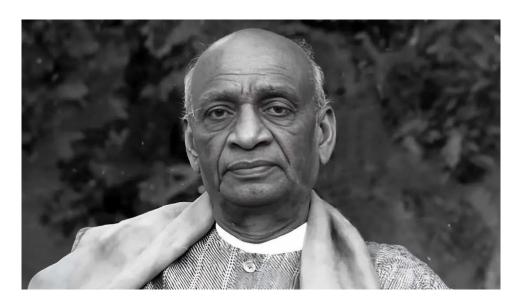
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150 Years of the Iron Man

- Every year on October 31, India celebrates Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) to mark the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India. This year's celebration holds special significance as the nation commemorates his 150th birth anniversary.
- The main event is being held at Ekta Nagar in the Narmada district of Gujarat, home to the iconic Statue of Unity. The venue symbolizes "Unity in Diversity", reflecting India's cultural richness and natural beauty.
- Bharat Parv 2025: A Festival of Unity
- Following Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, Ekta Nagar will host Bharat Pary 2025 from November 1 to 15. The festival will feature:
- Cultural performances from across India
- A grand food festival showcasing regional cuisines
- Exhibitions and activities celebrating national integration
- The event will conclude on November 15 with Birsa Munda Jayanti, honoring the tribal hero Birsa Munda and the rich heritage of India's tribal communities.



World Food Prize Honour

- Celebrated chef, author and Padma Shri awardee Sanjeev Kapoor has been recognised by the World Food Prize Foundation (WFPF) as one of its 2025 Top Agri-Food Pioneers (TAP). The honour highlights his work far beyond the kitchen linking culinary expertise, nutrition advocacy, and agricultural sourcing into a unified agenda for better food systems.
- Kapoor was recognised not only for his culinary excellence but for using food as
 a platform to address deeper challenges in India's nutrition and agri-ecosystem.
 His leadership in initiatives like 'Nutri Pathshala', which connects schools,
 farmers, and nutrition programmes, played a key role in this honour.
- Established by: Dr. Norman Borlaug (Nobel Peace Prize laureate)
- Year Founded: 1986
- Headquarters: Des Moines, Iowa, USA
- Mission: To recognise individuals advancing food security, nutrition, sustainable agriculture, and innovation in food systems



Dame Sarah Mullally to Become First Woman to Lead the Church of England

- In a historic moment for the Church of England, Dame Sarah Mullally has been announced as the new Archbishop of Canterbury-designate — the first woman ever to be chosen for this prestigious role.
- Her appointment marks a new chapter for the Church, bringing both hope and responsibility as she prepares to lead millions of Anglicans across the world.
- Dame Sarah, aged 63, has had a remarkable career that bridges healthcare and faith. Before joining the Church, she spent over 35 years in the NHS, where she became the youngest-ever Chief Nursing Officer for England in 1999. She later felt a spiritual calling, becoming a priest in 2006 and later, in 2018, the first female Bishop of London — the third highest position in the Church of England.



Latest ICC Men's ODI Batsmen Rankings

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) regularly updates its player rankings to evaluate performances across all formats — Tests, ODIs, and T20Is. These ICC rankings reflect a player's consistency, form, and overall contribution to matches over time.
- In the latest ICC Men's ODI Rankings (October 2025), India's captain Rohit Sharma climbed to the No. 1 position for the first time in his illustrious career. This remarkable achievement highlights his longevity, consistency, and world-class batting form in 2025.



Agriculture Minister Inaugurates NSC Seed Processing Plant

- The Union Agriculture Minister recently inaugurated a state-of-the-art seed processing and packaging unit of the National Seeds Corporation (NSC) in New Delhi, marking a significant step towards enhancing the supply of high-quality seeds for farmers.
- The processing unit is located at the Pusa Complex in New Delhi and is specifically designed for vegetable and flower seeds, with a capacity of 1 tonne per hour.
- Alongside the New Delhi unit, five additional NSC plants (in Bareilly, Dharwad, Hassan, Suratgarh and Raichur) were inaugurated virtually, each having a processing capacity of 4 tonnes per hour.
- The National Seeds Corporation (NSC) is a key public sector enterprise in India functioning under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.

• It was established in 1963, and is tasked with the production, processing and distribution of certified quality seeds, as well as maintaining genetic purity of foundation and breeder seeds.



Trump Receives South Korea's Top Honour and Golden Crown

- U.S. President Donald Trump was welcomed to South Korea on October 29,
 2025, with a replica golden crown and the Grand Order of Mugunghwa—South Korea's highest national honour.
- His visit comes during a crucial moment for Asia-Pacific diplomacy, with economic and security discussions unfolding amid the upcoming APEC Summit.
- The Grand Order of Mugunghwa is the highest national order awarded by the Republic of Korea (South Korea).
- It is primarily awarded to the President of South Korea.
- The order is named after South Korea's national flower, the hibiscus (mugunghwa).
- The mugunghwa is native to the Korean peninsula.
- It carries great cultural and historical significance in Korean tradition, symbolizing eternity, resilience, and beauty.



President Murmu Becomes First President to Fly in Rafale Jet

- In a historic moment for India's defence and constitutional history, President Droupadi Murmu took a 30-minute sortie in the Rafale fighter jet on October 29, 2025, from Ambala Air Force Station in Haryana.
- This made her the first President of India to fly in the Rafale, and notably, the only one to have flown in two different Indian Air Force (IAF) fighter aircraft—the Rafale and the Sukhoi Su-30 MKI.
- President Murmu flew in the Rafale twin-seater trainer variant, accompanied by Group Captain Amit Gehani, the Commanding Officer of the 17 Squadron, also known as the "Golden Arrows."
- The sortie lasted approximately 30 minutes and included standard manoeuvres showcasing the aircraft's agility and high-speed capability.
- The Rafale, a French-origin multi-role fighter, was inducted into the IAF in 2020, with Ambala as its first base.



40 Worst AQI Cities

• In a worrying development, all top 40 spots in the list of the world's most polluted cities were occupied by Indian cities as of October 30, 2025, based on the Air Quality Index (AQI) measured at 8:30 AM.

Top 10 Most Polluted Cities Globally (All Indian)

Rank	City	State	AQI	
1	Sri Ganganagar	Rajasthan	830	
2	Siwani	Haryana	644	
3	Abohar	Punjab	634	
4	Hisar	Haryana	477	
5	Churu	Rajasthan	456	
6	Charkhi Dadri	Haryana	448	
7	Rohtak	Haryana	444	
8	Nangli Bahrampur	Uttar Pradesh	438	
9	Bhiwani	Haryana	437	
10	Sasroli	Haryana	433	

What Is AQI and What Do These Numbers Mean?

AQI Range	Air Quality Category	Health Impact
0–50	Good	Minimal impact

51–100	Satisfactory	Minor discomfort
101–200	Moderately	Polluted Breathing discomfort in sensitive groups
201–300	Poor	Breathing discomfort on prolonged exposure
301–400	Very Poor	Respiratory issues, especially in vulnerable
401–500+	Severe	Serious risk of respiratory illness



REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) is celebrated in India on which date every year?
- A. October 30
- B. October 31
- C. November 1
- D. October 29

Answer: B. October 31

- 2. Rashtriya Ekta Diwas marks the birth anniversary of which Indian leader?
- A. Mahatma Gandhi
- B. Subhas Chandra Bose
- C. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- D. Jawaharlal Nehru

Answer: C. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

- 3. The year 2025 marks which special milestone of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's birth anniversary?
- A. 125th
- B. 135th
- C. 140th
- D. 150th

Answer: D. 150th

- 4. Which renowned Indian chef was recognised by the World Food Prize Foundation as one of the 2025 Top Agri-Food Pioneers (TAP)?
- A. Ranveer Brar
- B. Sanjeev Kapoor
- C. Vikas Khanna
- D. Kunal Kapur

Answer: B. Sanjeev Kapoor

- 5. The recognition by WFPF highlights Sanjeev Kapoor's contributions beyond the kitchen, focusing on which of the following?
- A. Food photography
- B. Culinary entertainment and TV hosting
- C. Nutrition advocacy and agricultural sourcing
- D. Restaurant management

Answer: C. Nutrition advocacy and agricultural sourcing

- 6. Who has been announced as the new Archbishop of Canterbury-designate, becoming the first woman to hold this position?
- A. Reverend Mary Hudson
- B. Dame Sarah Mullally
- C. Reverend Angela Green
- D. Dame Olivia Wells

Answer: B. Dame Sarah Mullally

7. In the latest ICC Men's ODI Rankings (October 2025), which Indian cricketer achieved the No. 1 position for the first time?

- A. Virat Kohli
- B. Shubman Gill
- C. Rohit Sharma
- D. KL Rahul

Answer: C. Rohit Sharma

- 8. The Union Agriculture Minister inaugurated a seed processing and packaging unit of which organisation in New Delhi?
- A. ICAR
- **B. NABARD**
- C. National Seeds Corporation (NSC)
- D. FCI

Answer: C. National Seeds Corporation (NSC)

- 9. U.S. President Donald Trump received South Korea's highest national honour, the Grand Order of Mugunghwa, along with which symbolic gift?
- A. Silver Sword
- B. Replica Golden Crown
- C. Jade Necklace
- D. Royal Medal of Peace

Answer: B. Replica Golden Crown

- 10. President Droupadi Murmu made history by taking a 30-minute sortie in which aircraft from Ambala Air Force Station?
- A. Sukhoi Su-30MKI
- B. Tejas
- C. Mirage 2000
- D. Rafale

Answer: D. Rafale