

Daily Defence Current Affairs

28 October 2025

International Animation Day 2025

- Every year on October 28, the world celebrates International Animation Day (IAD)—a global homage to the art of animation, observed across more than 50 countries.
- Spearheaded by ASIFA (Association Internationale du Film d'Animation), this celebration marks the birth of projected animation, commemorating Émile Reynaud's historic screening using his Théâtre Optique in 1892, Paris.
- ASIFA established International Animation Day in 2002 to spotlight animation as a powerful form of artistic and cultural expression.
- IAD is marked by an array of activities including,
- Film screenings (from children's animations to indie art films)
- Workshops for aspiring animators and students
- Conferences and exhibitions hosted by ASIFA chapters and animation institutions



European Club Cup

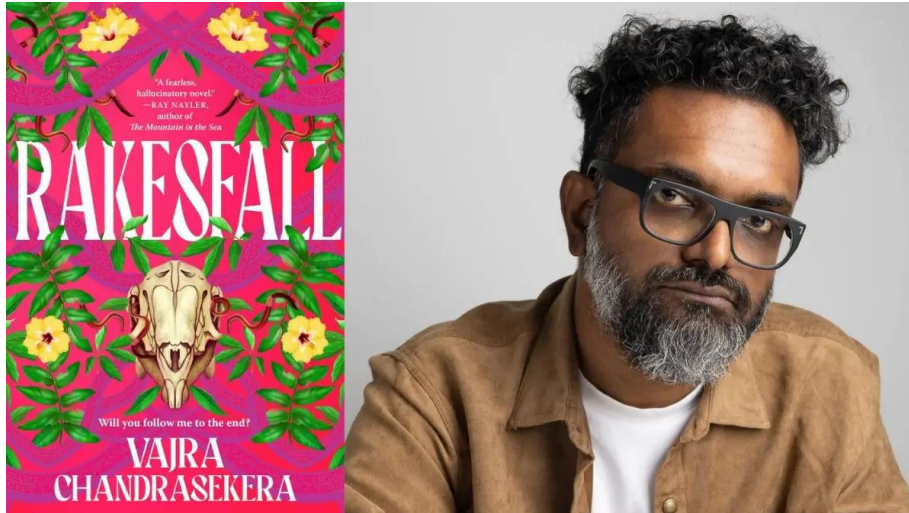
- Indian chess grandmasters D Gukesh and Divya Deshmukh captured individual gold medals at the European Chess Club Cup 2025, providing a timely confidence boost ahead of the Chess World Cup in Goa.
- Indian chess stars D Gukesh and Divya Deshmukh win individual gold at the European Chess Club Cup 2025, boosting momentum ahead of the World Cup in Goa.
- Playing for Super Chess, Gukesh clinched gold on Board 1, leading his team to tournament victory.
- This performance comes after a turbulent season for the reigning World Champion, who ended 2024 with the title but has since struggled for consistency in elite tournaments.
- In the women's event, Divya Deshmukh secured gold on Board 2, helping Cercle d'échecs de Monte Carlo take top honors.
- She is the only Indian woman participating in the upcoming World Cup, and this victory solidifies her form before the major tournament begins.



Vajra Chandrasekera Wins 2025 Le Guin Fiction Prize

- Sri Lankan writer Vajra Chandrasekera has won the 2025 Ursula K. Le Guin Prize for Fiction for his speculative novel Rakesfall. The \$25,000 award recognises a single author whose imaginative fiction explores critical themes such as power, freedom, equity, and humanity's place in the world.

- Established in 2022, the Ursula K. Le Guin Prize for Fiction honours the legacy of the legendary author known for critiquing capitalism, patriarchy, and colonialism through fantasy and science fiction.



Japan Launches World's First Yen-Pegged Stablecoin

- In a major milestone for global digital finance, Japan has officially launched the world's first yen-pegged stablecoin, named JPYC, on October 27, 2025. The debut marks a key turning point in the country's evolving financial ecosystem, which has traditionally leaned heavily on cash and credit cards.
- JPYC is a blockchain-based stablecoin, meaning it is a digital token designed to maintain a 1:1 value with the Japanese yen.
- The coin is backed by domestic savings and Japanese government securities, giving it stability and credibility in line with national financial policies.
- JPYC Inc. plans to issue up to 10 trillion yen (\$66 billion) worth of the digital asset over the next three years.
- The company aims for widespread overseas usage, envisioning JPYC as a low-cost, fast, and secure means of digital payment, especially for startups and international businesses.
- Stablecoins, especially U.S. dollar-backed tokens, have become essential in global digital finance, with USD-based stablecoins comprising 99% of the market.
- The JPYC launch challenges this monopoly and reflects Japan's ambition to carve out a role in the rapidly growing crypto-fintech landscape.
- The JPYC rollout follows the introduction of new yen banknotes in 2024, indicating a parallel focus on both traditional and digital currency forms.



Cyclone Montha

- India's eastern coastline is bracing for Cyclone Montha, a system that has intensified from a deep depression over the southeast Bay of Bengal.
- According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Montha is expected to evolve into a Severe Cyclonic Storm (SCS) by 28 October 2025, impacting states like Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Telangana, Kerala, and Chhattisgarh with heavy rains and strong winds.
- The name "Montha" was contributed by Thailand, as part of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and ESCAP Panel that oversees cyclone naming in the North Indian Ocean.
- **How Tropical Storms Like Cyclone Montha Form**
- **Low-Pressure Formation:** Warm ocean waters heat the air above, creating a low-pressure zone that draws in surrounding moist air.
- **Convection and Cloud Formation:** The rising moist air cools and condenses, forming storm clouds.
- **Cyclonic Circulation:** Due to the Earth's rotation (Coriolis force), the air begins to spiral, intensifying the system.
- **Strengthening into a Cyclone:** If sea surface temperatures (SSTs) remain high (above 27°C) and wind shear is low, the system strengthens into a Cyclonic Storm and possibly a Severe Cyclonic Storm.



Catherine Connolly Elected Ireland's 10th President

- In a striking result for Irish politics, independent left-wing politician Catherine Connolly has been elected as the 10th President of Ireland, winning a landslide victory over her main rival, Heather Humphreys.
- While the presidency is largely ceremonial, Connolly's win signals a notable shift in Ireland's political landscape — especially given her background, endorsements and campaign platform.
- In a striking result for Irish politics, independent left-wing politician Catherine Connolly has been elected as the 10th President of Ireland, winning a landslide victory over her main rival, Heather Humphreys.
- Catherine Connolly is an independent politician from Galway who has served as a Teachta Dála (TD) for the Galway West constituency since 2016. She previously held the position of Deputy Speaker (Leas-Ceann Comhairle) in the Irish Parliament.



Vessel 'Sindhu' Launches Historic Voyage to Barren Island

- In a historic stride for Indian tourism, the passenger vessel 'Sindhu' has completed its maiden voyage to Barren Island, India's only active volcano, marking a pivotal moment in Andaman and Nicobar Islands' maritime tourism.
- The journey, initiated by the Andaman Administration, is being hailed as a breakthrough in connecting the public with the natural marvels of the Indian Ocean region.
- Barren Island, located about 140 kilometres from Port Blair, sits at the convergence of the Indian and Burmese tectonic plates.
- It is home to the only confirmed active volcano in the Indian subcontinent, last erupting intermittently in recent decades.
- Known for its glowing crater and geological significance, the island was previously accessible only to scientists or via aerial glimpses.
- The Sindhu has been specially equipped to offer a comfortable maritime experience with four accommodation types,
- Coral Suite
- Reef Suite
- Island Breeze
- Lagoon Class



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. International Animation Day (IAD) is celebrated every year on which date?

- A) 26 October
- B) 27 October
- C) 28 October
- D) 29 October

Answer: C) 28 October

2. Which organization spearheads the celebration of International Animation Day?

- A) UNESCO
- B) ASIFA (Association Internationale du Film d'Animation)
- C) UNICEF
- D) WHO

Answer: B) ASIFA (Association Internationale du Film d'Animation)

3. International Animation Day commemorates which historic event?

- A) First animated feature film release
- B) Birth of Walt Disney
- C) Émile Reynaud's 1892 screening using Théâtre Optique
- D) First Academy Award for animation

Answer: C) Émile Reynaud's 1892 screening using Théâtre Optique

4. Who won the 2025 Ursula K. Le Guin Prize for Fiction?

- A) Arundhati Roy
- B) Vajra Chandrasekera
- C) Salman Rushdie
- D) Kazuo Ishiguro

Answer: B) Vajra Chandrasekera

5. The Ursula K. Le Guin Prize for Fiction carries a cash award of:

- A) \$10,000
- B) \$15,000
- C) \$20,000

D) \$25,000

Answer: D) \$25,000

6. Indian chess players D. Gukesh and Divya Deshmukh recently won gold medals at which tournament?

A) FIDE World Cup 2025

B) European Chess Club Cup 2025

C) Asian Chess Championship 2025

D) Commonwealth Chess Championship 2025

Answer: B) European Chess Club Cup 2025

7. Japan recently launched the world's first yen-pegged stablecoin. What is its name?

A) JPYT

B) JPYC

C) YENC

D) J-Coin

Answer: B) JPYC

8. The cyclone name "Montha" was contributed by which country?

A) India

B) Sri Lanka

C) Thailand

D) Bangladesh

Answer: C) Thailand

9. Who has been elected as the 10th President of Ireland?

A) Mary McAleese

B) Catherine Connolly

C) Leo Varadkar

D) Michael D. Higgins

Answer: B) Catherine Connolly

10. The passenger vessel 'Sindhu' recently completed its maiden voyage to which unique Indian location?

- A) Nicobar Island
- B) Barren Island
- C) Havelock Island
- D) Neil Island

Answer: B) Barren Island