THE MONTHLY DIGEST OF NATIONAL & GLOBAL AFFAIRS

DIGInurture BULLETIN

Governance · Business · Defence · Science · Sport · Culture — curated for the informed reader

OCTOBER EDITION · 2026 · DIGINURTURE.COM

LEAD STORY · AVIATION



Indian pilot foils mid-air crash attempt on Israel-bound flydubai flight

Indian national and pilot Smit Machchhar was praised by leaders including US President Donald Trump and Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu after he fought off an apparent attempt by his co-pilot to crash the aircraft, and safely landed the plane with 174 passengers on board.

SOURCE: THE HINDU

01 GOVERNANCE & POLITICS



ANI NEWS

Swachhata Abhiyan 6.0 launched, targets e-waste

The Department of Youth Affairs began the month-long campaign, running from October 2 to October 31, 2026, with a special focus on e-waste management.



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Rahul Gandhi launches 'Satyagraha' digital platform

The Leader of the Opposition launched a citizen platform where the public can register and track issue-based democratic protests.



DD NEWS

PM Modi reviews ₹16,000-crore projects at 54th PRAGATI meeting

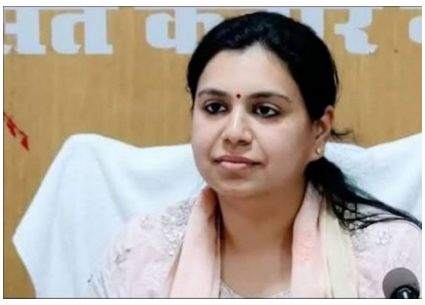
Chairing the meeting at Seva Teerth, the Prime Minister reviewed infrastructure projects across 31 States and Union Territories with a total value above ₹16,000 crore.



NEWS ON AIR

Government allows E100 ethanol fuel in flex-fuel vehicles

Amendments to the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 permit E100 in vehicles specifically designed to run on flexible fuel.



DECCAN CHRONICLE

Former IAS officer Divya Mittal launches Jan Neeti Bharat

The new party says it will contest the 2027 Uttar Pradesh assembly elections.



JAGRAN JOSH

Henley Passport Index 2026: India ranks 84th among 199 passports

The index compares 199 passports against 227 destinations, counting how many can be entered without a visa.



EXPRESS HEALTHCARE

J P Nadda lays foundation of ICMR high-altitude medicine centre

The Health Minister performed the Bhumi Pujan for the ICMR Centre for High Altitude Medicine and Public Health Research at Keylong, Himachal Pradesh.



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Direct train between Gujarat and Katra flagged off

The service is meant to benefit lakhs of pilgrims visiting the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Reasi district, Jammu & Kashmir.



DD INDIA

India hosts Agrivoltaics World Conference 2026

The 7th edition, the first in the Global South, opened at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi to promote agrivoltaics as a commercially viable, farmer-centric model for food and energy security.

02 BUSINESS & ECONOMY



THE TIMES OF INDIA

RBI hikes repo rate by 25 bps to 5.50%

The first rate increase since February 2023 signals tighter borrowing costs for home and personal loans.



THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Anup Kumar Saha appointed MD & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank

The appointment follows approval from the Reserve Bank of India.



CNBC TV18

Lavanya R Mundayur approved as CMD of New India Assurance

Currently CMD of Agriculture Insurance Company of India, she moves to head New India Assurance Company.



BUSINESS STANDARD

RBI approves Emirates NBD-RBL Bank amalgamation

The Indian branches of Emirates NBD Bank will merge with RBL Bank, effective December 1, 2026.



THE ECONOMIC TIMES

FICCI names Vijay Sankar President-Elect for 2026-27

The Sanmar Group Chairman will succeed Anant Goenka.

03 WORLD & DIPLOMACY



HINDUSTAN TIMES

India, Switzerland sign five pacts

Two agreements on professional mobility were concluded and both sides agreed to widen Indian exports' access to Swiss markets, as PM Modi and President Guy Parmelin explored defence and nuclear-energy cooperation.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Lula re-elected Brazil's president for a fourth term

Lula won the runoff against right-wing senator Flávio Bolsonaro with 51.79% of the vote.



BBC

Houthi attack on Dammam's King Fahd International Airport

Saudi authorities said two people, a Saudi citizen and an Indian resident, were killed and eight injured, after Yemen's Houthi movement claimed the attack.



THE HINDU

Sunil Bharti Mittal conferred France's Légion d'Honneur

President Macron named the Bharti Enterprises chairman a Chevalier of France's highest civilian award; the ceremony is set for October 28 at the French Embassy in New Delhi.



LOKMAT TIMES

Anca Verma appointed UN IIMSAM Ambassador-at-Large for India

The appointment was issued by IIMSAM Secretary-General Remigio Maradona for the micro-algae spirulina against malnutrition initiative.

04 DEFENCE & SECURITY



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Rajnath Singh launches first indigenous Fleet Support Ship 'Surya'

FSS-1 at Hindustan Shipyard, Visakhapatnam, is the first custom-built vessel to replenish Navy warships with fuel, ammunition and supplies at sea.



THE TELEGRAPH

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit appointed new Air Chief

He becomes the 29th Chief of the Air Staff; his career includes Operation Safed Sagar and Operation Rakshak.



THE HINDU

SIMBEX-2026 begins in Visakhapatnam

The 33rd edition of the India–Singapore maritime exercise aims to strengthen multi-domain operations.



DEFENCE HERE

VISV-2026 showcases indigenous defence capabilities

Organised by DRDO and CENJOWS at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, under the theme of showcasing capabilities and strengthening global partnerships.

05 SCIENCE, NOBEL & ENVIRONMENT



FIRSTPOST

Nobel in Medicine: Deisseroth, Hegemann, Nagel

Honoured for discovering light-gated ion channels and their role in developing optogenetics.



THE GUARDIAN

Nobel in Physics: Francis Halzen

The University of Wisconsin-Madison physicist turned a vast block of South Pole ice into a detector for cosmic neutrinos.



THE GUARDIAN

Nobel in Economics: Robert E. Hall, Michael Woodford

Recognised for work on the microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stability.



INDIA TODAY

Mahesh Kakde wins 2026 Ramanujan Prize

The IISc Bengaluru professor was recognised for his work in number theory.



ANI NEWS

Sarah Peluse wins 2026 SASTRA-Ramanujan Award

The Stanford mathematician was honoured for contributions to analytic number theory, additive combinatorics and related fields.



NDTV

India, France to map Earth's water with TRISHNA satellite

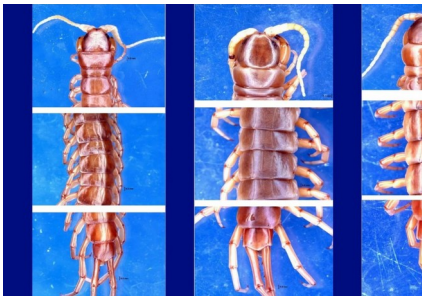
The joint mission will use high-resolution thermal infrared imaging to monitor land surface temperature, water stress and natural resources.



RESEARCH MATTERS

New plant species found in Nellai Wildlife Sanctuary

Botanical Survey of India scientists described Ceropegia tamilnaduensis from Western Ghats hill slopes.



DOWN TO EARTH

Three new centipede species discovered in Western Ghats

The Rhysida species, quadrispinosa, coorgensis and neyyarensis, raise India's known Rhysida count to 23.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Oscar Whitfield, 14, wins Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year

His winning image shows a dung beetle in Zimbabwe's Zambezi National Park.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Cyclone Arnab makes landfall on Andhra coast

The system stayed stationary along the coast and heavy rain lashed several districts.

"From stockholm's Nobel hall to the wrestling mat — an October that honoured ideas and courage alike."

06 SPORT



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Kumkum Mohod, 17, wins India's first individual recurve gold at Asian Games

She also won gold in the mixed team event.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Manisha Bhanwala is India's first woman World Champion in wrestling

She came back from a six-point deficit to beat American Abigail Nette 8-6 in the 59 kg final.



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Smriti Mandhana named India women's captain

Harmanpreet Kaur, who led India to the 2025 ODI World Cup title, stepped down from the role across all formats.



CRICBUZZ

Punam Raut retires from international cricket

The batter, who debuted in 2009 and last played for India in 2021, ends a career of more than a decade.



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Nihal Sarin and Koneru Humpy win gold at European Chess Club Cup

The grandmasters won the men's and women's individual golds in Montenegro.



AL JAZEERA

Harry Kane wins the Ballon d'Or

After a record-breaking season, he becomes the first Englishman to win the award in 25 years.



THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Para Asian Games champion Neeraj Yadav found dead in Delhi

The three-time champion was found near Maujpur Metro station; police suspect suicide.

07 PEOPLE & CULTURE



THE TIMES OF INDIA

Gujarat to honour Captain Smit Machchhar with Vishisht Gujarat Garima Award

The award, with a ₹25 lakh cash prize, recognises his courage in saving 174 passengers on the Dubai–Tel Aviv flight.



NDTV

Veteran actor Nana Patekar passes away at 75

He suffered a severe cardiac arrest at his residence in Dona Paula, Goa.



THE GUARDIAN

Tom Skerritt, star of 'Alien' and 'Top Gun', dies at 93

His publicist confirmed he died of natural causes.



THE HINDU

Usha Mangeshkar named first recipient of Bhupen Hazarika National Award

The Assam cabinet will institute the award, which carries ₹10 lakh and a citation.



NDTV

Ambaji temple's Mohanthal prasad gets GI tag

The gram-flour, sugar and ghee sweet is the traditional offering at the Shaktipeeth in Banaskantha district, Gujarat.