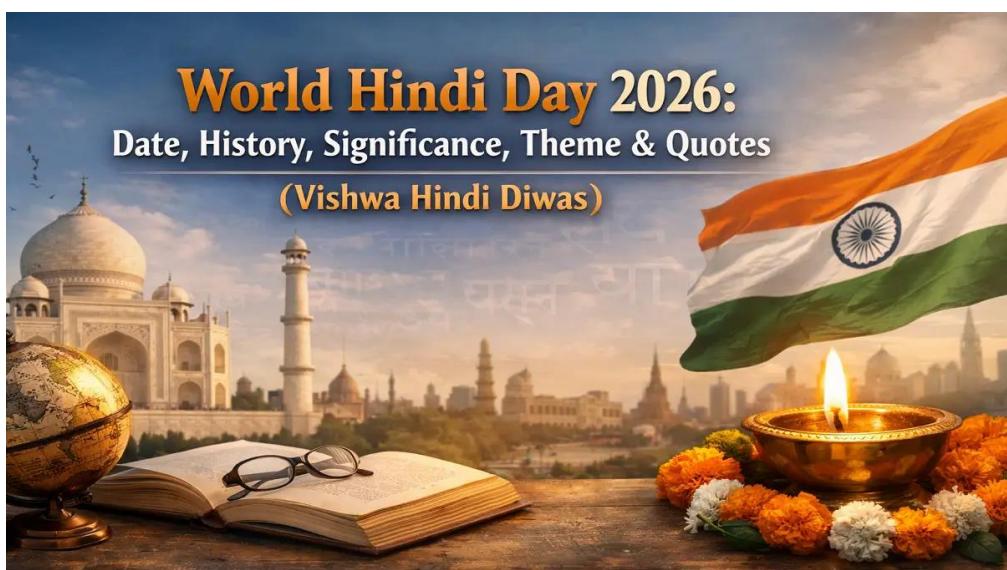


Daily Current Affairs

10 January 2025

World Hindi Day 2026

- World Hindi Day 2026 (also known as **Vishwa Hindi Diwas**) is observed every year on **January 10** to celebrate the growing international presence of the Hindi language. More than just a medium of communication, Hindi carries India's cultural identity, emotions, traditions, and collective memories.
- World Hindi Day was officially observed for the **first time on 10 January 2006**, during the tenure of former Prime Minister **Dr Manmohan Singh**. The date is linked with a historical event from **10 January 1949**, when Hindi was used for the first time in the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)**.
- To promote Hindi globally, India has been organising World Hindi Conferences since 1975 through the Ministry of External Affairs. These conferences have been hosted in countries like the **UK, Mauritius, Fiji, Trinidad & Tobago**, and the **USA**, where large Hindi-speaking communities live.



Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) 2026

- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD), also known as Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Day, is observed every year on **January 9** to recognise and celebrate the invaluable contribution of the Overseas Indian community to India's development.
- Since 2015, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas conventions have been organised biennially. As 2026 is a non-convention year, no large-scale central event such as plenary sessions or award ceremonies is expected.
- Launched in 2003 by the Government of India, PBD aims to strengthen ties between India and its vast diaspora, estimated at over 35 million NRIs and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs).
- 2003–2013: Annual conventions in cities like New Delhi, Mumbai, and Hyderabad
- 2015 onwards: Shift to biennial format for better planning
- 2023 (17th edition): Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- 2025 (18th edition): Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- The **19th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas** Convention is expected to be held in 2027.
- The 18th PBD Convention (January 8–10, 2025) was hosted in **Bhubaneswar** with the theme "**Diaspora Contribution to a Viksit Bharat**". It saw participation from diaspora representatives of over 50 countries.



Oscars 2026

- The 98th Academy Awards, also known as Oscars 2026, have recognized five Indian films as eligible for the prestigious Best Picture category. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences released the list of 201 feature films that qualify for Best Picture, with a total of 317 films eligible across all categories.
- The four Indian films eligible for Best Picture consideration at Oscars 2026 include:
 - **Kantara: A Legend – Chapter 1** (Kannada), directed by Rishabh Shetty
 - **Tanvi The Great** (Hindi), directed by Anupam Kher
 - **Mahavatar Narsimha** (Multilingual animated feature)
 - **Tourist Family** (Tamil), by debut filmmaker Abishan Jeevinth
- Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science (AMPAS)
- President: Lynette Howell Taylor
- Headquarters: Beverly Hills, California, USA
- Established: 1927
- AMPAS is responsible for recognizing excellence in cinema globally, including presenting the Oscars to outstanding films, actors, and filmmakers.



UIDAI Launches Aadhaar Mascot 'Udai'

- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has taken a significant step towards improving public communication by launching the Aadhaar mascot named '**Udai (उदय)**'.
- The new mascot has been introduced as a resident-facing communication companion to help simplify and humanise Aadhaar-related information for citizens across the country.
- Designed to be friendly, relatable, and easy to understand, Udai aims to bridge the gap between technology and people by explaining Aadhaar services in a simpler and more engaging manner.
- The Aadhaar mascot will play a key role in explaining a wide range of Aadhaar-related services, including:
- Aadhaar updates and corrections
- Authentication and verification processes, Offline Aadhaar verification
- Selective sharing of Aadhaar information
- Responsible and secure usage of Aadhaar
- Adoption of new technologies linked to Aadhaar



International Conference on Indian Languages

- India's Vice-President, C. P. Radhakrishnan, recently inaugurated the Third International Conference on Indian Languages in New Delhi.
- While addressing the conference, the Vice-President said that language is the "conscience of civilisation." He explained that languages carry history, ideas, values, and traditions from one generation to another.
- The **Eighth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution recognizes 22 languages, granting them official status and promoting their development, with originally 14 languages listed in 1950, and later additions including Sindhi (1967), Konkani, Manipuri, Nepali (1992), and Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, Santhali (2004).
- This schedule, referenced in Articles 344(1) and 351, allows for their use in official communication, parliamentary proceedings, and government development, reflecting India's linguistic diversity.
- **Languages Listed (22)**
- Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia (formerly Oriya), Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Bodo, Dogri.



PIB Approved Kamala Hydroelectric Project

- Bharat is rapidly moving towards clean energy, and the Kamala Hydroelectric Project in Arunachal Pradesh is a major step in this direction. This large hydropower project, recently approved by Public Investment Board, is set to generate renewable electricity, help control floods, and provide employment opportunities while supporting India's goal of net-zero emissions by 2070.
- The Kamala Hydroelectric Project, earlier called the Subansiri Middle Hydroelectric Project, is located on the Kamala River in the districts of Kamle, Kra Daadi, and Kurung Kumey in Arunachal Pradesh.
- The Kamala project will follow a Build-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT) model. NHPC will hold a 74% equity stake, while the Government of Arunachal Pradesh will own the remaining 26%.
- The total project cost is estimated at ₹26,070 crore, with funding in a 70:30 debt-equity ratio. Central government support includes ₹1,340 crore for infrastructure and ₹4,744 crore for flood moderation.



World Book Fair 2026

- The 53rd edition of the New Delhi World Book Fair 2026 will be held from January 10 to 18 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. For the first time, entry will be free for all visitors. The fair brings together over 1000 publishers and more than 600 events featuring writers, speakers, and cultural programs from across India and the world.
- The National Book Trust (NBT), under the Ministry of Education, along with India Trade Promotion, is organizing the event. The decision to allow free entry aims to make books and reading more accessible to everyone, especially young people and students.
- The fair's main theme is "**Indian Military History: Valour and Wisdom @75**", honoring 75 years of India's independence and the contributions of the Indian Armed Forces. The Theme Pavilion, spread across 1,000 square meters, features over 500 books, exhibitions, posters, documentaries, and installations.
- Visitors can learn about major wars and military operations, from Budgaon 1947 to **Operation Sindoor**, and attend over 100 theme-based events with defence experts, authors, and war veterans. Special exhibitions celebrate 150 years of Vande Mataram and the life of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. On what date is World Hindi Day is observed every year.

A. January 8
B. January 9

- C. January 10
- D. January 14

 **Answer: C. January 10**

2. World Hindi Day was officially observed for the first time in which year?

- A. 1999
- B. 2001
- C. 2006
- D. 2010

 **Answer: C. 2006**

3. The observance of World Hindi Day is linked to which historic event?

- A. Adoption of Hindi as India's national language
- B. First World Hindi Conference
- C. Hindi being used in the United Nations General Assembly
- D. Establishment of the Ministry of External Affairs

 **Answer: C. Hindi being used in the United Nations General Assembly**

4. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated annually on which date?

- A. January 8
- B. January 9
- C. January 10
- D. January 26

 **Answer: B. January 9**

5. Since which year has Pravasi Bharatiya Divas been organized in a biennial format?

- A. 2011
- B. 2013
- C. 2015
- D. 2017

 **Answer: C. 2015**

6. Which of the following Indian films is eligible for Best Picture consideration at Oscars 2026?

- A. RRR
- B. Kantara: A Legend – Chapter 1
- C. Baahubali
- D. Lagaan

 **Answer: B. Kantara: A Legend – Chapter 1**

7. What is the name of the Aadhaar mascot launched by UIDAI?

- A. Aadharsh
- B. Setu
- C. Udai
- D. Pramaan

 **Answer: C. Udai**

 **8. How many languages are currently recognized in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution?**

- A. 18
- B. 20
- C. 21
- D. 22

 **Answer: D. 22**

9. The Kamala Hydroelectric Project is located in which Indian state?

- A. Sikkim
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Uttarakhand
- D. Arunachal Pradesh

 **Answer: D. Arunachal Pradesh**

10. What is the central theme of the New Delhi World Book Fair 2026?

- A. India @100
- B. Knowledge Economy of India
- C. Indian Military History: Valour and Wisdom @75
- D. Freedom Struggle of India

 **Answer: C. Indian Military History: Valour and Wisdom @75**

