C. Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh
- D. Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala

**ANSWER: C**

**4. Where Was India's First Co2-to-methanol Pilot Plant Launched**

- A. Chennai
- B. Gorakhpur
- C. Pune
- D. Kochi

**ANSWER: C**

**5. Koraput Kalajeera Rice Got GI Status, Is Cultivated In Which State**

- A. Punjab
- B. Odisha
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Uttar Pradesh

**ANSWER: B**



**6. Initiative Launched By Lieutenant Governor To Combat Air Pollution In Delhi**

- A. Dust-free Delhi Drive
- B. Green Delhi Initiative
- C. Pollution Control Program
- D. None of the Above

**ANSWER: A**

**7. Which City In Gujarat Has Been Selected For The Establishment Of The New Semiconductor Unit**

- A. Gandhinagar
- B. Sanand
- C. Vadodara
- D. Ahmedabad

**ANSWER: B**

**8. Ministry Of Electronics & Information Technology Has Launched 'Graphene Aurora Program' In Which State**

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Kerala
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Assam

**ANSWER: B**

**9. Kirkuk Which Was Seen In The News, Is Located In Which Country**

- A. Israel
- B. Iraq
- C. Australia
- D. Greece

**ANSWER: B**

**10. Who Became Oldest Indian To Swim Across The English Channel**

- A. Siddhartha Agarwal
- B. Vikrant Kashyap
- C. Anand Kumar
- D. Vikas Rao

**ANSWER: A**

**11. Where Was “Eastern Economic Forum 2024” Held**

- A. Bhopal, India
- B. Vladivostok, Russia
- C. Beijing, China
- D. Tokyo, Japan

**ANSWER: B**

**12. Who Has Been Appointed As New Finance Secretary Of India**

- A. Arun Kumar
- B. Susheel Kumar Trivedi
- C. Tuhin Kanta Pandey
- D. Jitendra Kumar

**ANSWER: C**

**13. Which Ministry Dissolved 14 Member Standing Committee On Economic Statistics**

- A. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Textiles
- D. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

**ANSWER: A**

**14. Who Chaired First Governing Board Meeting Of Newly Formed Anusandhan National Research Foundation**

- A. Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- B. Home Minister Amit Shah
- C. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
- D. None of the Above

**ANSWER: A**

**15. What Is ‘Montelukast’**

- A. It is a medication to prevent and control asthma attacks
- B. It is an antidepressant drug
- C. It is salt water marshes
- D. Diesel electric submarine

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Which Organization Released 1<sup>st</sup> Ever Global Guidance On Antibiotic Pollution**

- A. United Nations Environment Programme
- B. World Health Organization
- C. Indian Association for Medical Informatics
- D. European Union

**ANSWER: B**

**17. India Successfully Test Fired The Vertical Launch Short Range Surface To Air Missile At Which Place**

- A. Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- B. Chandipur, Odisha
- C. Pokhran, Rajasthan
- D. Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

**ANSWER: B**

**18. "Rapa Nui", Also Known As Easter Island, Is Located In Which Ocean**

- A. Southeastern Pacific Ocean
- B. Indian Ocean
- C. North Atlantic Ocean
- D. South Atlantic Ocean

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Vishnupad Temple And Mahabodhi Temple, Are Located In Which State**

- A. Haryana
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Bihar
- D. Odisha

**ANSWER: C**

**20. What Is The Primary Objective Of 'White Revolution 2.0'**

- A. To Empower Women Farmers, Increase Local Milk Production, Improve Dairy Infrastructure & Dairy Exports
- B. Increase The Export Of Basmati Rice And Wheat
- C. Increase The Production Of Organic Vegetables
- D. Promote Digital Farming

**ANSWER: A**