

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 10 October 2025

### National Post Day

- Every year October 10 is observed as National Post Day in India. It is observed to recognize the role played by the Indian Postal Department for more than 150 years. The British brought postal service to India. Lord Dalhousie established it in 1854.
- It is currently the most commonly used postal system in the world and is run by the Ministry of Communications. India has 9 postal zones, 23 postal circles, and one Army Post Office. India's post offices use a 6-digit PIN Code system that was implemented there in 1972.



### World Mental Health Day

- World Mental Health Day is observed on 10 October every year to raise awareness about the scale of suicide around the world and the role that each of us can play in preventing it.

- This day is organised by the **World Federation for Mental Health**. It is also supported by WHO, the International Association for Suicide Prevention, and the **United for Global Mental Health**.



## India–UK Joint Statement 2025

- Marking a key milestone in bilateral relations, India and the United Kingdom issued a comprehensive Joint Statement on 9 October 2025, following the official visit of UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer to India.
- This was PM Starmer's first visit to India and reciprocated Prime Minister Narendra Modi's July 2025 visit to the UK, where the historic India–UK **Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement** (CETA) and the Vision 2035 roadmap were signed.
- **Trade and Economic Growth**
- The two Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction at the momentum in economic cooperation and looked forward to the early ratification of CETA, which promises to boost trade and investment.
- They restarted the Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) to monitor CETA's implementation and ensure dynamic economic governance.
- Areas of joint economic focus include,
- Clean energy

- Advanced manufacturing
- Defence and aerospace
- Science and innovation
- Food and consumer goods
- **Innovation and Technology Collaboration**
- India–UK Connectivity and Innovation Centre with £24 million in funding for 6G, Non-Terrestrial Networks, and telecom cybersecurity
- India–UK Joint Centre for AI to promote ethical and scalable AI in health, climate, and fintech
- A new Critical Minerals Collaboration Guild, and Phase 2 of the Critical Minerals Observatory with a satellite campus at IIT-ISM Dhanbad
- **Climate and Clean Energy**
- Reaffirming net-zero goals, both nations launched,
- The India–UK Climate Finance Initiative
- A joint Climate Tech Start-up Fund
- A new Offshore Wind Taskforce
- Intent to collaborate through the Global Clean Power Alliance (GCPA)



## NAKSHA Programme Transforms Urban Land Records in India

- India has taken another major stride in digital governance with the launch of the NAKSHA Programme, a forward-looking initiative under the **Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP)**.
- Designed to transform urban land management, NAKSHA aims to make land administration more transparent, efficient, and citizen-friendly.
- The NAKSHA Programme is a one-year pilot initiative focusing on urban land record modernization.
- It integrates geospatial mapping, Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), and Web-GIS technologies to create a comprehensive digital land database.
- Its main objective is to realize the government's vision of **"One Nation, One Land Record"**.



## First Phase of Gaza Peace Plan

- In a major breakthrough toward peace in the Middle East, Israel and Hamas have agreed to the first phase of a Gaza ceasefire, U.S. President Donald Trump announced on October 9, 2025.
- The development, hailed as a "great day for the world," marks the most significant progress in efforts to end the devastating Gaza war that has claimed tens of thousands of lives.
- **What is Gaza Peace Plan?**
- **Hostage Release:** All Israeli hostages held in Gaza will be released within days following approval by the Israeli Cabinet.

- **Troop Withdrawal:** Israeli forces will withdraw to an agreed-upon line inside Gaza, allowing humanitarian access and temporary stability.
- **Humanitarian Relief:** The plan allows for increased aid flow into Gaza, addressing critical shortages of food, medicine, and water.
- **Prisoner Exchange:** Israel will release a number of Palestinian prisoners, including some serving long sentences, as part of a reciprocal confidence-building measure.



## California Declares Diwali a State Holiday

- In a landmark recognition of Indian culture and heritage, the State of California in the United States has officially declared Diwali a state holiday.
- With this decision, California has become the third U.S. state — after Pennsylvania and Connecticut — to grant official recognition and holiday status to the festival of lights.
- **Significance of the Move**
- **Cultural Recognition:** Acknowledges the contributions of Indian Americans to the state's economy, education, and governance.
- **Inclusivity:** Reflects the U.S.'s commitment to multiculturalism and religious diversity.
- **Community Empowerment:** Strengthens representation of Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and Buddhist communities who celebrate Diwali.





## 12,000-Year-Old Pillar Carved with Human Face Unearthed in Türkiye

- In a groundbreaking discovery, archaeologists in southeastern Türkiye have unearthed a 12,000-year-old T-shaped pillar featuring a carved human face at the Karahantepe archaeological site.
- This is the first time such a depiction has been found directly on a pillar, adding a critical piece to our understanding of Neolithic symbolism and self-representation.
- Located in Şanlıurfa Province, Karahantepe is one of several sites associated with the Taş Tepeler Project, which includes the more widely known Göbekli Tepe.
- These Neolithic sites are characterized by monumental architecture, particularly T-shaped limestone pillars believed to represent human-like figures.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. National Post Day in India is observed on which date every year?**

- A. 8 October
- B. 9 October
- C. 10 October
- D. 11 October

**ANSWER: C**

**2. Who established the Indian Postal Service in 1854?**

- A. Lord Canning
- B. Lord Dalhousie
- C. Lord Curzon
- D. Lord Wellesley

**ANSWER: B**

**3. When was the 6-digit PIN Code system introduced in India?**

- A. 1968
- B. 1970
- C. 1972
- D. 1974

**ANSWER: C**

**4. How many postal zones does India have?**

- A. 7
- B. 8
- C. 9
- D. 10

**ANSWER: C**

**5. World Mental Health Day is observed every year on:**

- A. 9 October
- B. 10 October
- C. 11 October
- D. 12 October

**ANSWER: B**

**6. Which organization organizes World Mental Health Day?**

- A. World Health Organization (WHO)
- B. World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH)
- C. United Nations
- D. International Association for Suicide Prevention

**ANSWER: B**

**7. Which new collaborative initiative was launched to support 6G and telecom cybersecurity?**

- A. India–UK Technology Forum
- B. India–UK Connectivity and Innovation Centre
- C. Indo-UK Telecom Alliance
- D. Global Digital Partnership Centre

**ANSWER: B**

**8. Under Defence and Security Cooperation, which naval exercise was mentioned between India and the UK?**

- A. INDRA
- B. KONKAN
- C. VARUNA
- D. MALABAR

**ANSWER: B**

**9. What is the objective of India's newly launched NAKSHA Programme?**

- A. To modernize postal services
- B. To improve rural healthcare systems
- C. To transform urban land management
- D. To promote AI-based governance

**ANSWER: C**

**10. Which U.S. state recently declared Diwali as an official state holiday?**

- A. Pennsylvania
- B. Texas
- C. California
- D. Connecticut

**ANSWER: C**