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History, Art and Culture

Karbi Folk Dance – Guinness World Record

*Recently, more than **15,000 dancers** performed the traditional Karbi folk dance **Nimso Kerung**, entering the Guinness World Records.*



- **Venue –** KASA Stadium, Diphu, Karbi Anglong district, Assam.
- **Occasion –** 75th Karbi Anglong Day celebrations.
- **Cultural Significance**
  - Participants from different tribes and communities performed in synchronisation.
  - Showcased Assam's rich cultural heritage, unity, harmony and diversity.
- **Community –** Karbi tribe of Assam.
- **State –** Assam, particularly the Karbi Anglong region.
- **Cultural Significance –** Traditional folk dance showcasing Karbi culture, heritage and community identity

Pushkar Fair – Rajasthan

Recently, the annual Pushkar Fair began on 17 November 2026 with a traditional flag-hoisting ceremony and religious rituals.



- **Duration –** November 17–24, 2026.
- **Location –** Pushkar, Rajasthan, along the ghats of the sacred **Pushkar Lake**.
- **Organised in three phases:**
  - Religious fair.
  - Cultural fair.
  - Cattle fair.
- **Major attractions**
  - Religious ceremonies and holy dip in Pushkar Lake.
  - Rajasthani folk music and dance.
  - Horse races and livestock competitions.
  - Traditional rural and folk-cultural activities.

Pushkar Corridor – *Proposed development project aimed at improving facilities for pilgrims and tourists.*

International Relations and Issues

23rd ASEAN–India Summit: Joint Statement on Disaster Management (2026)

Recently, the 23rd ASEAN–India Summit adopted a joint statement on disaster preparedness and management.

• **Held in –** Manila, Philippines.
• **Chaired by –** Philippines (ASEAN Chair for 2026).
• **Key Objective –** Strengthen India–ASEAN cooperation across the disaster management cycle – prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.
• **Major Areas of Cooperation**
  - **Early Warning Systems –** Improve warnings for earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, cyclones and landslides.
  - **Data Sharing –** Voluntary sharing of satellite data, seismic information and weather forecasts.
  - **Technology –** Promote responsible use of AI, machine learning and big data in disaster risk assessment.
  - **Preparedness –** Joint training, simulation exercises and exchange of disaster response personnel.
  - **Relief Operations –** Facilitate humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR).
  - **Recovery –** Promote sustainable reconstruction and disaster-resilient infrastructure.
• **Key Institutions**
  - ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM).
  - ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre).
  - India's National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).
• **Implementation –** ASEAN–India Plan of Action 2026–2030.
• **Significance**
  - 2026 is observed as the ***ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation.***
  - 2027 marks 35 years of ASEAN–India Dialogue Relations and 5 years of Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.



7th Quad Leaders' Summit 2026

• **Held on** – November 17, 2026, in Manila, Philippines.
• **Participating Countries –** India, USA, Japan and Australia.
• **Leaders –** Narendra Modi (India), Donald Trump (USA), Anthony Albanese (Australia) and Sanae Takaichi (Japan).
• **Key Objective –** To strengthen cooperation for a free, open, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific.
• **Major Initiatives Announced**
  - **Quad Business Leaders' Forum –** Inaugural forum to be hosted in **Mumbai in 2027** to promote trade and business partnerships.
  - **AI Accelerator –** Supports trusted AI access, deployment and technical assistance across the Indo-Pacific.
  - **Indo-Pacific Maritime Surveillance Collaboration –** Enhances maritime information sharing and domain awareness.
  - P-8 and P-3C patrol aircraft to conduct a joint maritime exercise in 2027.
  - **Quad Partnership for Cable Connectivity and Resilience –** Strengthens undersea communication cables and regional electricity connectivity.
  - **Quad Cybersecurity Cooperation –** Promotes secure cyberspace and information sharing against cyber threats.
  - **Counterterrorism –** Strengthens cooperation against terrorism, violent extremism and cross-border terrorism.
• **Other Key Highlights**
  - Opposed unilateral attempts to change the status quo through force or coercion.
  - Expressed concerns over economic coercion and arbitrary export restrictions.
  - Reaffirmed support for **ASEAN centrality and unity**.
  - Emphasised maritime security, economic security, critical technologies and disaster response.

Economy

India’s Electronic Goods Exports



- **Major export destinations**
  - **Mounted printed circuit boards –** Singapore (USD 1.87 billion).
  - **Populated printed circuit boards –** China (USD 789.2 million).
  - **Network transmission and routing equipment –** Hong Kong (USD 857.7 million).
  - **Memory integrated circuits –** Malaysia (USD 390.8 million).
  - **Solid-state storage devices –** China (USD 108.6 million).
- **Key points**
  - Smartphones remain the *largest component of India's electronics exports.*
  - Non-smartphone electronics are growing faster, indicating *diversification of India's electronics export basket.*
  - Growth is driven by printed circuit boards, communication equipment, memory integrated circuits and storage devices.

Agriculture

62nd International Coconut Community (ICC) Session & Ministerial Meeting 2026

• India is hosting the 62nd ICC Session and Ministerial Meeting from **November 17–20, 2026.**
• **Venue –** Kochi, Kerala, India.
• **Organisers –** International Coconut Community (ICC) and Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
• **Participants –** Ministers, policymakers and industry representatives from **21 coconut-producing countries**.
• **Key Objectives**
  - Promote sustainable coconut cultivation and agricultural practices.
  - Strengthen global cooperation in the coconut sector.
  - Encourage product diversification and value addition.
  - Empower smallholder coconut farmers.
  - Promote digital technologies and innovation in the coconut industry.
• **Significance –** India is the world's leading coconut-producing country and hosting the meeting provides an opportunity to strengthen global coconut-sector partnerships.



International Coconut Community (ICC)

• It is an intergovernmental organisation of coconut-producing countries.
  - Its Session and Ministerial Meeting is the highest decision-making forum of the ICC.
• **Established in –** 1969, under the aegis of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP).
• **Headquarters/Secretariat –** Jakarta, Indonesia.
• **Head –** Director General (appointed for a 4-year term).
• **Membership –** 21 coconut-producing countries, accounting for over *90% of global coconut production and exports of coconut products.*
• **Asian Members –** India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam and Timor-Leste.
• **Chairmanship –** Rotational; each member-country representative holds the chairmanship for one year.
• **Membership Eligibility –** Open to coconut-producing countries with unanimous approval of existing members.
• **Coordination –** Through National Liaison Officers (NLOs) in member countries.
• **Former Name –** Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC); renamed International Coconut Community (ICC) in 2018.

Environment

Processual Mountains 2026

• Recently, Wayanad, Kerala, will host India's 1st mountain ecology congress, **Processual Mountains 2026**, from **December 10–12, 2026.**
International Mountain Day – December 11.
• **Venue –** Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (KVASU), Pookode, Wayanad.
• **Organized by –** Hume Centre for Ecology and Wildlife Biology in collaboration with KVASU.
• **Theme/Concept –** Views mountains as dynamic, living landscapes shaped by biodiversity, cultural history, traditional knowledge and human livelihoods.
• **Key Objectives**
  - Address climate change, ecological degradation and development pressures.
  - Promote mountain conservation, community rights and sustainable livelihoods.
  - Strengthen mountain governance and disaster resilience.
• **Eight Thematic Areas**
  - Mountain evolution and rights;
  - Ecosystems and biodiversity;
  - Communities and culture;
  - Livelihoods and economies;
  - Development challenges;
  - Climate resilience and disaster management;
  - Governance; and people's movements.
• **Special Significance –** Wayanad's experience of floods (2018) and recurring landslides highlights mountain vulnerability.

Security

JAIMEX 2026

*Recently, INS Sahyadri participated in **JAIMEX 2026** with the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) on **November 13–14, 2026.***
• It is the bilateral maritime exercise between India and Japan.
• **Location –** Waters south of Japan's Honshu Island.
• **Participating Warships**
  - **India –** INS Sahyadri - Indigenous guided-missile stealth frigate of the Indian Navy.
  - **Japan –** JS Ise - JMSDF warship.
• **Key Activities –** Tactical manoeuvres, communication drills and cross-deck landings.
• **Objectives**
  - Enhance operational coordination and interoperability.
  - Strengthen bilateral maritime cooperation and professional exchanges.
  - Promote peace, security and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.
• **Significance:** Reflects growing India–Japan defence partnership and supports ***India's MAHASAGAR vision.***
*INS Sahyadri also participated in **Exercise Malabar 2026** involving Quad countries – India, Japan, USA and Australia.*

Miscellaneous

International Students' Day

• **Annually observed on –** 17th November.

• **Purpose – To** commemorates students who fought for freedom, democracy and the right to education.

• **Historical Significance –** It remembers student resistance against Nazi occupation in Czechoslovakia in 1939.

• **Key Focus Areas**

- Protection of student rights and academic freedom.
- Equal access to quality education.
- Freedom of expression and peaceful protest.
- International cooperation and student mobility.

• **Associated Organisations –** UNESCO and Institute of International Education (IIE) promote educational opportunities and student mobility.

9th Naturopathy Day – November 18, 2026



• **Annually observed on –** 18th November (9th observance in 2026).
• **Nodal Ministry –** Ministry of Ayush.
• **Theme 2026 –** 'Prakritik Chikitsa, Swasth Bharat' (Natural Treatment, Healthy India).
• **National Venue –** Central Research Institute of Yoga and Naturopathy (CRIYN), Nagamangala, Karnataka.
• **Key Objectives**
  - Promote preventive healthcare and healthy lifestyles.
  - Address obesity and lifestyle-related disorders.
  - Encourage dietary practices, physical activity, yoga and stress management.
  - Promote scientific research and institutional development in naturopathy.
• **10 Sub-themes:**
  - Mother Nature – Healthy Mother, Healthy Family.
  - Swastha Mahila – Fit & Healthy Women.
  - Fit Force – Strong, Lean & Healthy Force.
  - Healthy Campus – Fit Students, Healthy Nation.
  - Healthy Workplace – Fit Workforce.
  - Safe Journey – Fit Driver, Safe Journey.
  - Golden Wellness – Active Ageing, Healthy Ageing.
  - Prakriti se Samarth – Healthy & Active Living.
  - Natural Strength for Sporting Excellence.
  - Prakriti Kisan – Fit Farmer, Healthy Nation.
• **Significance –** It supports the vision of a ***Fit and Healthy India*** through naturopathy and community participation.

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