

International Relations

16th BRICS Summit

Why in the news?

The 16th BRICS was held in the Kazan city of Russia from October 22-24, 2024.

- ❖ India was represented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in this summit.
- ❖ The theme of the summit: "Strengthening Multilateralism for Just Global Development and Security"
- ❖ The summit concluded with the "Kazan Declaration".

BRICS

- ❖ "BRICS" is the acronym denoting the emerging national economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
 - The term was originally coined in 2001 as "BRIC" by the Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neill in his report, Building Better Global Economic BRICs.

- In 2006, Brazil, Russia, India and China created the "BRIC" group
- In December of 2010, South Africa joined the informal group and changed the acronym to BRICS.
- ❖ BRICS has now expanded with five additional members - Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE.

What is the Kazan Declaration?

- ❖ It is a comprehensive document outlining key areas of cooperation and the BRICS's unified stance on global issues.
- ❖ The 43-page final communiqué addressed a range of topics including geopolitics, artificial intelligence, and the preservation of endangered species.

Kazan Declaration – Key outcomes:

Key Area	Highlights
Geopolitical Concerns	Call for a peaceful resolution to the Ukraine conflict through diplomacy.
	Concerns over the humanitarian crisis in Palestine and condemnation of violence in Gaza, West Bank, and Lebanon.



Global Governance & Multilateralism	Emphasis on the reform of global financial architecture and multilateralism.
	Support for the continued functioning of the G20 and a reformed, responsive global financial system.
Economic Cooperation	Promotion of local currencies for cross-border payments to reduce trade barriers.
	Agreement to explore the establishment of a BRICS Grain Exchange and a BRICS Cross-Border Payment System.
Pandemic Preparedness & Health	Support for the BRICS R&D Vaccine Center and Early Warning Systems for infectious diseases.
	Addressing antimicrobial resistance and enhancing healthcare collaboration.
Environmental Conservation	Support for India's Big Cats Conservation initiative and collaboration on protecting endangered species.
Expansion & Partnerships	Welcoming new BRICS partners from Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE, expanding the bloc's influence in the Global South.



Miscellaneous

150th birth anniversary of Sardar Patel

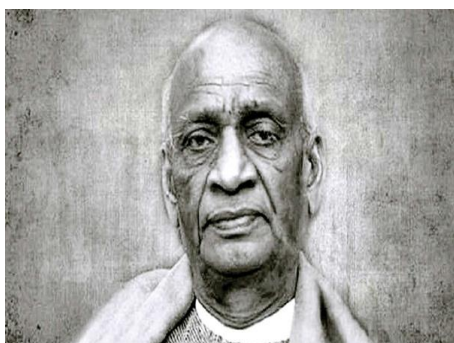
Why in the news?

The Union government has announced to commemorate the **150th birth anniversary** of Sardar Patel with a two-year-long (2024-2026 nationwide celebration).

- ❖ **Objective:** To honor Sardar Patel's monumental contributions.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

- ❖ He was born on 31 October 1875 at Nadiad in Gujarat.
- The Union government has been observing October 31 as 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas' or National Unity Day since 2014.
- ✓ To foster and reinforce its dedication to preserving and strengthening the unity, integrity and security of the nation.



Awards and Honors

Mahatma Gandhi Leadership Award

Why in the news?

Actor Darasing Khurana has been honored with the Mahatma Gandhi Leadership Award of the United Kingdom.



- ❖ He has been awarded for his work towards raising awareness around mental health issues in the 'Commonwealth Year of Youth Champion'.

About Darasing Khurana:

- ❖ He is an Indian actor and philanthropist.
- ❖ He also served as the keynote speaker at the Global Mental Health Summit 2024 at the Oxford University's historic Oxford Union.

Sports

Archery World Cup 2024

Why in the news?

Deepika Kumari has won the silver medal in the women's recurve event at the Archery World Cup Final 2024.

- ❖ The Archery World Cup Final featured eight archers in each of the individual men's and women's competitions in both recurve and compound archery.
 - It was held in Tlaxcala, Mexico.
- ❖ She defeated Yang Xiaolei 6-0 in the quarter-finals before edging out Alejandra Valencia 6-4.
 - However, she was beaten 6-0 by Li Jiaman(China) in the final.

About Deepika Kumari:

- ❖ This was Deepika Kumari's sixth medal in the Archery World Cup Finals but her first since becoming a mother in 2022.
- ❖ She finished as runners-up on five occasions - 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2024.
- ❖ She won the bronze medal in 2018.



Important Days/ Dates

United Nations Day

Why in the news?

United Nations Day is observed annually on 24 October.

History of this day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ United Nations Day is observed every year on October 24th to mark the anniversary of the entry into force of the United Nations Charter in 1945. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ On 25 April 1945, 50 government representatives came together in San Francisco to draft the UN Charter. ➤ This draft was adopted on 26 June, 2045 and officially implemented on 24 October, 2045 marking the birth of the United Nations. ❖ The origins of United Nations Day can be traced back to 1948 when the United Nations General Assembly designated October 24th as a day to be observed and celebrated by member states.
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To raise public awareness about the goals and achievements of the United Nations. ❖ To highlight the importance of multilateral cooperation in addressing global challenges.



World Polio Day

Why in the news?

World Polio Day is observed on 24th October every year.

- ❖ 24th October is the birth date of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis.
- ❖ Theme 2024: "A Global Mission to Reach Every Child."
 - It emphasizes the ongoing efforts to vaccinate every child against polio, especially in regions where the disease is still endemic.

Polio

- ❖ Polio, or poliomyelitis, is a highly infectious viral disease that primarily affects children under the age of five, leading to paralysis and sometimes death.
- ❖ Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) was launched in 1988 to fight against this disease.

- ❖ India was declared to be polio-free by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in March 2014.
 - In January 2011, the last case of polio was reported in West Bengal.



News in Short

- ❖ The Ministry of Ayush will celebrate the 9th Ayurveda Day on 29th October 2024 with the theme "Ayurveda Innovations for Global Health".
- ❖ Justice Yahya Afridi has been appointed as the next Chief Justice of Pakistan by Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari.
- ❖ Israel has become the newest non-regional member of the Asian Development Bank.
 - It is the 69th member of this bank headquartered in Manila, Philippines.

❖ The International Day of Diplomats is celebrated every year on October 24.

- Objective: To honor the invaluable role that diplomats play in maintaining international relations, fostering peace, and promoting dialogue between countries.

- It was Initiated in 2017 by Indian diplomat Abhay Kumar.
- It was first commemorated in Brasília, Brazil.



PW Web/App: <https://smart.link/7wwosivoicgd4>

For more such content, subscribe to our Telegram Channel https://t.me/pw_upsc