

Daily Current Affairs

19 January 2025

Kokborok Day 2026

- Kokborok Day 2026 will be observed on 19 January 2026. This year marks the 48th anniversary of Kokborok's recognition as an official language of Tripura.
- Kokborok, also known as Tripuri or Tiprakok, is the native language of the Tripuri people of Tripura.
- It belongs to the Tibeto-Burman language family and is spoken mainly in Tripura and the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh.
- Kokborok is one of the fastest-developing indigenous languages in Northeast India.
- Kokborok Day commemorates the year 1979, when the Tripura government officially recognized Kokborok as a state language, alongside Bengali and English.
- Historically, Kokborok was widely spoken during the rule of the Tripuri kings in the ancient Kingdom of Tipra.



Finke River Recognised as the World's Oldest Flowing River

- Recent geological studies have reaffirmed that the Finke River of Australia is likely the world's oldest continuously surviving river system, with origins dating back 300-400 million years, far earlier than most known rivers on Earth.
- The Finke River, known as Larapinta to the Indigenous Arrernte people, began flowing long before dinosaurs appeared on Earth.
- It stretches for about 640 kilometres, traversing the Northern Territory and parts of South Australia.
- Its course cuts across some of the oldest rock formations on the planet, making it a natural archive of Earth's geological evolution and climate history.
- The strongest evidence of the Finke's antiquity lies in its path through the MacDonnell Ranges.
- Instead of flowing around these hard quartzite mountains, the river cuts directly through them, forming deep gorges.
- This is explained by a geological phenomenon called antecedence, where a river is older than the surrounding mountains.



Davos 2026

- The World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting 2026 is in news as it starts on January 19 in Davos. This year's summit is among the largest-ever gatherings, with leaders from over 130 countries participating.
- The World Economic Forum (WEF) is an international organization headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
- For over 50 years, it has brought together leaders from governments, businesses, international organizations and civil society.
- Its most prominent event is the annual Davos meeting, where global challenges are discussed through public private cooperation.
- **World Economic Forum**

Aspect	Details
Established In	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1971 (as European Management Forum) • Renamed World Economic Forum in 1987
Founder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Klaus Schwab, German economist • Propounded the concept of Stakeholder Capitalism
Headquarters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cologny, Switzerland
Aim / Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the state of the world • Promote public–private cooperation • Address global economic, social, and environmental challenges • Encourage collaboration among governments, businesses, and civil society



Museveni Secures Seventh Term in Uganda As President

- Uganda's election commission declared President Museveni winner with 71.65% votes. Opposition leader Bobi Wine rejected the results, alleging fraud and calling for peaceful protests.
- According to official results, President Museveni secured 71.65 per cent of the total votes cast, extending his rule that began in 1986.
- His main challenger, Bobi Wine, whose real name is Kyagulanyi Ssentamu, received 24.72 per cent of the vote.
- The election was conducted nationwide, including urban opposition strongholds such as Kampala.
- While authorities hailed the poll as successful, the wide margin of victory has intensified debates over political competition and fairness in Uganda's electoral system.
- Uganda follows a presidential system where the head of state is elected by popular vote.
- The Electoral Commission oversees voting, counting, and result declaration, while the Supreme Court hears election petitions.



Second Range wide Dolphin Survey Launched

- The second range wide Dolphin Survey has been launched across India. It is being conducted under **Project Dolphin** to update dolphin population estimates and conservation data.
- Project Dolphin is a national conservation initiative of the Government of India focused on protecting riverine and marine dolphins.
- It aims to conserve species like the **Gangetic River Dolphin**, India's national aquatic animal.
- The project focuses on habitat protection, scientific monitoring, community participation and reducing threats such as pollution and accidental fishing deaths.
- The dolphin survey will be conducted in two phases.
- In the first phase, teams will cover the main stem of the Ganga from Bijnor to Ganga Sagar, along with the Indus River.
- The second phase will extend to the Brahmaputra, tributaries of the Ganga, the Sundarbans region, and parts of Odisha. This wide coverage ensures a comprehensive assessment of dolphin habitats across India.

Species	Habitat	Conservation Status (IUCN & WPA Schedule)	Key Features & Threats

Ganges River Dolphin (<i>Platanista gangetica</i>)	Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna & Karnaphuli systems (India, Bangladesh, Nepal)	Endangered & Schedule I	Known as “ Susu ” National Aquatic Animal (2009) Threats: Pollution, habitat fragmentation, bycatch
Indus River Dolphin (<i>Platanista minor</i>)	Indus River (Pakistan), Beas River (India)	Endangered & Schedule I	Among the rarest dolphins Threats: Water diversion, dams, habitat degradation
Irrawaddy Dolphin (<i>Orcaella brevirostris</i>)	Chilika Lake & rivers of South & SE Asia	Endangered & Schedule I	Known for “ spy-hopping ” behavior hanging nets, habitat destruction



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Kokborok Day 2026 will be observed on which date?

- A. 17 January 2026
- B. 18 January 2026
- C. 19 January 2026
- D. 20 January 2026

Answer: C

2. Kokborok belongs to which language family?

- A. Indo-European
- B. Dravidian
- C. Austroasiatic
- D. Tibeto-Burman

Answer: D

3. Kokborok was officially recognized as a state language of Tripura in which year?

- A. 1972
- B. 1975
- C. 1979
- D. 1985

Answer: C

4. The Finke River is considered the world's oldest flowing river mainly because it:

- A. Has the longest length in Australia
- B. Flows through deserts
- C. Cuts directly through mountain ranges older than itself
- D. Has the highest water volume

Answer: C

5. The geological phenomenon where a river is older than surrounding mountains is called:

- A. Erosion
- B. Meandering
- C. Deposition
- D. Antecedence

Answer: D

6. The World Economic Forum was originally established in 1971 as:

- A. Global Economic Council
- B. World Trade Forum
- C. European Management Forum
- D. International Business Forum

Answer: C

7. Who is the founder of the World Economic Forum?

- A. Joseph Stiglitz
- B. Adam Smith
- C. Paul Krugman
- D. Klaus Schwab

Answer: D

8. Under Project Dolphin, the Gangetic River Dolphin is recognized as India's:

- A. National Marine Animal
- B. National River Species
- C. National Mammal
- D. National Aquatic Animal

Answer: D

9. Uganda follows which system of government?

- A. Parliamentary system
- B. Federal system
- C. Monarchical system
- D. Presidential system

Answer: D

10. Which dolphin species is known for its “spy-hopping” behavior?

- A. Ganges River Dolphin
- B. Indus River Dolphin
- C. Bottlenose Dolphin
- D. Irrawaddy Dolphin

Answer: D