

Daily Defence Current Affairs

13 September 2025

India Backs UNGA Resolution on Palestine

- In a significant diplomatic development, India voted in favour of a United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution endorsing the “New York Declaration” on the peaceful settlement of the Palestine issue through the two-state solution.
- The resolution was passed on September 12, 2025, with 142 countries supporting, 10 opposing, and 12 abstaining.
- This vote reaffirms India’s long-standing position on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, supporting the creation of a sovereign, independent, and viable State of Palestine, coexisting peacefully with a secure State of Israel within recognized borders.
- **Votes in favour:** 142 countries (including India)
- **Votes against:** 10 countries (including the US)
- **Abstentions:** 12
- India has consistently upheld the two-state solution as the only viable path to resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- **India’s Position on Palestine**
 - Support for a sovereign and independent Palestine
 - Recognition of Israel’s right to live in peace and security
 - Advocacy for negotiations within recognized borders
 - Balanced diplomacy with both Palestine and Israel
- **US Opposition to the Resolution**
 - Claimed the resolution rewards Hamas

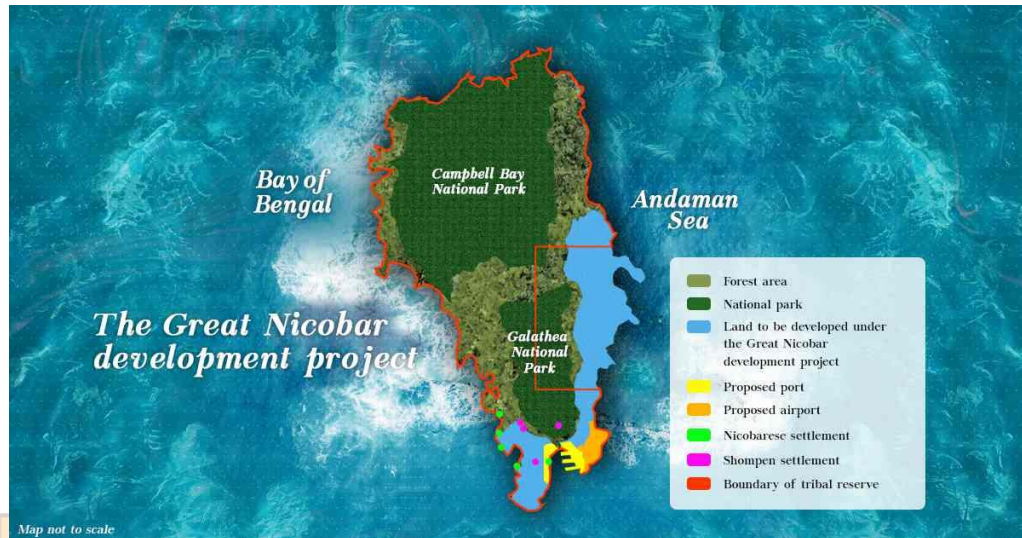
- Argued it undercuts diplomatic efforts to free hostages and end suffering in Gaza
- Stated the resolution was misguided, ill-timed, and politically motivated
- The US emphasized that genuine peace can only be achieved through direct negotiations rather than UN resolutions.



Great Nicobar Island Project

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has hailed the Great Nicobar Island Project as a landmark initiative that will transform the island into a major maritime and air connectivity hub in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- Calling it a project of “strategic, defence, and national importance,” he shared Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav’s article that detailed the integrated development plan and its ecological safeguards.
- The project reflects India’s dual commitment to economic development and ecological protection, aligning with the vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047.
- The project, worth ₹72,000 crore, will be executed over 30 years in a phased manner.
- **Strategic and Geopolitical Significance**
- **Countering Expansionism:** It enhances India’s ability to respond to regional challenges, including China’s growing naval presence.

- **Curbing Illegal Activities:** The project will help curb illegal poaching and transnational maritime crimes.
- **Maritime Advantage:** Located near Indira Point, less than 150 km from Indonesia, the island provides a strategic vantage in the Malacca Strait–Indian Ocean region.



Nepal to Get First Woman Prime Minister

- In a historic political shift, Sushila Karki, Nepal's first female Chief Justice, is set to become the country's first woman Prime Minister after being chosen as the interim leader by Gen-Z protest groups.
- The decision follows a youth-led uprising that forced the resignation of former PM KP Sharma Oli and dismantled Nepal's entrenched political order.
- Karki, 73, was sworn in on 12th September 2025, following an agreement between **President Ran Chandra Paudel**, the Nepali Army leadership, and Gen-Z representatives.
- **Who is Sushila Karki?**
- **Born:** 7 June 1952, Biratnagar, Nepal.
- **Education**
- BA, Mahendra Morang Campus, Nepal (1972)
- MA (Political Science), Banaras Hindu University, India (1975)
- LLB, Tribhuvan University, Nepal (1978)

- Legal Career: Began in 1979; became Senior Advocate in 2007.



India Hits 250 GW Non-Fossil Fuel Power Capacity

- India has officially achieved 250 GW of non-fossil fuel electricity generation capacity, marking a key milestone in the country's push for a low-carbon, sustainable energy future.
- Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi made the announcement during the State Review Meeting on Renewable Energy held in New Delhi on 11 September 2025.
- This development positions India among the top nations in clean energy capacity and accelerates progress toward the **500 GW renewable energy goal** set for 2030 under its **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)** to the Paris Agreement.
- **The 250 GW non-fossil fuel capacity includes,**
 - Solar energy
 - Wind power
 - Hydropower
 - Biomass energy
 - Nuclear energy



India–Mauritius Special Economic Package 2025

- India and Mauritius have once again reinforced their close ties of friendship and cooperation. During the State Visit of the Prime Minister of Mauritius, Dr. Navinchandra Ramgoolam, to India on the invitation of PM Shri Narendra Modi.
- **Key Projects under Grant Assistance**
- India has committed to supporting Mauritius through grant-based projects worth an estimated USD 215 million (MUR 9.80 billion). The major initiatives include,
- New Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam National Hospital – Strengthening healthcare infrastructure.
- AYUSH Centre of Excellence – Promoting traditional medicine, Ayurveda, Yoga, and holistic health.
- Veterinary School and Animal Hospital – Enhancing veterinary education and animal healthcare.
- Provision of helicopters – Improving air mobility and disaster management capabilities.



India Launches SAJEX 2025

- In a landmark move to deepen bilateral trade and expand India's global presence in the Jewellery sector, the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) has launched the **Saudi Arabia Jewellery Exposition** (SAJEX) 2025 in Jeddah.
- India exported \$32 billion worth of gems and jewellery in FY 2024–25, maintaining its global leadership across multiple segments,
- 65% of global diamond value, processing over 1 billion diamonds annually
- 92% of diamond trade by volume
- Leading exporter of gold, silver, coloured gemstones, and lab-grown diamonds
- The sector attracted a 315% surge in FDI in FY 2024–25, contributing to India's \$50 billion total FDI inflow.



Larry Ellison Surpasses Elon Musk as World's Richest

- In a dramatic financial shake-up, **Oracle co-founder Larry Ellison** has overtaken **Tesla CEO Elon Musk** to become the **world's richest person**, according to Forbes' real-time billionaire rankings.
- On September 10, 2025, Oracle's stock surged 41% in New York trading—its steepest jump since 1992—boosting Ellison's wealth by **\$101 billion** in a single day.
- Ellison's total net worth now stands at **\$395.7 billion**, pushing him past Musk, whose fortune has been hit by fluctuations in Tesla's stock performance.
- **Larry Ellison Net Worth:** \$395.7 billion (Forbes Real-Time Ranking).
- **Company:** Oracle (founded in 1977).
- **Oracle Market Value:** \$947 billion.



CP Radhakrishnan India's 15th Vice President

- CP Radhakrishnan officially assumed office as the **15th Vice President of India** on September 12, 2025. President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office at a ceremony attended by several top dignitaries.
- **Article 66** of the Constitution of India states the manner of election of the vice president.
- **Qualifications**
 - Be a citizen of India.
 - Be at least 35 years of age.

- Not to be holding any office of profit.
- Not necessary to be an MP but should be eligible for Rajya Sabha seat



ICC Launches 'Will to Win' Campaign

- With just weeks to go before the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025, the International Cricket Council (ICC) has unveiled its flagship 'Will to Win' campaign.
- The campaign film, launched alongside the opening of the general ticket window, captures the essence of determination, sacrifice, and resilience that defines women's cricket.
- The **13th edition of the Women's World Cup** will begin on September 30, 2025, with India and Sri Lanka facing off in the opening match at Guwahati. The tournament will conclude with the final on November 2, 2025.
- **Showcasing Global Icons of Women's Cricket**
- **India:** Smriti Mandhana, Harmanpreet Kaur
- **Sri Lanka:** Chamari Athapaththu
- **Australia:** Ellyse Perry
- **South Africa:** Marizanne Kapp
- **Bangladesh:** Nigar Sultana Joty
- **New Zealand:** Melie Kerr
- **England:** Nat Sciver-Brunt



Abhimanyu Mishra: Youngest Grandmaster

- Abhimanyu Mishra, a 16-year-old chess prodigy from the United States, has taken the global chess community by storm. Already celebrated as the youngest Grandmaster in history, he recently etched his name in the record books again by defeating reigning **World Champion D Gukesh** at the FIDE Grand Swiss 2025.
- **FIDE Classical Rating:** 2611.
- **Live Rating (Grand Swiss 2025):** 2637.2.
- **World Ranking (Live):** 94th, entering the top 100 for the first time.



Verstappen Wins 2025 Italian Grand Prix in Style

- Max Verstappen returned to winning form by clinching a commanding victory at the 2025 **Italian Grand Prix in Monza**. This was his first win since May and only his third win of the season, marking a high point in what has been a challenging year for the Red Bull Racing star.



PV Narasimha Rao Award for Economics

- Late former **Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh**, one of India's most celebrated economists and the architect of the 1991 economic liberalisation, has been posthumously honoured with the **P V Narasimha Rao Memorial Award for Economics**.
- The PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Award for Economics was instituted by the Hyderabad-based PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Foundation to celebrate individuals who have made transformational contributions to India's economic development.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Who was posthumously honoured with the P V Narasimha Rao Memorial Award for Economics?

- A. Dr. Raghuram Rajan
- B. Dr. Manmohan Singh
- C. Amartya Sen
- D. Montek Singh Ahluwalia

ANSWER: B

2. Dr. Manmohan Singh is known as the architect of which major economic reform in India?

- A. 1975 Green Revolution
- B. 1991 Economic Liberalisation
- C. 2005 Rural Employment Guarantee Act
- D. 2014 Make in India Policy

ANSWER: B

3. Max Verstappen won the 2025 Italian Grand Prix held in which city?

- A. Rome
- B. Florence
- C. Monza
- D. Milan

ANSWER: C

4. Abhimanyu Mishra recently defeated which reigning World Champion in chess at the FIDE Grand Swiss 2025?

- A. Magnus Carlsen
- B. Ian Nepomniachtchi
- C. Ding Liren
- D. D Gukesh

ANSWER: D

5. What is the theme of the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 flagship campaign?

- A. Play with Pride
- B. Will to Win
- C. Women Power Cricket

D. One Game, One Dream

ANSWER: B

6. Who assumed office as the 15th Vice President of India on September 12, 2025?

A. M. Venkaiah Naidu

B. Jagdeep Dhankhar

C. CP Radhakrishnan

D. Harivansh Narayan Singh

ANSWER: C

7. Which business leader became the world's richest person in September 2025 after Oracle's stock surged 41%?

A. Elon Musk

B. Jeff Bezos

C. Larry Ellison

D. Warren Buffett

ANSWER: C

8. India recently achieved how much non-fossil fuel electricity generation capacity?

A. 200 GW

B. 220 GW

C. 250 GW

D. 300 GW

ANSWER: C

9. Who is set to become Nepal's first woman Prime Minister in 2025?

A. Bidhya Devi Bhandari

B. Sushila Karki

C. Onsari Gharti Magar

D. Sapana Pradhan Malla

ANSWER: B

10. India recently voted in favour of a UNGA resolution endorsing the "New York Declaration" related to which issue?

A. Climate Change

B. Palestine Two-State Solution

- C. Nuclear Disarmament
- D. Refugee Rights

ANSWER: B