

Daily Current Affairs

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India's Flagbearers for Asian Para Games 2026

- Badminton champion Pramod Bhagat and table tennis sensation Bhavina Patel have been chosen as the flag bearers of India for the Asian Para Games 2026, which will take place in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.
- Scheduled to take place between October 18 to 24, 2026, the fifth edition of the multi-sport event will see India's team bid farewell to their country in an official send-off ceremony organized by the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) in New Delhi.
- India had its best ever performance at the last Asian Para Games, winning an all-time high of 111 medals, which included 29 gold medals. This performance set a new benchmark for India's participation in the Asian para-sporting event.
- Performance India's 2022 Asian Para Games
- Total medals: 111
- Gold: 29
- Event: Asian Para Games
- Last edition: 2022
- Host: Hangzhou, China



India's Joint Statement on Global Excess Capacity

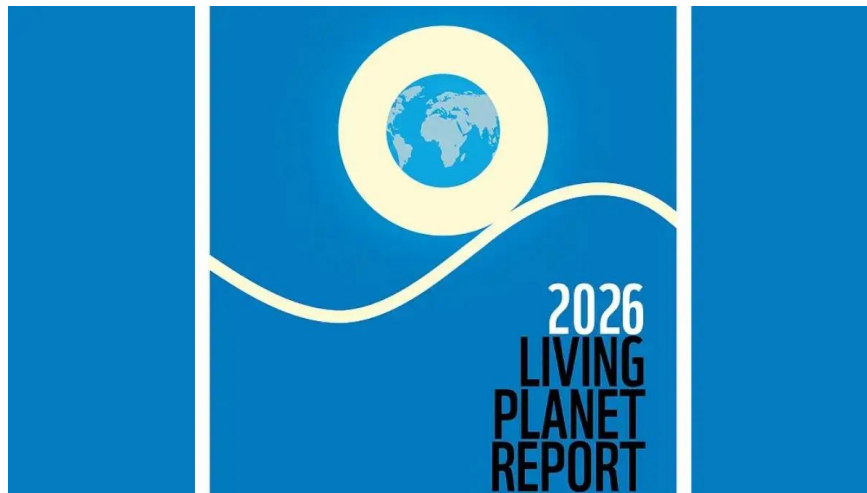
- India is among the United States and 13 other countries that have signed a joint ministerial statement geared towards dealing with structural excess capacity and production in key manufacturing industries.
- The joint ministerial statement was issued by the US Trade Representative (USTR) on October 7, 2026, after the deliberations held at the G20 Trade Ministerial in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- The 15 participating nations committed to taking steps to combat the distortionary effects of non-market policies and their role in causing overproduction, while pledging more information sharing and cooperation.
- Structural excess capacity entails the condition where the production capacity/output of an economy is consistently higher than the market demand and this is caused by the intervention of some policies that would not usually happen in the absence of market forces.
- **Joint Ministerial Statement Signed by 15 Economies**
 - Argentina
 - Australia
 - Canada
 - European Union
 - France
 - Germany
 - India
 - Italy
 - Japan
 - Republic of Korea

- Mexico
- Poland
- Türkiye
- United Kingdom
- United States
- Focus Areas Include,
- Automobiles and electric vehicles
- Batteries
- Chemicals
- Foundational semiconductors
- Solar panels
- The signatories urged countries to address the issue of structural excess capacity and production through ending non-market policies and practices distorting the markets.
- Also, there was an agreement on cooperation through new dedicated sectoral platforms.
- The problem of excess capacity is not new to the G20. In 2016, during the discussions between G20 Trade Ministers, the problem of excess capacity in certain sectors of the industry in Shanghai was considered with regard to its impact on trade and employment.
- The dialogue helped to achieve cooperation through the Global Forum on Steel Excess Capacity (GFSEC). It is a mechanism devoted to creating collective solutions to structural excess capacity in the steel sector.
- Continued excess production may lead to the situation where too many products are being offered on the international market compared to the level of global demand for those products. This may lower their price and influence other producers in different countries.



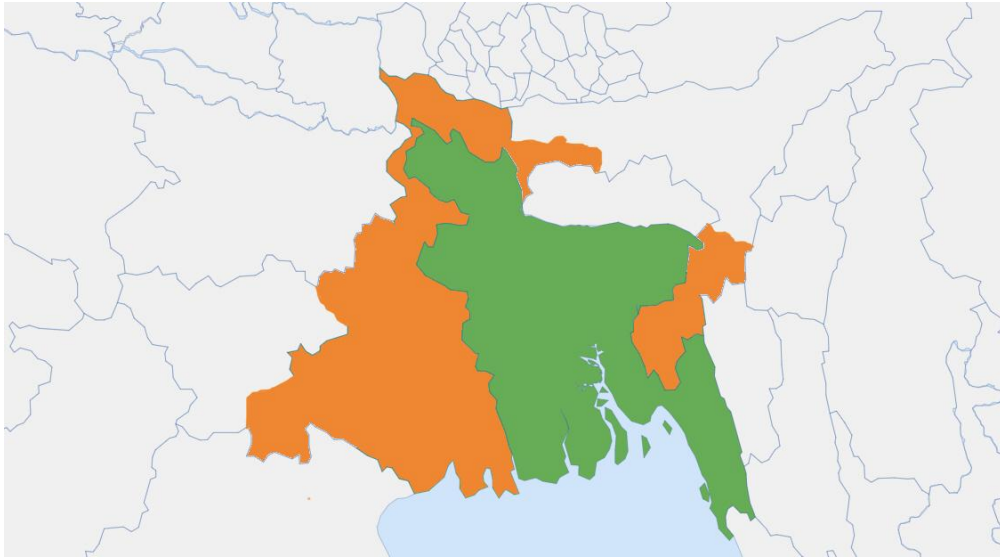
WWF Living Planet Report 2026

- The recent WWF Living Planet Report (LPR) 2026 highlights the continuing degradation of global biodiversity through an average 73% reduction in the size of monitored wildlife populations between 1970 and 2022.
- The findings are drawn from the most recent Living Planet Index (LPI) compiled by the Zoological Society of London (ZSL).
- According to the report, there is proof that the biodiversity crisis is not a permanent one. Recovery of species like the green turtle, bluefin tuna, tigers, and southern African elephants indicates that conservation initiatives can assist in the recovery of wildlife populations.
- The Living Planet Index (LPI) is a global measure created by the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) for monitoring the trends in abundance of monitored vertebrate populations.
- The 73% reduction does not imply that 73% of the wild animals are no more.
- It is, instead, an average reduction of the abundance of monitored wildlife populations for the LPI. If a monitored wildlife population reduces significantly during the assessment period, it will impact the overall index.
- This report connects its recommendations to existing international frameworks, specifically the,
 - Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF)
 - Paris Agreement
- The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, which was adopted at COP15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2022, outlines a global framework that is expected to stop and reverse the loss of biodiversity by 2030.



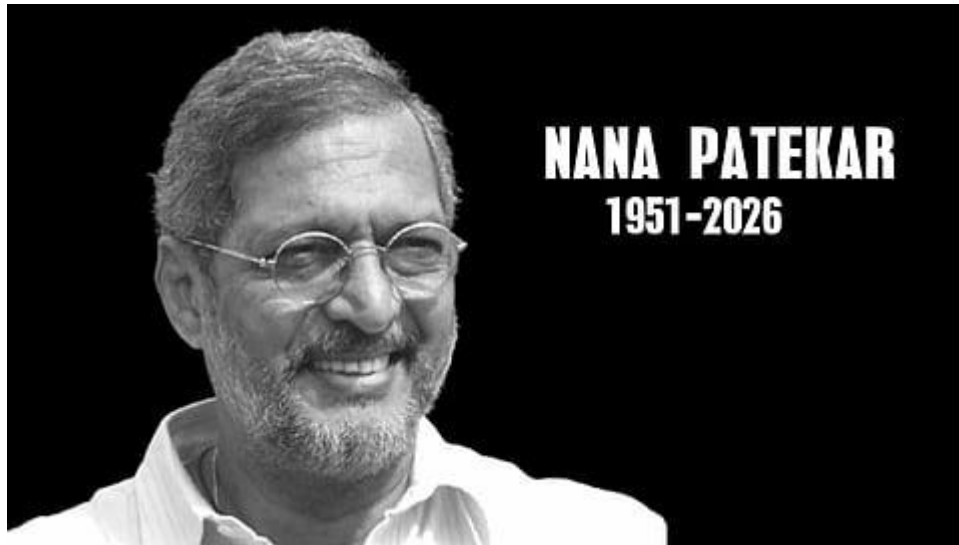
West Bengal May Be Renamed Paschim Banga

- On 5 October 2026, West Bengal BJP president Samik Bhattacharya announced that the state government intended to introduce a Bill in the upcoming Assembly session to rename West Bengal as Paschim Banga.
- Bhattacharya said on 7 October that the proposed name connects with the state's formation after Independence. Chief Minister Suvenud Adhikari has supported the proposal, subject to the prescribed legal process.
- Article 3 of the Constitution empowers Parliament to form new states and alter the areas, boundaries or names of existing states. A Bill for this purpose can be introduced in Parliament only on the President's recommendation.
- Before the Bill is introduced, the President refers it to the legislature of the affected state for its views within a specified period. The state legislature's views are not binding on Parliament.
- A law made under Articles 2 and 3 may include consequential amendments to the First and Fourth Schedules of the Constitution; it is not treated as a constitutional amendment under **Article 368**.
- The Left Front government raised the renaming issue in 1999, considering "West Banga" and "Paschim Banga" before settling on "Bangla". In 2016, the Trinamool Congress government led by Mamata Banerjee proposed different names according to language: "Bangla" in Bengali, "Bengal" in English and "Bangal" in Hindi.



Nana Patekar Dies at 75

- Veteran actor Nana Patekar died at the age of 75 on 8 October 2026 after suffering a severe cardiac arrest. He was found unconscious at his residence in Dona Paula, Goa, and was taken to Manipal Hospital, where doctors attempted cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for 45 minutes.
- The hospital declared him dead at 5:20 am. Born Vishwanath Patekar on 1 January 1951, Nana Patekar worked in Hindi cinema and Marathi cinema for more than four decades.
- His film career included acting in films such as Parinda, Krantiveer, Ab Tak Chhappan and the Marathi film Natsamrat. He also directed the Hindi film Pahaar: The Final Attack, released in 1991.
- Patekar received National Film Awards and Filmfare Awards during his career. The Government of India awarded him the Padma Shri in 2013 for his contribution to the arts.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Who have been chosen as India's flag bearers for the Asian Para Games 2026?

- A. Devendra Jhajharia and Avani Lekhara
- B. Pramod Bhagat and Bhavina Patel
- C. Sumit Antil and Manasi Girishchandra
- D. Mariyappan Thangavelu and Deepa Malik

Answer: B. Pramod Bhagat and Bhavina Patel

2. Where will the Asian Para Games 2026 be held?

- A. Hangzhou, China
- B. Tokyo, Japan
- C. Aichi-Nagoya, Japan
- D. Seoul, South Korea

Answer: C. Aichi-Nagoya, Japan

3. How many medals did India win at the 2022 Asian Para Games?

- A. 91
- B. 101
- C. 111
- D. 121

Answer: C. 111

4. How many economies signed the joint ministerial statement on global excess capacity?

- A. 10
- B. 12
- C. 15
- D. 20

Answer: C. 15

5. Which of the following is NOT listed as a focus sector in the joint statement on global excess capacity?

- A. Electric Vehicles
- B. Batteries
- C. Foundational Semiconductors
- D. Textiles

Answer: D. Textiles

6. According to the WWF Living Planet Report 2026, by what percentage did the average size of monitored wildlife populations decline between 1970 and 2022?

- A. 53%
- B. 63%
- C. 73%
- D. 83%

Answer: C. 73%

7. Which ecosystem recorded the highest reduction in monitored wildlife populations according to the Living Planet Report 2026?

- A. Marine
- B. Terrestrial
- C. Freshwater
- D. Coastal

Answer: C. Freshwater

8. Which Article of the Indian Constitution empowers Parliament to alter the name of an existing state?

- A. Article 1
- B. Article 2
- C. Article 3
- D. Article 4

Answer: C. Article 3

9. What name has been proposed for renaming West Bengal?

- A. Bangla Pradesh
- B. Paschim Banga
- C. Bangal Pradesh
- D. West Banga

Answer: B. Paschim Banga

10. What was the birth name of veteran actor Nana Patekar?

- A. Vishwanath Patekar
- B. Ganesh Patekar
- C. Ramesh Patekar
- D. Vinayak Patekar

Answer: A. Vishwanath Patekar