



CURRENT AFFAIRS

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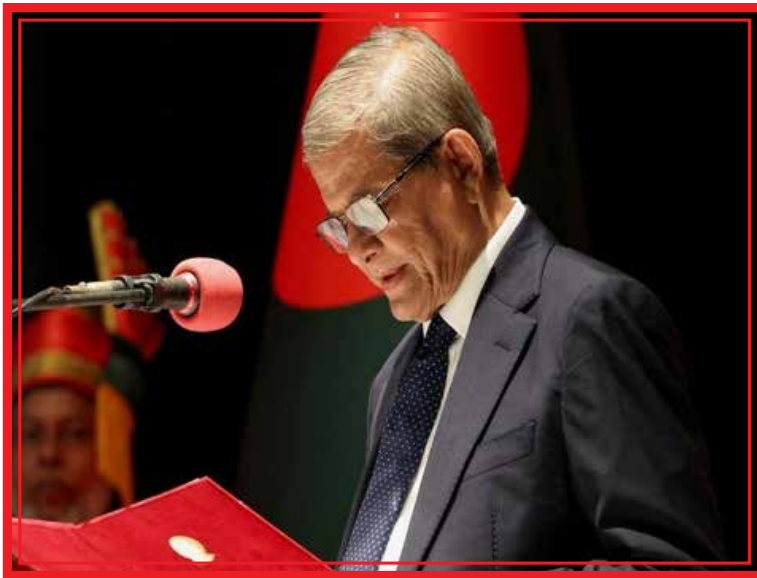
IMPORTANT EVENTS

IMPORTANT DATES

**DETAILED EXPLANATION
OF EACH EVENT**

International Events

Land degradation and drought are growing challenges in many parts of the world, making the protection of land an important global issue. On **17 August 2026**, the **17th Conference of the Parties (COP17)** of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) began in Ulaanbaatar, **Mongolia**. The conference was held from **17 to 28 August** under the theme **“Restoring Land. Restoring Hope.”**



Bangladesh has a new President, with **Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir** becoming the country's **23rd President**. He is a senior leader of the **Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP)** and had earlier served as the party's Secretary General.

India's Independence Day received a special recognition in several parts of the United States. **New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Delaware** declared **15 August 2026** as **“India Day”** or **“India Independence Day.”** The proclamations celebrated India's independence and recognised the valuable contributions of the **Indian-American community** in these states.





A powerful storm caused heavy rain and strong winds in parts of East Asia in August. Typhoon Dolphin made landfall on the eastern coast of China, near Zhejiang province, on 9 August 2026. It brought very heavy rainfall and strong winds, leading to fears of floods and landslides.

Indian Culture

A traditional dance of Andhra Pradesh made headlines when thousands of young dancers came together for a special performance. **Dhimsa**, a tribal folk dance associated with the **Araku Valley**, was performed by **13,102 people** at Bhogapuram, Andhra Pradesh. The performance was organised by the **Department of Tribal Welfare, Government of Andhra Pradesh**, during the inauguration of the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport. The dancers performed in groups, moving together in circles to traditional music. **Guinness World Records** recognised it as the **largest Dhimsa dance**.



National news



Three years after Chandrayaan-3 made history on the Moon, India celebrated its **third National Space Day**. The day honours the successful landing of the **Vikram lander near the Moon's south polar region on 23 August 2023**. In 2026, the main celebration was held at the **Space Applications Centre in Ahmedabad, Gujarat**.

A special train journey in India helped carry something far more precious than an ordinary passenger—a **live donor heart** needed for a life-saving transplant. Indian Railways successfully transported India's **first live donor heart by train from Surat to Ahmedabad using the Vande Bharat Express**.of the leading players in world tennis.



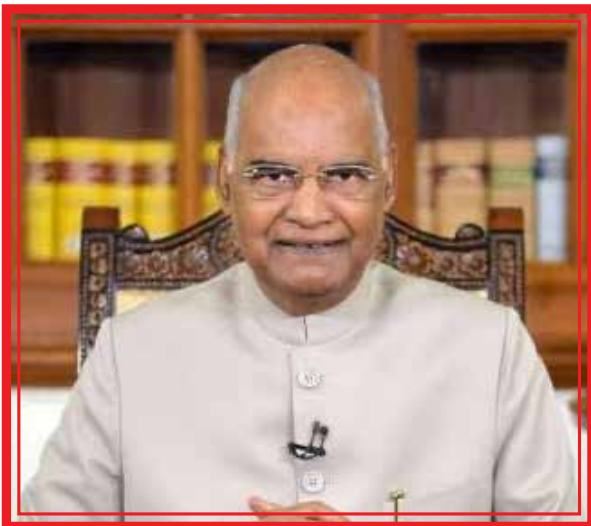
A major Indian port has received recognition for its excellent work in handling cargo. **Deendayal Port Authority (Kandla), Gujarat** was honoured with the **Best Port of the Year (Non-Containerised)** award at the **India Maritime Awards 2026**.

Sports

The **Durand Cup** is one of Asia's oldest football tournaments, first held in 1888. In the 2026 edition, **East Bengal FC** lifted the trophy by defeating their Kolkata rivals **Mohun Bagan Super Giant 4–1** in the final on 23 August 2026. East Bengal won the Durand Cup for the **17th time**, equalling Mohun Bagan's record.



Person in news



Former President **Ram Nath Kovind** released his autobiography **Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles** in August 2026. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** released the book at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi. The book describes Mr. Kovind's journey from his childhood and struggles to becoming the **14th President of India**.

Squadron Leader Bhawana Kanth has achieved a special milestone in the Indian Air Force. She became the **first Indian woman fighter pilot to complete the Fighter Combat Leader course**. The course gives fighter pilots advanced training in air combat and leadership. Bhawana Kanth was also one of the **first three women fighter pilots** to join the Indian Air Force in 2016.



Environment conservation



A lake in the remote Himalayan state of Arunachal Pradesh has gained national recognition for its ecological importance. Glaw Lake, in Lohit district, has now joined India's growing list of internationally recognised wetlands. On 3 August 2026, Glaw Lake was announced as India's 101st Ramsar Site, becoming the first Ramsar Site in Arunachal Pradesh.

A special festival celebrating one of Ladakh's rarest birds brought together nature lovers, scientists and local communities. **India's first Black-Necked Crane Festival** was inaugurated in **Leh, Ladakh**, by Lieutenant Governor **Vinai Kumar Saxena**. The festival was held from **11 to 14 August 2026** at places including Leh, Tso Kar and Hanle. It focused on protecting the **Black-Necked Crane**, an endangered bird and the only **alpine crane in the world**.

