

Daily Defence Current Affairs

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Nobel Peace Prize 2025 Laureate

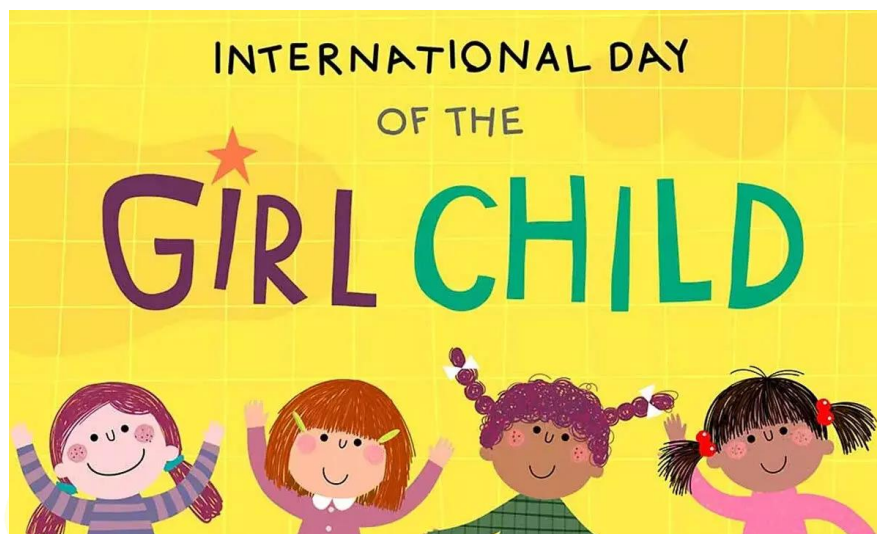
- The 2025 Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to **Maria Corina Machado**, a fearless advocate of democracy in **Venezuela**. Recognized by the Norwegian Nobel Committee, Machado has tirelessly fought for democratic rights, free elections, and a peaceful transition from authoritarian rule to democracy.
- Maria Corina Machado is a prominent Venezuelan politician and activist, renowned for her leadership in the country's democracy movement.
- She has spent decades opposing authoritarianism and defending fundamental democratic principles.



International Day of the Girl Child

- International Day of the Girl Child is observed on **11 October** to raise voices for girls and stand up for their rights.
- The theme for the 2025 International Day of the Girl Child is
- **"The girl I am, the change I lead: Girls on the frontlines of crisis".**

- On December 19, 2011, United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 66/170 to declare October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child to recognize girls' rights and the unique challenges girls face around the world.
- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by world leaders in 2015, embody a roadmap for progress that is sustainable and leaves no one behind.



Sherry Singh Wins India's First Mrs. Universe Crown

- India has etched its name in global pageantry history as Sherry Singh was crowned **Mrs. Universe 2025** at the prestigious finale held in Manila, Philippines.
- The 48th edition of Mrs Universe, held at the luxurious Okada in Manila, witnessed a dazzling display of confidence, elegance, and intellect.
- **Winner:** India – Sherry Singh
- 1st Runner-up: Saint Petersburg
- 2nd Runner-up: Philippines
- 3rd Runner-up: Asia
- 4th Runner-up: Russia
- The Mrs Universe pageant is among the oldest and most prestigious international competitions for married women, celebrating not only beauty but also intellect, leadership, and social impact.



India's First Bullet Train to Run by August 2027

- India is preparing to enter a new era of high-speed rail connectivity, with the country's first bullet train expected to become operational by August 2027, according to Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.
- The Mumbai–Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail (MAHSR), popularly known as India's bullet train project, is among the most ambitious infrastructure projects undertaken by the Indian Railways.
- Once operational, it will connect Mumbai in Maharashtra with Ahmedabad in Gujarat, covering approximately 508 kilometers at speeds of up to 320 km/h.



India-UK Launch Connectivity & Innovation Centre

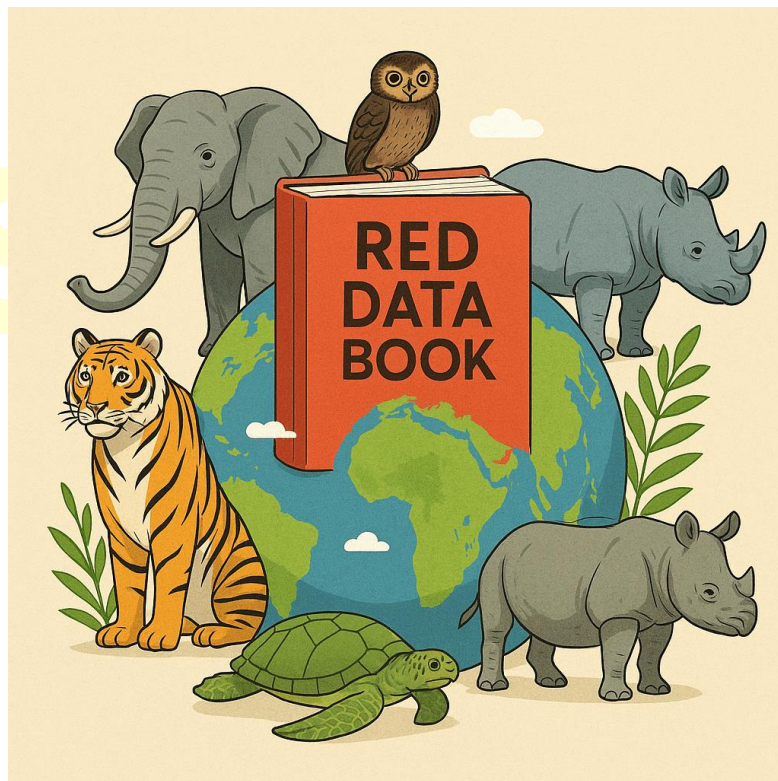
- India and the United Kingdom have launched a strategic collaboration that marks a new chapter in digital diplomacy and technology cooperation. The India-UK Connectivity & Innovation Centre aims to integrate innovation, research, and market deployment in advanced telecommunications.
- The partnership signifies shared ambitions in shaping the trajectory of 6G, network security, and inclusive connectivity over the next decade.
- The partnership sees a £24 million commitment over four years.
- Focus areas: AI in telecom, non-terrestrial networks, and telecom cybersecurity.
- Implementing agencies include UKRI and India's DoT, under the Technology Security Initiative.



India Launched National Red List

- India launched its National Red List Roadmap and Vision 2025–2030 at the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025.
- This comprehensive plan aims to develop a nationally coordinated, science-based framework to assess and monitor the conservation status of India's diverse species, laying the foundation for the publication of **National Red Data Books by 2030**.
- The roadmap was developed in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), the Botanical Survey of India (BSI), and the Centre for Species Survival.
- The Vision 2025–2030 document outlines a science-based, inclusive approach involving various government departments, research institutions, and global partners.

- India is among the 17 megadiverse countries, home to,
- Four global biodiversity hotspots: the Himalayas, Western Ghats, Indo-Burma, and Sunda land
- Over 104,000 faunal species
- More than 18,000 species of flowering plants
- Nearly 20,000 marine species
- India aims to publish Red Data Books for both flora and fauna by 2030.
- These books will serve as authoritative references for,
- Identifying endangered and vulnerable species
- Framing conservation budgets and policies
- Setting research priorities and funding allocation
- Raising public and policymaker awareness



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. When did the UNGA adopt Resolution 66/170 to declare October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child?

- A. December 11, 2012
- B. December 19, 2011
- C. October 11, 2010
- D. November 25, 2013

ANSWER: B

2. What is the theme for the 2025 International Day of the Girl Child?

- A. "Girls for Global Change"
- B. "Empower Her Voice"
- C. "The girl I am, the change I lead: Girls on the frontlines of crisis"
- D. "Future Leaders: Girls of Tomorrow"

ANSWER: C

3. Who was awarded the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize?

- A. Malala Yousafzai
- B. Maria Corina Machado
- C. Greta Thunberg
- D. Sherry Singh

ANSWER: B

4. Maria Corina Machado is known for her advocacy of democracy in which country?

- A. Colombia
- B. Brazil
- C. Venezuela
- D. Argentina

ANSWER: C

5. Who was crowned Mrs. Universe 2025?

- A. Neha Dhupia
- B. Priya Raj
- C. Sherry Singh
- D. Lara Dutta

ANSWER: C

6. Where was the Mrs. Universe 2025 finale held?

- A. New Delhi, India
- B. Manila, Philippines
- C. Paris, France
- D. Dubai, UAE

ANSWER: B

7. When is India's first bullet train expected to become operational?

- A. 2026
- B. 2027
- C. 2028
- D. 2029

ANSWER: B

8. Who announced that India's first bullet train would be operational by August 2027?

- A. Piyush Goyal
- B. Ashwini Vaishnaw
- C. Hardeep Singh Puri
- D. Nitin Gadkari

ANSWER: B

9. The India-UK Connectivity & Innovation Centre, inaugurated in October 2025, will focus on which of the following areas?

- A. Renewable energy and climate change
- B. AI in telecom, non-terrestrial networks, and telecom cybersecurity
- C. Space exploration and satellite launches
- D. Agricultural innovation and food security

ANSWER: B

10. What is the aim of India's National Red List Roadmap and Vision 2025–2030?

- A. To promote rural development projects
- B. To expand railway connectivity
- C. To publish National Red Data Books for flora and fauna
- D. To develop smart cities across India

ANSWER: C