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History, Art and Culture

Dussehra

• It celebrates the triumph of the *Hindu deity Rama over the demon king Ravana*, who abducted Rama's wife, Sita, as recounted in the *Sanskrit epic Ramayana*.
• **Observed on –** 10th day of the Hindu calendar *month of Ashvina* (September–October), following the nine nights of Sharad Navratri.

Social Issues

Central Secretariat Service (CSS) Forum

CSS Forum strongly condemned the workplace harassment.
• **CSS Forum –** It is the representative body of *all Central Secretariat Service Officers.*
• **Registered under –** Societies Registration Act of 1860.
• **Encompasses –** Members of Central Secretariat Service Group B Officers & Central Secretariat Service Organised Group A Officers.

Polity & Governance

Central Secretariat Service (CSS)

• It is one of the earliest organized services in the country.
• **Origin –** In 1919, Imperial Secretariat Service came into being as one of the off-shoots of the *Lewllyn-Smith Committee* which had been set up on the eve of the introduction of the *Montague Chelmsford Reforms.*
• **Renamed –** After independence as Central Secretariat Service.

Economy

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA)

IRDAI alerts public to fraudulent consumer education website.
• It was constituted as an autonomous body under the Recommendation of *Malhotra Committee report, in 1999.*
• **Incorporated as –** A statutory body in 2000.
• **Objective –** To promote competition so as to enhance customer satisfaction through increased consumer choice and lower premiums, while ensuring the financial security of the insurance market.

Agriculture

Minimum Support Prices (MSP)

Government has increased the MSP of Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2026-27.

• **MSP –** It is a form of market intervention by the Government of India to insure agricultural producers against any sharp fall in farm prices.

• **Include –** All paid out costs such as those incurred on account of hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour,

- Rent paid for leased in land,
- Expenses incurred on use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manures, irrigation charges,
- Depreciation on implements and farm buildings, interest on working capital, diesel/electricity for operation of pump set,
- Miscellaneous expenses and imputed value of family labour.

• **Announced by** – *Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)* chaired the Prime Minister, on recommendations of the *Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)*.

• **6 Rabi crops covered –** Wheat, Barley, Gram, Lentils, Rapeseed & mustard and safflower.

Miscellaneous

NIELIT Digital University

• **Launched by –** Ministry of Electronics & IT.

• **Aim –** To democratize access to high-quality digital education.

National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT)

• It is an Autonomous Scientific Society of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

• **Status –** "Deemed to be University" under the distinct category by Ministry of Education.

• **Aim –** To revolutionize higher education in E&ICT domain using digital technologies.

• **5 new Centres at –** Muzaffarpur (Bihar), Balasore (Odisha), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Daman (Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu), and Lunglei (Mizoram).

National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2025

• **Instituted by –** Ministry of AYUSH, in 2016.

• **Aim –** To recognise expert's outstanding contributions to the field of Ayurveda across academic, traditional, and scientific domains.

International Day of Non-Violence

• **Observed on –** 2nd October celebrated as *Gandhi Jayanti* & globally as International Day of Non-Violence.

• **Commemorate to –** Mahatma Gandhi.

• **Adopted in –** UN General Assembly resolution in June 2007.

• **Celebration alive in –** Belgium, USA, Spain, Serbia, Switzerland, Thailand, Kazakhstan and the Netherlands.

• **Objectives –** A dual tribute that reflects both national pride and global respect for the Mahatma.

• To uphold non-violence as a universal principle and promoting a global culture of peace and tolerance.

International Day of Older Persons

• **Observed globally on –** 1st October
• **Celebrated by –** Department of Social Justice & Empowerment.
• **Aim –** To recognizes the invaluable contributions of older people and reaffirms society's responsibility to ensure their well-being.
• **Launched**
  - **NAITIK PATAM –** A game to promote the inter-generational bonding as well as to capture the Annual Grand Parents Teachers Meeting in schools.
  - **GPTM QR Code –** To capture the events being held across various schools during Grand Parents Teachers Meeting (GPTM).

SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT
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