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DISTANCE BETWEEN DREAM AND REALITY

06-10-2026





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TODAY NEWS HIGHLIGHT

- India's impressive performance at the Asian Games 2026: Fourth place with 85 medals
- 'Vettri Payanam' scheme: Free bus travel extended to women and transgender persons in Tamil Nadu
- Mumbai Port's Jawahar Island Marine Oil Terminal declared plastic-free
- ₹1 lakh crore Global Horticulture Hub in Rayalaseema: An initiative to integrate agriculture from production to export
- Russia-Ukraine ceasefire: India's comprehensive proposal covering energy and the Black Sea
- Vaibhav Suryavanshi featured in TIME100 Next 2026: The global rise of Indian cricket's new generation
- COP31 2026: Antalya to discuss global climate action, finance and Paris Agreement implementation
- World Habitat Day: A global commitment towards inclusive, safe and sustainable cities

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1. India's Stellar Performance at Asian Games 2026: Fourth Place with 85 Medals



India secured the fourth position on the medal tally at the Asian Games 2026 by winning a total of 85 medals (21 gold, 27 silver, and 37 bronze). China, Japan, and South Korea occupied the top three spots respectively, while India surpassed Uzbekistan. India won gold medals in archery, shooting, boxing, wrestling, cricket, hockey, kabaddi, athletics, and golf. Key medal winners included Kumkum Mohod, Pranavi Urs, Lovlina Borgohain, Parveen Hooda, Ankush Panghal, and Aman Sehrawat. In terms of sport-wise performance, athletics was India's best discipline with 24 medals, followed by shooting with 15 and archery with 9 medals.

2. 'Vettri Payanam' Scheme: Expansion of Free Bus Travel for Women and Transgender Individuals in Tamil Nadu



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay launched the 'Vettri Payanam' scheme on October 2, 2026; this is an expansion of the existing 'Vidiyal Payanam' free bus travel scheme for women. Under this initiative, women and transgender individuals will be able to travel for free on 12,692 government buses, facilitating easier access to education, employment, and healthcare services. Approximately 84.32 lakh women could benefit from the scheme daily, and there are no income limits or restrictions on the number of trips.

3. Mumbai Port's Jawahar Dweep Marine Oil Terminal Declared Plastic-Free



On October 2, 2026, the Jawahar Dweep Marine Oil Terminal of the Mumbai Port Authority was declared plastic-free under the 'Swachhata Abhiyan 2026' (Cleanliness Campaign), led by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal. During the campaign, an Oil Spill Response (OSR) facility was inaugurated; this facility is crucial for tackling marine oil spills and protecting the marine environment. The Jawahar Dweep Terminal comprises five jetties (JD1 to JD5) and plays a vital role in handling crude oil and petroleum products, as well as in India's energy supply.

4. ₹1 Lakh Crore Global Horticulture Hub in Rayalaseema: An Initiative to Integrate Agriculture from Production to Export



On October 2, 2026, Andhra Pradesh laid the foundation stone for the 'Rayalaseema Rising' Global Horticulture Hub project in Madanapalle, valued at approximately ₹1 lakh crore. The project aims to transform Rayalaseema into a hub for fruit and vegetable production, processing, and exports. It will integrate farming, irrigation, rural connectivity, post-harvest facilities, food processing, marketing, and exports, and will be developed in three phases between 2026 and 2029. The initiative will cover 201 clusters, 303 mandals, and 5,869 villages across 10 districts, with a target to expand the horticulture area by 6 lakh hectares, bringing the total to 14.41 lakh hectares.

5. Russia-Ukraine Ceasefire: India's Comprehensive Proposal Covering Energy and the Black Sea



According to Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha, India's proposal is the most comprehensive among the four currently under consideration for a Russia-Ukraine ceasefire, as it encompasses both energy infrastructure and the Black Sea. India's proposal focuses on a ceasefire regarding military activities in the Black Sea and the protection of energy and port infrastructure. India is promoting diplomacy and a peaceful resolution while maintaining dialogue with both Russia and Ukraine. The significance of the Black Sea and energy infrastructure is heightened by their impact on global food security, energy supplies, trade, shipping, and supply chains.

6. Vaibhav Suryavanshi Featured in TIME100 Next 2026: The Global Rise of Indian Cricket's New Generation



Indian cricketer Vaibhav Suryavanshi has been included in the TIME100 Next 2026 list at the age of 15, placed in the 'Phenom' category. TIME100 Next features 100 emerging individuals from various fields, including sports, entertainment, technology, business, politics, science, and advocacy. Suryavanshi made his Ranji Trophy debut in 2024 at the age of 12 and, following his IPL debut in 2025, scored a century off just 35 balls. In the 2026 IPL, he scored 776 runs across 16 matches, securing both the Orange Cap and the 'Emerging Player of the Year' title; the TIME100 2026 list also featured Indian names such as Sundar Pichai, Vikas Khanna, and Ranbir Kapoor.

7. COP31 2026: Deliberations in Antalya on Global Climate Action, Finance, and Implementation of the Paris Agreement

COP31 will be held in Antalya, Türkiye, from November 9–20, 2026, with the primary objective of advancing global climate action and cooperation. The conference will address key issues such as mitigation, adaptation, climate finance, loss and damage, and the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. Türkiye will serve as the host nation, while Australia will play a pivotal role in the official climate negotiations; the World Leaders Summit is scheduled for November 11–12. COP31 will also coincide with the CMP21 and CMA8 meetings, with a special focus on the concerns of vulnerable Pacific Island nations, climate justice, and the implementation of global climate commitments.

8. World Habitat Day: A Global Commitment Towards Inclusive, Safe, and Sustainable Cities



World Habitat Day is observed annually on the first Monday of October to raise awareness about adequate housing, safe human settlements, and sustainable urban development. Rapid urbanization is exacerbating challenges such as housing shortages, pollution, water crises, traffic congestion, solid waste management issues, and urban inequality. This day is linked to SDG-11, which aims to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. In India, initiatives such as the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban, Smart Cities Mission, AMRUT, and Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban align with the broader goal of inclusive and sustainable urban development.

1. How many total medals did India win in Asian Games 2026?

A - 75 **B - 85**

C - 95 **D - 105**

India finished fourth in the Asian Games 2026 by winning a total of 85 medals including 21 gold, 27 silver and 37 bronze. Athletics was the best sport for India with 24 medals, while shooting got 15 and archery got 9 medals.



2. 'Vetri Payanam' scheme is an extension of which existing scheme?

A - Amma Canteen **B - Kalaignar Mahalir Urimai**

C - Vidiyal Payanam **D - Pudhumai Pen**

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay launched the 'Vetri Payanam' scheme on 2 October 2026, under which women and transgender persons will get free travel facility in 12,692 government buses. About 84.32 lakh women can benefit from the scheme every day and the annual expenditure on its operation is estimated to be around ₹6,000 crore.



3. How many jetties are there in Jawahar Island Terminal?

A - 3 **B - 4**

C - 5 **D - 6**

On 2 October 2026, Jawahar Island Marine Oil Terminal of Mumbai Port Authority was declared plastic-free under Swachhta Abhiyaan 2026 and Oil Spill Response (OSR) facility was inaugurated. Jawahar Island has five jetties from JD1–JD5 and is important in handling crude oil and petroleum products; Mumbai Port has implemented a ban on single-use plastics from 2021.



4. 'Rayalaseema Rising' Global Horticulture Hub project is related to which state?

A - Telangana **B - Andhra Pradesh**

C - Karnataka **D - Tamil Nadu**

Andhra Pradesh laid the foundation stone of the approximately ₹1 lakh crore 'Rayalaseema Rising' global horticulture hub project in Madanapalle on October 2, 2026, which aims to make Rayalaseema a hub for fruit-vegetable production, processing and export. The project, to be developed in three phases between 2026–2029, will cover 10 districts, 201 clusters and 5,869 villages and is expected to benefit approximately 9.6 lakh farmers.



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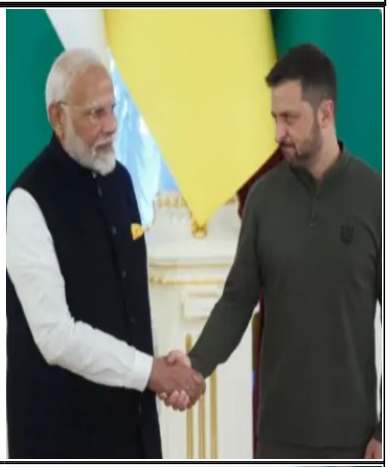
5. Which two areas are included in India's proposal for the Russia-Ukraine ceasefire?

A - Nuclear energy and the Arctic region

B - Energy infrastructure and the Black Sea

C - Agriculture and the Indian Ocean

D - Defense industry and the Mediterranean Sea



According to Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha, among the four proposals for a Russia-Ukraine ceasefire, India's proposal encompasses both energy infrastructure and the Black Sea, focusing on the security of energy and port infrastructure.

6. In which category was Vaibhav Suryavanshi included in the TIME100 Next 2026 list?

A - Innovator

B - Phenom

C - Leader

D - Creator



Indian cricketer Vaibhav Suryavanshi was included in the 'Phenom' category of TIME100 Next 2026 at the age of 15; he made his Ranji Trophy debut in 2024 and his IPL debut in 2025. In the 2026 IPL, he scored 776 runs in 16 matches, winning the Orange Cap and the Emerging Player of the Year title; Sundar Pichai, Vikas Khanna, and Ranbir Kapoor were also featured in the TIME100 2026 list.

7. In which city will COP31 be held in 2026?

A - Baku

B - Dubai

C - Antalya

D - Paris



COP31 will be held in Antalya, Türkiye, from November 9–20, 2026, featuring discussions on mitigation, adaptation, climate finance, loss and damage, and the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Türkiye will serve as the host, and Australia will play a key role in the official climate negotiations; the World Leaders Summit and meetings of CMP21 and CMA8 will also take place on November 11–12.

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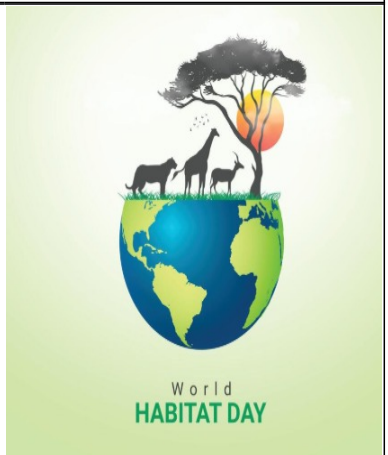
8. When is World Habitat Day observed every year?

A - First Monday of October

B - Second Monday of October

C - First Monday of September

D - First Monday of November



World Habitat Day is observed on the first Monday of October to raise awareness about adequate housing, safe human settlements, and sustainable urban development; it is linked to SDG-11. Amidst the challenges of rapid urbanization, initiatives in India such as Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban, Smart Cities Mission, AMRUT, and Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban promote inclusive and sustainable urban development.

One Liner

1. Which state government launched the ‘Vettri Payanam’ scheme? - Tamil Nadu

2. How many total medals did India win at the 2026 Asian Games? - 85 medals.

3. In which category was Indian cricketer Vaibhav Suryavanshi placed in the TIME100 Next 2026 list? - Phenom category

4. Which marine oil terminal of Mumbai Port was declared plastic-free? - Jawahar Dweep Marine Oil Terminal

5. Which two areas are included in India's proposal for the Russia-Ukraine ceasefire? - Energy infrastructure and the Black Sea

6. The ‘Global Horticulture Hub’ project is associated with the Rayalaseema region of which state? - Andhra Pradesh

7. In which city will COP31 be held in 2026? - Antalya, Türkiye

8. On which day of October is World Habitat Day observed every year? - The first Monday of October

9. World Habitat Day is primarily linked to which Sustainable Development Goal? - SDG-11

10. When will the World Leaders' Summit at COP31 take place? - 11–12 November 2026