

Daily Current Affairs

27 January 2025

“Swarnim Bharat: Virasat Aur Vikas”

- **160-member marching contingent and 190-member band contingent** from Indonesia took part in the Parade. **Thirty-One tableaux** from various States, Union Territories, and Central Government Ministries and Departments participated, showcasing the theme “**Swarnim Bharat: Virasat aur Vikas.**” For the first time, a **Tri-services tableau participated** on Kartavya Path, displaying the spirit of jointness and integration.



- **Haryana’s tableau showcased the Bhagwad Gita** and the tableau of Uttar Pradesh depicted the ongoing Mahakumbh 2025.
- The event concluded with a **flypast by 47 aircraft**. The flypast witnessed a breath-taking air show by Rafale, Su-30, Jaguar, C-130, Dornier-228 and An-32 aircraft and Apache and Mi-17 helicopters. With Suparna Saikia, Anupam Mishra, Akashvani News, Delhi.



- To honour their contributions in nation and society building, special guests from different walks of life were invited as Government's Special guests to witness the event.
- **Ten thousand Special Guests in 34 categories**, including the Sarpanches from villages, Handicraft and Handloom Artisans, SHG members, ASHA and Anganwadi workers, Road Construction Workers were invited as Special Guests.



Goa	Cultural Heritage of Goa
Uttarakhand	Uttarakhand: Cultural Heritage and Adventure Sports
Haryana	Showcasing Bhagwad Gita
Jharkhand	Swarnim Jharkhand: A Legacy of Heritage and Progress
Gujarat	Swarnim Bharat: Virasat Aur Vikas
Andhra Pradesh	Etikoppaka Bommalu- Eco-Friendly Wooden Toys
Punjab	Punjab as the land of knowledge and wisdom
Uttar Pradesh	Mahakumbh 2025 - Swarnim Bharat Virasat aur Vikas
Bihar	Swarnim Bharat: Virasat Aur Vikas (Nalanda Vishwavidyalya)
Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh's Glory: Kuno National park- The land of CHEetahs
Tripura	Eternal Reverence: The worship of 14 Deities in Tripura - Kharchi Puja
Karnataka	Lakkundi: Cradle of Stone craft
West Bengal	The 'Lakshmir Bhandar' & 'Lok Prasar Prakalpa' - Empowering Lives and Fostering Self-Reliance in Bengal
Chandigarh	Chandigarh: A Harmonious Blend of Heritage, Innovation and Sustainability
Delhi	Quality Education
Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	Daman Aviary Bird Park along with Kukri Memorial- a tribute to the valiant sailors of the Indian Navy

Padma Awards

- President Droupadi Murmu has approved conferment of **139 Padma Awards** for Year 2025. The list comprises seven **Padma Vibhushan**, **19 Padma Bhushan** and **113 Padma Shri Awards**.
- **23 of the awardees are women** and the list also includes **10 persons from the category of Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI** and **13 Posthumous awardees**. Indian writer **MT Vasudevan Nair**, former chairman of **Suzuki Motor Corporation**, Osamu Suzuki, and singer **Sharda Sinha** have been awarded the Padma Vibhushan posthumously.



- **Singer Pankaj Udhas and economist Bibek Debroy** have been given the Padma Bhushan posthumously. Hockey player **PR Sreejesh** has also been conferred with Padma Bhushan. Cricketer **R Ashwin** and football player **IM Vijayan** have been awarded with the Padmashree.
- **Padma Vibhushan** is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service, 'Padma Bhushan' for distinguished service of high order and 'Padma Shri' for distinguished service in any field. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has congratulated all the Padma awardees.

1st Human Operated Underwater Submersible

- India is gearing up to deploy its **first human-operated underwater submersible** as part of the **Deep Ocean Mission**. Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, **Dr. Jitendra Singh** said that the submersible, designed for a depth of **up to 500 meters**, is expected to launch this year, with plans to extend its reach to **6,000 meters by next year**.



- The announcement was made during the second meeting of the Mission **Steering Committee at Prithvi Bhawan, New Delhi**.
- The **Deep Ocean Mission aims to explore underwater resources**, improve knowledge of deep-sea ecosystems, and advance India's blue economy. The mission's **objectives include identifying critical minerals**, rare metals, and undiscovered marine biodiversity, which have economic and environmental implications.
- It will also contribute to sustainable fisheries and biodiversity conservation, providing **long-term benefits to India's scientific community** and economy. Dr. Singh highlighted the parallel **progress of the Deep Ocean Mission** and the Gaganyaan space program, which aims to send humans to space. This alignment **represents India's advancements in both marine and space technology**.



“Anuja” Best Short Film Category Of Oscars

- Indian short film **Anuja** has achieved a significant milestone by securing a nomination in the **Best Short Film (Live Action)** category for the Oscars 2025. **Anuja** is directed by **Adam J. Graves** and **Suchitra Mattai**.



- The film is backed by two-time **Academy Award** winner **Guneet Monga** and actors **Priyanka Chopra** and **Mindy Kaling**. **Anuja** follows a nine-year-old girl who, alongside her sister **Palak**, faces a life-changing opportunity that tests their bond and mirrors the struggles of girls worldwide.

- **The other short films to make it to the final nominations list are A Lien, The Last Ranger, I'm Not a Robot, and The Man Who Could Not Remain Silent.**

USAID Suspends All Assistance In Bangladesh

- **United States Agency for International Development (USAID) suspended all assistance programmes in Bangladesh.** In a letter sent to all its implementing partners in Bangladesh, the **US donor agency USAID has directed to immediately stop, cease and suspend any work in Bangladesh under contracts, work orders, grants, cooperative agreements, or other acquisition or assistance instruments.**



- **United States froze virtually all foreign aid,** making exceptions only for emergency food, and military funding for Israel and Egypt. The action comes as a part of the Reevaluation and Realignment of United States Foreign Aid, in consistency with the foreign policy of President Donald Trump.
- This sudden **decision has raised significant concerns** among various project stakeholders, including US-funded non-governmental organizations operating in Bangladesh.
- The **potential implications of the order will be substantial for Bangladesh** as the USAID program in Bangladesh is the largest in Asia, with some of the world's most important **food security and health programs, along** with strategically important democracy and governance, basic education, and environment activities. **USAID also oversees a large humanitarian assistance portfolio** in Bangladesh in response to the Rohingya crisis.

26 JANUARY | 2025 Photo: Collected

USAID | BANGLADESH
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

January 25, 2025

Subject: Immediate Stop-Work Order / Suspension of all Activities

References: President Trump's Executive Order on Reevaluating and Streamlining Foreign Aid; Notice on President Trump's Executive Order on Reevaluating and Streamlining Foreign Aid; Notice on Implementation of Executive Order: DEIA Activities

Dear Implementing Partner:

This letter serves as a directive to all USAID/Bangladesh Implementing Partners to cease, and/or suspend any work performed under your respective USAID award, order, grant, cooperative agreement, or other acquisition or assistance instrument in accordance with the applicable authority under your award, which may include a Stop-Work Order (or Alternate I), 2 CFR 700.14, or the Applicable Standard Conditions of Award.

Partners shall take all reasonable steps to minimize the incurrence of costs all through the end of the award. Partners shall not resume work under their awards until notification has been received from the Contracting/Agreement Officer that this award Stop Work Order has been lifted.

Additionally, and in accordance with the "Notice on Implementation of Executive Order on Reevaluating and Streamlining Foreign Aid Under Existing USAID Awards" sent by Jami J. Rodgers on January 24, 2025, please send a certification via Email to IndustryLiaison@usaid.gov that states your DEIA-related activities have completed. Please contact the USAID Industry Liaison team with at IndustryLiaison@usaid.gov.

Please confirm your receipt and agreement with this letter by replying to dhakaco@usaid.gov. Should you have questions concerning this letter, please contact dhakaco@usaid.gov.

Please be aware that we anticipate many questions and will provide further guidance as soon as available.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

**FOLLOWING TRUMP'S ORDER, USAID
SUSPENDS AID OPERATIONS IN
BANGLADESH**

ISRO Set To Launch Its 100th Satellite

- India's space agency, ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation), is preparing to make history with the launch of its 100th satellite. This milestone mission is set to take place on January 29 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, with the GSLV-F15 NVS-02 mission.
- This achievement marks a significant step for India in space exploration and satellite technology, reinforcing the country's growing space capabilities. The upcoming mission will see the launch of the GSLV-F15, which is equipped with India's Indigenous Cryogenic Stage.



- The rocket is designed to place the **NVS-02 satellite** into a **Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO)**. The launch will be conducted from the **Second Launch Pad (SLP)** at the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre**, a prominent hub for ISRO's space missions.
- The **GSLV-F15 flight is of special importance** as it is the 17th flight of India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) and the 11th flight to feature the Indigenous Cryogenic Stage.



- This also marks the **8th operational flight of the GSLV using** this cryogenic stage, which has become one of India's critical achievements in rocket propulsion technology.
- The **NVS-02 satellite is the second** in the NVS series and will augment the NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) system, which is India's regional navigation satellite system.
- **NavIC provides accurate Position, Velocity, and Timing (PVT)** services to users across India and the surrounding region, extending up to 1,500 kilometers beyond India's landmass. The system's primary function is to offer highly precise navigation information to users, a key element in both civilian and military applications.



- **The NVS series satellites** (NVS-01, NVS-02, NVS-03, NVS-04, and NVS-05) are designed to enhance and augment the NavIC base layer constellation. The satellites will **improve the continuity of the service and ensure** the long-term availability of accurate navigation data for users.
- ISRO has highlighted the enhanced features of these satellites, aimed at maintaining the **high standards of positioning accuracy**. One of the key technological features of the NVS-02 satellite is its use of a combination of indigenous and procured atomic clocks.

- These **clocks are essential for precise time estimation**, which is a crucial aspect of satellite navigation. The combination of these advanced atomic clocks enables the satellite to offer exceptional accuracy in time and positioning services.

Fiscal Health Index 2025

- NITI Aayog introduced the inaugural “**Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025**” in New Delhi. This comprehensive report evaluates the fiscal health of 18 major Indian states, aiming to guide policy reforms for sustainable and resilient economic growth.
- Top-Ranked States: **Odisha leads with a cumulative score of 67.8, followed by Chhattisgarh (55.2) and Goa (53.6)**. These states excel in revenue mobilization, expenditure management, and debt sustainability.



- **Jharkhand has shown progress in fiscal prudence** and debt sustainability. In contrast, **Karnataka faces challenges** due to weaker performance in expenditure quality and debt management. The introduction of the FHI aligns with India’s broader vision of achieving “**Viksit Bharat @2047,**” emphasizing the pivotal role of fiscal discipline at the state level in the nation’s economic transformation.
- By focusing on major fiscal **indicators, the FHI encourages states** to align their fiscal strategies with national objectives, promoting healthy competition among states.

HOW STATES FARE

Fiscal Health Index Score (out of 100)

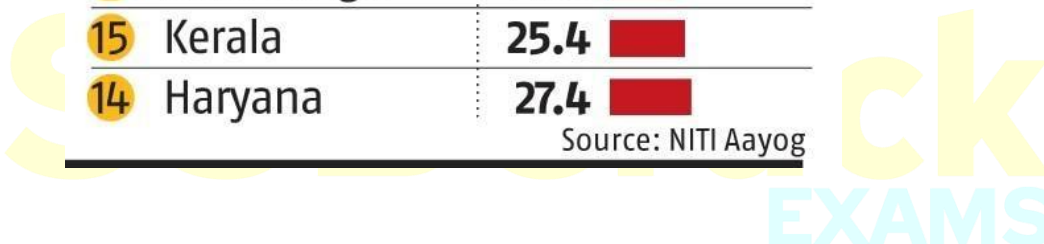
TOP 5 ▲

1	Odisha	67.8	<div style="width: 67.8%;"></div>
2	Chhattisgarh	55.2	<div style="width: 55.2%;"></div>
3	Goa	53.6	<div style="width: 53.6%;"></div>
4	Jharkhand	51.6	<div style="width: 51.6%;"></div>
5	Gujarat	50.5	<div style="width: 50.5%;"></div>

BOTTOM 5 ▼

18	Punjab	10.7	<div style="width: 10.7%;"></div>
17	Andhra Pradesh	20.9	<div style="width: 20.9%;"></div>
16	West Bengal	21.8	<div style="width: 21.8%;"></div>
15	Kerala	25.4	<div style="width: 25.4%;"></div>
14	Haryana	27.4	<div style="width: 27.4%;"></div>

Source: NITI Aayog



Kodaikanal Solar Observatory

- An international conference titled '**Sun, Space Weather, and Solar-Stellar Connections**' was held in **Bengaluru**, to commemorate the **125th anniversary of the Kodaikanal Solar Observatory (KSO)**.
- Organized by the **Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA)**, the event gathered over 200 solar physicists from India and abroad to discuss advancements in solar magnetism, solar-stellar connections, and space weather.
- **Established in 1899, KSO has been pivotal** in advancing solar astrophysics in India. Its extensive repository of photographic images has provided invaluable insights into solar phenomena such as sunspots, solar flares, and coronal mass ejections.



- The observatory's unique location and state-of-the-art equipment have significantly contributed to our understanding of the **Sun's behavior and its impact on Earth**.
- Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), highlighted initiatives like the **digitization of KSO's historic records**. He also emphasized IIA's significant contribution to **the Aditya-L1 mission** through the Visible Emission Line Coronagraph and discussed upcoming projects like the **National Large Solar Telescope proposed in Ladakh**.
- Eminent solar astronomers, including **Prof. John Leibacher from the National Solar Observatory, USA**, highlighted KSO's unique contributions to global solar research. The **Kodaikanal Solar Observatory has been** a cornerstone of Indian astronomy for over a century. Its enduring legacy continues through ongoing projects like the **Aditya-L1 mission and the proposed National Large Solar Telescope**. These initiatives aim to open new frontiers of discovery in solar astrophysics, solidifying India's position as a leader in the field.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Kodaikanal Solar Observatory Was Established In

- A. 1890
- B. 1895
- C. 1899
- D. 1892

ANSWER: C

2. Which Indian Leader Unfurled The Flag On January 26, 1950

- A. Jawaharlal Nehru
- B. Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- C. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- D. Mahatma Gandhi

ANSWER: B

3. What Act Was Replaced By The Indian Constitution In 1950

- A. Government of India Act, 1935
- B. Indian Independence Act
- C. Charter Act
- D. Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms

ANSWER: A

4. When Was The Final Draft Of The Indian Constitution Presented

- A. November 26, 1949
- B. November 4, 1948
- C. August 15, 1947
- D. January 26, 1950

ANSWER: A

5. Who Is The Chief Guest For Republic Day 2025

- A. Joe Biden
- B. Emmanuel Macron
- C. Prabowo Subianto
- D. Vladimir Putin

ANSWER: C

6. What Is The Theme For Republic Day 2025

- A. Digital India
- B. Swarnim Bharat – Virasat and Vikas
- C. United in Diversity
- D. Green and Clean India

ANSWER: B

7. Which Year Marks The Adoption Of Indian Constitution

- A. 1947
- B. 1948
- C. 1949
- D. 1950

ANSWER: C

8. Which State Government Has Launched Deendayal Upadhyay Bhoomiheen Krishi Majdoor Kalyana Yojana

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Chhattisgarh
- C. Karnataka
- D. Kerala

ANSWER: B

9. Vaigai River, Which Was Seen In News, Lies In Which State

- A. Kerala
- B. Karnataka
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Maharashtra

ANSWER: C

10. Which Ministry Has Introduced The Diamond Imprest Authorization Scheme

- A. Ministry of Mines
- B. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs

ANSWER: B

11. Which Indian State Is The Host Of 1st International Olympic Research Conference

- A. Kerala
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Gujarat
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: C

12. What Is Guillain- Barre Syndrome

- A. Genetic disorder
- B. Neurological disorder
- C. A type of autoimmune arthritis
- D. None of the Above

ANSWER: B

13. Which Day Is Observed As International Day Of Education Every Year

- A. 24 January
- B. 25 January
- C. 26 January
- D. 27 January

ANSWER: A

14. Typhoon Missile System Was Developed By Which Country

- A. Russia
- B. France
- C. Japan
- D. United States

ANSWER: D

15. Lake Victoria, Is Bordered By Which Countries

- A. Tanzania, Kenya, and Rwanda
- B. Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania
- C. Uganda, Burundi, and Tanzania
- D. Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda

ANSWER: B

16. Where Was The Khelo India Winter Games (KIWG) 2025 Organized

- A. Assam and Arunachal Pradesh
- B. Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir
- C. New Delhi
- D. Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh

ANSWER: B

17. Mannan Community Is Primarily Found In Which State

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Kerala
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: C

18. Which Institution Has Been Awarded The Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar For 2025

- A. Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)
- B. Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)
- C. National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)
- D. Geological Survey of India (GSI)

ANSWER: A

19. What Is The Rank Of India In The Global Firepower Index 2025

- A. First
- B. Second
- C. Third
- D. Fourth

ANSWER: D

20. Bhakti Saint Ramanujacharya Was Devotee Of Which God

- A. Krishna
- B. Rama
- C. Vishnu
- D. Shiva

ANSWER: C