

Beating Retreat Ceremony

Key Points:

- ❖ The *Beating Retreat* ceremony is a historic military tradition where troops halt combat, put away their weapons, and retreat to their camps at sunset following the sound of the Retreat.
- ❖ Originating in 17th-century England, King James II instructed his forces to beat drums, lower flags, and march in formation to signal the conclusion of daily battles.
- ❖ Initially known as **watch setting**, this ritual was marked by a sunset ceremony following a single round fired from the evening gun.
- ❖ Armed forces in several countries, including the UK, US, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and India, continue this tradition today.

Beating Retreat in India:

- ❖ The event symbolizes national pride, featuring the parade of Colours and Standards.
- ❖ It began in the early 1950s when Major Roberts of the Indian Army devised an indigenous display by massed bands.
- ❖ The *Section D (Ceremonials)* of the Ministry of Defence organizes the event.
- ❖ The ceremony includes performances by military bands, featuring both Indian and Western musical compositions.



Newspaper Day Of India

Key Points:

- ❖ India's Newspaper Day is celebrated every year on 28 January to commemorate the

launch of the country's first newspaper in 1780. The occasion is observed to commemorate the day on which Irishman James Augustus Hicky launched the first printed newspaper in India. It was known as the Original Calcutta General Advertiser or Hicky's Bengal Gazette. India has set aside a day to mark the launch of this English-language weekly.



- ❖ It marks the inception of newspapers in India, a historic moment when James Augustus Hicky introduced the first printed newspaper, Hicky's Bengal Gazette, in 1780. This article delves into the significance of this day, the historical backdrop of Hicky's Bengal Gazette, and the evolving role of newspapers in today's digital age.

5 MoU signed between India & Indonesia during Prez. Subianto's visit

Key Points:

- ❖ President Prabowo Subianto of Indonesia successfully concluded his four-day official visit to India on 26 January 2025. His visit to India from 23-26 January 2025 was his first official visit after becoming the President of Indonesia in 2024.
- ❖ He was the Chief Guest at the 76th Republic Day ceremony, and during his visit to India, he held high-level talks with the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during which five memorandum of understanding (MoU) were signed between the two countries.



Five MoUs between India and Indonesia

- ❖ During the meeting between Narendra Modi and Prabowo Subianto, five MoUs were exchanged between the two sides that aimed to strengthen the bilateral ties between the two countries. These MoUs are as follows:
- ❖ Cooperation in Health.
- ❖ Renewal of the agreement between the Indian Coast Guard and the Indonesian Coast Guard on Maritime Safety and Security.
- ❖ Cooperation in Traditional Medicine Quality Assurance between Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homeopathy and Indonesian Food and Drug Authority.
- ❖ Cooperation in the Fields of Digital Development.
- ❖ Cultural Exchange Program between the two countries for the 2025-28 period.

3rd India-Indonesia CEO Forum Meeting

- ❖ During the visit of Indonesia President Prabowo Subianto to India the 3rd India-Indonesia CEO Forum Meeting was held in New Delhi on 25 January 2025.
- ❖ The meeting was co-chaired by Ajay Shriram of India and Anindya Novyan Bakrie of Indonesia.
- ❖ The first CEO meeting in the present form was held in New Delhi in 2016 and the second was held in the Indonesian capital city of Jakarta in 2018.
- ❖ At the 3rd CEO Forum meeting in New Delhi, a joint statement was issued that highlighted five key sectors of business

priority: food and agriculture, healthcare, manufacturing, energy, and technology.

- ❖ The report was presented to the foreign minister of India, Dr S Jaishankar, and the Indonesia foreign minister Ms. Retno Marsudi in the presence of Narendra Modi and Prabowo Subianto.

India-Indonesia Bilateral Ties

- ❖ India and Indonesia share historical and cultural ties dating back to 2000 years.
- ❖ Indonesia has issued 20,000 rupiah currency notes with pictures of Lord Ganesha.
- ❖ India established diplomatic relations with Indonesia in 1949 and both countries are celebrating the 75th year of establishment of diplomatic relations.
- ❖ The first President of Indonesia, Sukarno was the first chief guest at the 1950 Republic Day Celebration.
- ❖ In 2018 both countries upgraded their relationship to a 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership' during the visit of Indonesia President Joko Widodo to India.

Commercial Relation

- ❖ Indonesia is the largest trade partner of India in the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) region.
- ❖ India is the second largest buyer of coal and crude palm oil from Indonesia.

Defence Relation

- ❖ The Indian defence force and the Indonesian defence forces regularly conduct bilateral Army (Garuda Shakti) and Naval (Samudra Shakti) exercises.

About Indonesia

- ❖ Indonesia is the largest country in the Southeast Asian region and has the fourth largest population in the world after India, China, and the United States.
- ❖ It has the largest Muslim population in the world.

- ❖ Indonesia was earlier known as the Dutch East Indies as it was a colony of the Netherlands(Dutch). After its independence in 1949, it changed its name to Indonesia.
- ❖ Capital: Jakarta
- ❖ Currency: Indonesian rupiah
- ❖ President: Prabowo Subianto

Telangana CM Revanth Reddy launches 4 welfare schemes on Republic Day

Key Points:

- ❖ The Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy launched the four welfare schemes of his government- Rythu Bharosa, Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa, Indiramma Indlu, and new ration cards on the occasion of the Republic Day on 26 January 2025.
- ❖ The schemes were promised by the ruling Congress Party during the 2023 Telangana legislative assembly election.
- ❖ The Congress came back to power with a landslide victory.
- ❖ The scheme was announced by Chief Minister Reddy at the Chandravanch village of the Narayanpet district. Revanth Reddy represents the Kodungal legislative assembly constituency, and Chandravanch village comes under this constituency.

About the launched Schemes

- ❖ Rythu Bharosa- eligible farmers will be provided financial assistance of Rs. 12,000 per acre of arable land.
- ❖ The amount will be credited to the farmer's bank account. Indiramma Aathmeeya Bharosa- financial support of Rs. 12,000 annually will be provided to landless agricultural labour families.
- ❖ Indiramma Indul- a housing scheme for, homeless Dalits, Tribals, and backward classes. They will receive financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh to construct homes.

- ❖ The government has set a target to construct 4,50,000 houses in 2024-2025 with a budget outlay of Rs 22,500 crore.

Nagaland Launches Chief Minister Mobile Operation Theatre

Key Points:

- ❖ Nagaland Governor La Ganesan launched the Chief Minister Mobile Operation Theatre on the occasion of the 76th Republic Day celebration in the state capital, Kohima on 26 January 2026. Chief Minister of Nagaland Neiphiu Rio was present on the occasion.

About the Chief Minister Mobile Operation Theatre

- ❖ The Chief Minister Mobile Operation Theatre initiative of the state government aims to provide advanced surgical and healthcare facilities to the remote and rural areas of the state.
- ❖ The Mobile Operation Theatre which will be on a modified vehicle will be managed by doctors from Kohima hospitals and will include private hospital doctors.
- ❖ The Mobile Operation Theatre is equipped with an advanced mobile surgical unit and portable diagnostic tools such as ultrasound, X-ray, endoscopy, and blood testing equipment, along with instruments for minimally invasive surgeries.
- ❖ It is equipped with state-of-the-art keyhole surgery capabilities.

Odisha Warrior wins inaugural Women's Hockey India League 2025

Key Points:

- ❖ The Odisha Warriors Club won the inaugural edition of the Women's Hockey India League 2024-25 title by defeating Soorma Hockey Club 2-1 in the final played at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Astro Turf Hockey Stadium in Ranchi on 26

January 2025. The Women's Hockey India League is a franchise club tournament based on the Cricket's Indian Premier League (IPL) model.



About Hockey India League

- ❖ The Hockey India League is a premier hockey league in India that is organised by the sports governing body Hockey India.
- ❖ It was started in 2013 and was for men's hockey only. The last edition of the Hockey India League was held in 2017 and after a gap of seven years, it is being held in 2024-25.
- ❖ The men's Hockey India league is being held at the Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium in Rourkela, Odisha from 28 January to December 28, 2024, and will run till February 1, 2025.
- ❖ The Women Hockey India league was introduced for the first time in 2024-25 and was held at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Astro Turf Hockey Stadium in Ranchi from 12-26 January 2025.

Format and teams of the inaugural Women's Hockey India League

- ❖ In the inaugural Women's Hockey India League four franchise teams- Soorma Hockey Club, Delhi SG Pipers, Shrachi Rath Bengal Tigers, and Odisha Warriors-participated.
- ❖ Each franchise team had a maximum of 24-player squad, which included at least 16 Indian hockey players (with a mandatory four junior players) and eight international hockey players.

- ❖ All four teams played each other twice in the league format and the top two teams in the league qualified for the final.
- ❖ Soorma Hockey Club topped the league phase winning 4 out of its six matches and finishing with 13 points. Odisha Warriors was second in the league phase with 11 points in 6 matches with 2 wins.
- ❖ Shrachi Rath Bengal Tiger came at the third position with 7 points and Delhi SG Pipers came at the bottom with 5 points.
- ❖ Soorma Hockey Club and Odisha Warrior being the top two teams at the league stage qualified for the final in which Odisha Warrior defeated the Soorma Hockey Club 2-1. For Odisha Warriors, Rutuja Dadaso Pisal scored twice, while Penny Squibb was the goal scorer for the Soorma Hockey Club.

2024-25 Women's Hockey India League 2024-25 Awards

- ❖ Best Goalkeeper: Savita Punia (Soorma Hockey Club)
- ❖ Upcoming Player: Sonam (Soorma Hockey Club)
- ❖ Top Scorers: Yibbi Jansen (Odisha Warriors), Charlotte Englebert (Soorma Hockey Club)
- ❖ Player of the Tournament: Jyoti (Soorma Hockey Club)

Manush & Diya Chitale wins 2025 National TT Championship Singles title

Key Points:

- ❖ Manush Shah and Diya Chitale of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) respectively won the men's and women's singles titles at the UTT 86th Senior National and Inter-State Table Tennis Championships 2024 held at the Pandit Dindayal Upadhyay Indoor Stadium in Surat, Gujarat.
- ❖ The UTT 86th Senior National and InterState Table Tennis Championships 2024 was organised by the Table Tennis Federation of India at Surat from 19-26 January 2025.



First Senior Title for Manush Shah and Diya Chitale

- ❖ Manush Shah and Diya Chitale, who had won sub-junior, junior, and youth national championships in their careers, finally won the Senior title in Surat. Manush Shah who hails from Gujarat was representing his employer RBI in the championship defeated Payas Jain of Delhi 4-1 (10-12, 11-6, 11-6, 12-10, 11-8) in the final. In the semifinal, Payas Jain defeated unseeded Divyansh Srivastava of Uttar Pradesh while Manush Shah defeated Ankur Bhattacharjee of the Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB) in the other semi-finals.

Women Title

- ❖ In the women's final, Diya Chitale defeated two-time national champion and highest-ranked Indian women's player in the world, Sreeja Akula. Sreeja Akula was representing RBI in the Championships.
- ❖ Diya defeated Sreeja Akula 4-3 (10-12, 8-11, 13-11, 12-10, 11-8, 9-11, 11-9) in the final to win the singles title.
- ❖ In the women's semifinals, top-seed Sreeja Akula defeated Yashaswini Ghorphade of the PSPB while the sixth-seed Diya Chitale defeated West Bengal's Syndrelda Das.

Railways win Mixed Doubles Title

- ❖ In the mixed doubles, the Railways Sports Promotion Board (RSPB) pair of Poymantee Baisya and Akash Pal defeated Maharashtra's Jash Modi and Taneesha Kotecha 11-5, 11-6, 11-4.

Results:

- ❖ Men's Singles: Manush Shah (RBI) defeated Payas Jain (Delhi) 10-12, 11-6, 11-6, 12-10, 11-8. Women's Singles: Diya Chitale (RBI) defeated Sreeja Akula (RBI) 10-12, 8-11, 13-11, 12-10, 11-8, 9-11, 11-9.
- ❖ Mixed Doubles: Akash Pal/Poymantee Baisya (RSPB) defeated Jash Modi/Taneesha Kotecha (Maharashtra) 11-5, 11-6, 11-4.

About the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI)

- ❖ The Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) was established in 1926 and is the founder member of the International Table Tennis Federation.
- ❖ The TTFI is the sports governing body in India and represents India in all the major international championships like the Olympics, World Cup, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games, and all Professional tours organised by World Table Tennis.
- ❖ Headquarters: New Delhi
- ❖ President: Meghna Ahlawat

25 January – National Tourism Day

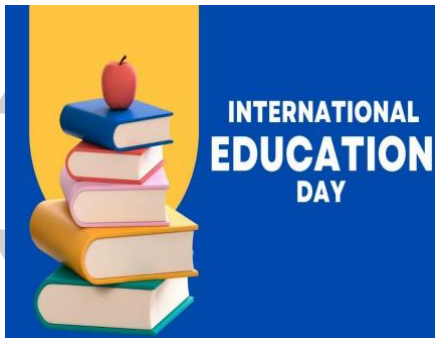
- ❖ National Tourism Day is celebrated annually on January 25 to highlight the importance of tourism in India and promote its potential as a key driver of the country's economy.
- ❖ The day aims to encourage tourism in India, raise awareness about the diverse culture, heritage, and natural beauty of the country, and promote responsible and sustainable tourism practices. Theme 2025 – **Tourism for Inclusive Growth**



International Day of Education

Key Points:

- ❖ International Day of Education is celebrated on January 24 each year to recognize the pivotal role of education in achieving global peace, development, and human rights.
- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about the global need for quality education, especially in underserved regions, and to advocate for inclusive and equitable education for all
- ❖ Theme 2024 – **AI and education: Preserving human agency in a world of automation.** It is proclaimed by the United Nations in 2018, this day highlights the importance of education for sustainable development and its role in empowering individuals and communities.



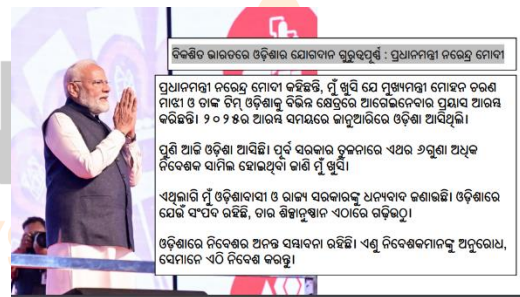
UTKARSH: Make In Odisha Conclave

Key Points:

- ❖ The Utkarsh Odisha – Make in Odisha Conclave 2025 is the premier investment forum in East India, designed to drive economic growth and elevate Odisha as a globally competitive investment destination.
- ❖ The conclave aims to attract both domestic and international investments across a diverse range of sectors, positioning Odisha as the industrial powerhouse of Eastern India.
- ❖ Taking place in Bhubaneswar on 28th and 29th January 2025, this landmark event will serve as a dynamic platform to highlight

Odisha's industrial strengths, unparalleled strategic advantages, and vast growth opportunities for investors from across the globe.

- ❖ The Make in Odisha Conclave 2025 will feature a meticulously curated two day agenda with high-level plenary sessions, sectoral discussions, and thought leadership exchanges. It will offer key networking opportunities, fostering collaboration between global industry leaders, policy makers, and investors.



Pointly:

Key Points:

- ❖ **Major Manjit Kumar** of the Punjab Regiment and with 22 Rashtriya Rifles (RR), and **Naik Dilwar Khan** from the Artillery Regiment and with 28 RR (posthumously), were selected for the **Kirti Chakra** for **counter-terrorist** operations in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ The United States Supreme Court has turned down a review petition by terror accused Tahawwur Rana, dismissing his last legal challenge against his extradition to India in connection with the 2008 Mumbai attacks.

❖ There is an “expectation” that the **reconstruction of the Gaza Strip** will begin soon, Palestine’s Acting Ambassador to India, Abed Elrazeg Abu Jazer, said on Saturday, calling upon India to be an “**essential and important**” part of the process. His statement came even as Israel and Hamas conducted their second exchange of hostages and prisoners since the ceasefire was announced a week ago.

❖ The Senate confirmed **Pete Hegseth** as the **U.S. Defence Secretary** in a dramatic tie-breaking vote late Friday, despite serious concerns about his qualifications and allegations of misconduct.

❖ **Left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh**, who starred in **India’s T20 World Cup triumph last year**, was on **Saturday** named **ICC Men’s T20I Cricketer of the Year 2024**.

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