# Sanskriti IAS Daily Current Affairs

**11-11-2026**

## Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

South China Morning Post

### China-US-Russia trilateral set for Thursday on Apec sidelines: Beijing

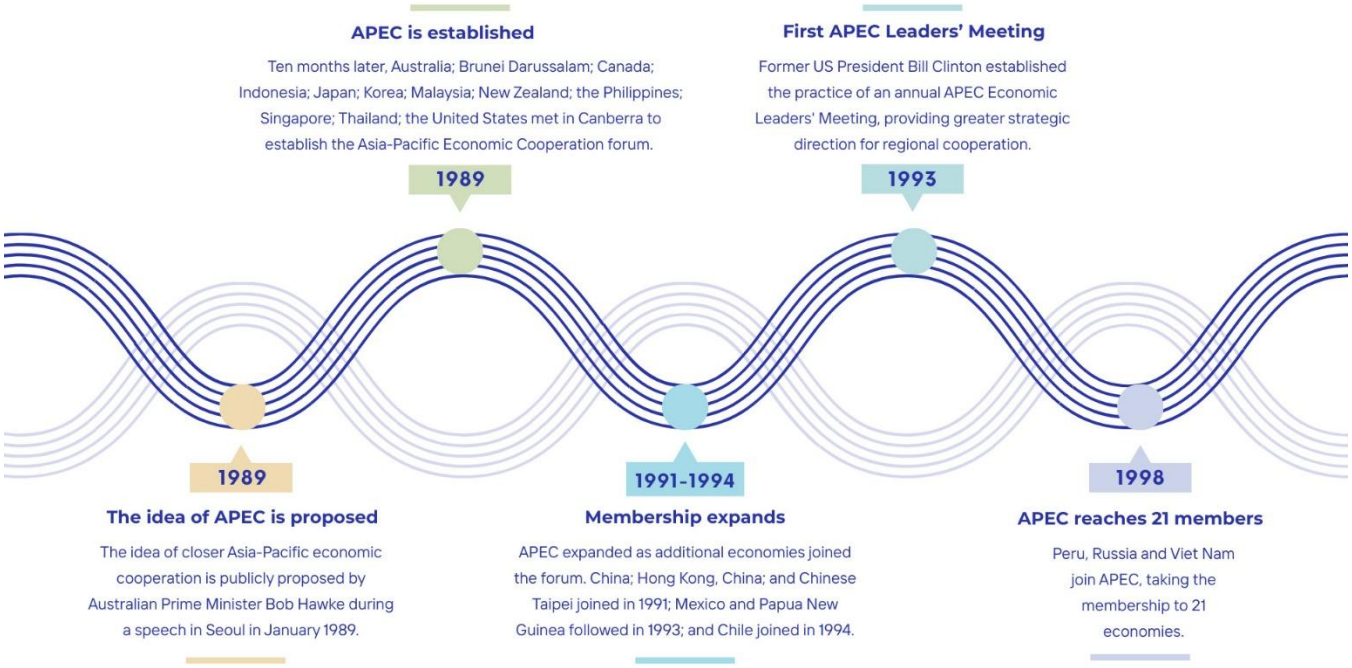
Xi Jinping, Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin will meet on the second day of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit.



### Why in News?

- A proposed trilateral meeting involving the US, Chinese and Russian Presidents was discussed on the sidelines of the **APEC gathering in Shenzhen, China**.

### About APEC




- Established in **1989**, APEC is a regional economic forum promoting economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific.
- It aims to achieve balanced, inclusive, sustainable and innovative growth through regional economic integration.
- It focuses primarily on trade and economic cooperation; hence, members are called **economies**.

## Membership and Institutional Structure

- **Members:** 21 economies, including the USA, China, Russia, Japan, Australia, South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan.
- **Secretariat:** Singapore.
- **India is not a member** of APEC.

## Working Mechanism

- APEC operates through **voluntary cooperation and consensus-based decision-making**.
- Its decisions are **non-binding**, allowing flexibility among economies with different political and economic systems.

# Red Ochre

The New Indian Express

**4,000-year-old rock paintings discovered in TN's Villupuram district**



Depictions of animals, including bovids, have also been found on either side of the central geometric patterns. The paintings, made in red...

## Why in News?

- Approximately 4,000-year-old rock paintings made using **red ochre** were discovered at **Karadimalai in Villupuram** district, Tamil Nadu.

## Composition and Characteristics

- Red ochre is a natural earth pigment primarily composed of **iron oxide**.
- Its colour ranges from yellow to deep red.
- It is chemically stable and resists decomposition and degradation.
- It is one of the earliest pigments used by humans.

### Modern Applications

- Used in traditional painting, ceramics and architectural coatings.
- Its permanence and non-toxic nature make it valuable as a natural pigment.

## Historical and Cultural Significance

- Used in prehistoric cave paintings, body painting and ritual burials.
- Important examples include the **Lascaux Caves (France)** and **Bhimbetka rock shelters (India)**.
- Its durability helped preserve ancient paintings over long periods.

## Ranivas Mound Declared Archaeological Site of National Importance

The Hindu

### Bihar's Ranivas Mound declared monument of national importance

Ranivas Mound in Bihar's Kesariya named a nationally important archaeological site; Bihar now has 70 ASI-protected locations.

### Why in News?

- The Central Government declared **Ranivas Mound in Bihar** an archaeological site of national importance.



### Location and Historical Background

- Located in Bihar, near the famous **Kesariya Stupa**.
- In **1861**, ASI's first Director General, **Alexander Cunningham**, visited and excavated the site.
- He reported an ancient Buddhist establishment containing a temple with a large Buddha image.

### Legal and Institutional Framework

- Such declarations are governed by the **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958**.
- The **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** was established in 1861 under Alexander Cunningham.
- Its headquarters is in **New Delhi**.
- It protects monuments, conducts archaeological excavations and studies inscriptions.
- Its work is also governed by the **Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972**.

## Dibang River and Dibang Multipurpose Project

The Hindu

### Opposition builds over third mega dam project on Dibang River

Communities press Assam and Arunachal Pradesh to meet demands for the 2880-MW Dibang Dam, threatening protests and project safeguards.



### Why in News?

- Downstream communities have raised concerns regarding a hydropower project on the **Dibang River**, Arunachal Pradesh.

## Geographical Features and Course

- Dibang is an important tributary of the **Brahmaputra** and flows through Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.
- It originates near **Keya Pass** along the Indo-China border in Upper Dibang Valley.
- It cuts deep gorges through the **Mishmi Hills** and enters the plains at Nizamghat (Bomjir).
- It joins the **Lohit and Dihang (Siang)** near Sadiya in Assam, forming the Brahmaputra river system.
- **Length:** Approximately 275 km.
- **Major Tributaries:** Dri, Mathun, Talon, Eme, Ahi, Emra and Awa.

## Ecological and Social Significance

- The river gives its name to **Dibang Valley district** of Arunachal Pradesh.
- It is an important lifeline for the **Idu Mishmi tribe**, supporting agriculture, fishing and traditional livelihoods.

### Dibang Multipurpose Project

- A flood-control-cum-hydroelectric project being developed by **NHPC** in Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Installed Capacity:** 2,880 MW, making it India's largest hydropower facility by installed capacity.
- It is designed for electricity generation, energy storage and flood moderation.
- **Dam Height:** 278 metres, proposed as India's highest concrete gravity dam.
- It will use **Roller Compacted Concrete (RCC)** technology and is planned as the world's highest RCC dam.

# Sindhudurg Fort

The Times of India

**Sindhudurg takes shape behind bars as 125-plus fort replicas enter Nagpur contest**

Sindhudurg Fort replica by Nagpur Central Prison inmates joins 125+ entries in Shivvaibhav Fort Competition; Nitin Gadkari flags off...

## Why in News?

- A replica of Sindhudurg Fort was constructed by inmates of Nagpur Central Prison for the Shivvaibhav Fort Competition.

## Location and Historical Background

- Located on **Kurte Island** in the Arabian Sea, near Malvan town in Maharashtra's Konkan region.

- Built by **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj between 1664 and 1667**.
- It was constructed to counter European colonial powers and the growing influence of the **Siddis of Janjira**.
- It is recognised under UNESCO's **Maratha Military Landscapes of India World Heritage property**.

### Architectural Features

- The fort covers approximately **48 acres**, with walls 29 feet high and 12 feet thick.
- It has **52 bastions** equipped with cannon openings.
- Constructed using local stone, lime mortar and embedded iron nails.
- Its camouflaged entrance, known as **Dilli Darwaja**, is visible only from close quarters.
- The fort contains a temple dedicated to Shivaji and his handprint and footprint.
- Despite being surrounded by seawater, it has several freshwater wells.

## Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN)

www.pib.gov.in

Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) celebrates 77th Foundation Day and reaffirms India's vision for a "Nasha Mukt Yuva for Viksit Bharat", through intensified enforceme…



Marking its historic Foundation Day, the Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN) celebrated its 77<sup>th</sup> foundation Day on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2026.

### Why in News?

- The **Central Bureau of Narcotics** celebrated its 77th Foundation Day.

### Institutional Profile

- CBN is a Central Government organisation regulating the licit trade of **narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals**.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue.
- **Headquarters:** Gwalior.
- It functions under the **NDPS Act, 1985** and relevant UN conventions.
- It is headed by the **Narcotics Commissioner**.

### Organisational Structure

- Deputy Narcotics Commissioners oversee the three major opium-growing states: **Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh**.
- They are assisted by Assistant Narcotics Commissioners and District Opium Officers.

- District Opium Officers issue licences for opium poppy cultivation under Central Government licensing conditions.

**Major Functions**

- Supervises legal opium poppy cultivation in India.
- Undertakes preventive and enforcement activities, particularly in opium-growing states.
- Investigates offences under the **NDPS Act, 1985** and files complaints in courts.
- Issues licences for manufacturing synthetic narcotic drugs.
- Regulates import and export authorisations for narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and selected precursor chemicals.

## Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)

Business Standard

**Irdai sets up working groups to align risk-based capital regime with Ind AS**

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) on Tuesday constituted two working groups, comprising representatives...



**Why in News?**

- IRDAI stated that financial statements prepared under **Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS)** will form the basis of the proposed **Risk-Based Capital (RBC) framework** for insurers.

**Constitutional and Institutional Status**

- IRDAI is a **statutory body** established under the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999**.
- **Administrative Ministry:** Ministry of Finance.
- **Headquarters:** Hyderabad.
- It regulates and promotes the development of India's insurance sector.

**Composition**

- It consists of a **Chairperson, five whole-time members and four part-time members**.
- All members are appointed by the Central Government.

**Major Functions**

- Protects policyholders' interests through fair business practices and timely claim settlement.
- Registers and regulates insurance companies, reinsurers and intermediaries.

- Prescribes eligibility, qualification and capital requirements for insurance businesses.
- Promotes transparency, financial stability and insurer solvency.
- Regulates insurance practices to protect consumers from unfair pricing.

## Ningol Chakouba Festival

News On AIR

**Manipur celebrates Ningol Chakouba festival today**

In Manipur, the festival of strengthening the bond of love between married ladies and their brothers, along with paternal families, Ningol...




### Why in News?

- Manipur celebrated **Ningol Chakouba**, a festival strengthening the relationship between married women and their maternal families.

### Cultural Significance

- Celebrated on the second day of **Hiyangei month** of the Meitei calendar.
- **Ningol** means married woman, while **Chakouba** means invitation for a feast.
- Married women visit their parental homes for a family feast, reunion and exchange of gifts.
- Traditionally, the brother formally invites his married sister about a week before the celebration.

### Historical Background

- The tradition dates back to the reign of **King Nongda Lairen Pakhangba**.
- Initially known as Piba Chakouba, it involved the king inviting his brother-in-law Poireiton for a feast.
- During the reign of **King Chandrakirti Singh (1831–1886)**, the tradition evolved into inviting married sisters to the royal palace.
- It continues as an important part of Manipur's cultural heritage.

## Other Important News of the day

| Places in News | Ecuador |
|---|---|
| | **Why in News?**<br>- India and Ecuador held the **sixth round of Foreign Office Consultations (FOC)** in New Delhi to review bilateral relations and discuss regional and global issues. |

## Geographical Location




- Ecuador is located in northwestern South America.
- **Capital:** Quito.
- **Neighbours:** Colombia to the north and Peru to the south and east.
- It has a coastline along the **Pacific Ocean**.

## Physical Features

- It has four geographical regions, including the coastal lowlands, Andes Mountains and Amazonian lowlands, along with the Galápagos Islands.
- The Andes include the **Cordillera Occidental** and **Cordillera Oriental**.
- **Highest Peak:** Mount Chimborazo (6,268 metres).
- **Major Volcano:** Cotopaxi, one of the world's highest active volcanoes.
- **Major Rivers:** Babahoyo, Chira, Coca and Curaray.

## Climate and Resources

- The coastal region has a tropical climate, while higher elevations are cooler.
- Amazonian lowlands have a tropical climate.
- Major resources include petroleum, fish, timber and hydropower.

# Environment

## Chinar Tree

Greater Kashmir

30,000 chinar trees geo-tagged across J-K, digital database created



The Jammu and Kashmir government has geo-tagged around 30000 chinar trees and created a digital database to strengthen their conservation...

## Why in News?

- Around **30,000 Chinar trees** across Jammu and Kashmir have been geo-tagged and digitally documented for conservation.

## Characteristics and Distribution

- Also known as the **Oriental plane tree** and locally called **Boueen**.



- It is an iconic tree of the Kashmir Valley and is believed to have been introduced from Persia.
- It grows in cool climates with adequate water availability.
- It can reach approximately **30 metres in height** and 10–15 metres in girth.
- It takes around **150 years** to attain full size.
- Its leaves change from green in summer to red, amber and yellow during autumn.

**Uses**

- Leaves and bark are used in traditional medicine.
- Its wood, known as lace wood, is used for delicate furniture.
- Twigs and roots are used for making dyes.

**Geo-tagging and Legal Protection**

- Each identified tree receives a **QR-based digital plate** containing information about its location, age and health.
- Chinar is protected under the **J&K Preservation of Specified Trees Act, 1969**.
- Even pruning requires official approval.

## Science and Technology

### Vitamin K and Vitamin K Deficiency Bleeding

SciTechDaily

Scientists Warn of a Disturbing Rise in Vitamin K Deficiency Among American Newborns

Only about one in five infants diagnosed with vitamin K-related bleeding had received the shot, U.S. health records show.



**Why in News?**

- A study reported a **347% increase in newborns suffering from Vitamin K Deficiency Bleeding (VKDB)** in the US between 2017 and 2025.

**Types and Sources of Vitamin K**

- Vitamin K is a **fat-soluble vitamin** available mainly in two forms:
  - **Vitamin K1 (Phylloquinone):** Found in green leafy vegetables such as spinach, kale and collard greens.
  - **Vitamin K2 (Menaquinones):** Found in some animal and fermented foods and also produced by certain gut bacteria.

### Functions in the Human Body

- Known as the **clotting vitamin**, it is essential for producing blood-clotting proteins in the liver.
- **Prothrombin** is an important vitamin K-dependent clotting protein.
- It supports bone health through **osteocalcin**, a protein involved in healthy bone tissue.
- It is stored in the liver, brain, heart, pancreas and bones.
- It is rapidly broken down and excreted through urine and stool.

### Vitamin K Deficiency Bleeding (VKDB)

- Also called **haemorrhagic disease of the newborn**, it is a bleeding disorder caused by insufficient vitamin K in infants.
- Newborns have low vitamin K due to limited placental transfer, low levels in breast milk and insufficient gut bacteria.
- Bleeding may occur internally, particularly in the intestines or brain, potentially causing brain damage or death.
- Infants without vitamin K supplementation at birth may develop VKDB up to six months of age.

### Risk Factors and Prevention

- Vitamin K deficiency is rare in adults but may occur due to malabsorption or certain medicines.
- **Vitamin K administration at birth** helps prevent VKDB in newborns.

## Uttar Pradesh in News

### Garhmukteshwar and Tigri Melas

DD News

**UP CM reviews preparations for Garhmukteshwar, Tigri melas; 30 lakh devotees expected**

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath reviewed preparations for the Kartik Purnima Ganga Snan Mela at Garhmukteshwar and the Tigri...



### Why in News?

- CM Yogi Adityanath reviewed preparations for the **Kartik Purnima Ganga Snan Mela** at Garhmukteshwar and Tigri Mela, scheduled for 17–26 November 2026.

## Geographical and Cultural Significance

- Both are popularly known as the **Mini Kumbh of Western Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Garhmukteshwar:** Hapur district; **Tigri:** Amroha district.
- The main bathing ritual is scheduled for **24 November 2026**, with 25–30 lakh devotees expected.

## Security and Administration

- Arrangements include CCTV surveillance, watchtowers, traffic management and additional buses.
- **NDRF and SDRF** teams will be deployed for disaster response.
- Temporary hospitals, ambulances and fire tenders will be provided.

## Environmental and Cultural Measures

- Single-use plastic will be prohibited, and sanitation and drinking water facilities will be strengthened.
- Cultural programmes will include **Ramlila, Raslila and Shrimad Bhagwat Katha**.
- Liquor and intoxicants will be prohibited within the mela area.