

Highlights of 22 October 2026 Current Affairs

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah is set to launch multiple sewerage infrastructure projects in Delhi on October 22, 2026. These initiatives, valued at over ₹8,900 crore, aim to significantly upgrade the national capital's urban sanitation and water management systems. This development marks a major step toward ensuring sustainable and efficient civic infrastructure for Delhi's growing population.
- Africa's top health body has convened an emergency crisis meeting following Nigeria's confirmation of its first recorded Ebola case on October 22, 2026. The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) initiated this urgent response to prevent cross-border transmission and coordinate regional containment strategies. This proactive measure underscores the critical need for rapid health interventions to mitigate potential epidemic outbreaks.
- Turkey, Qatar, Pakistan, and Indonesia officially inked a comprehensive multilateral defence pact. This strategic agreement is designed to enhance mutual security cooperation, joint defense manufacturing, and intelligence sharing among the four member nations. The pact reflects a growing trend of strategic military collaboration to address regional and global security challenges.
- Stage 1 of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP 1) has been officially imposed in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR) on October 21, 2026, to tackle escalating pollution levels. The enforced measures include strict construction curbs and a complete ban on the open dumping of waste. These regulatory actions aim to proactively control particulate matter emissions and prevent the air quality index from slipping into the 'poor' category.
- The world-renowned Kullu Dusshera festival officially kicked off in Kullu, Himachal Pradesh, on October 21, 2026, with a grand religious procession. The festivities commenced with the ceremonial procession of the presiding deity, Lord Raghunath, accompanied by hundreds of local deities. This annual cultural event highlights the rich heritage of the region and attracts thousands of pilgrims and tourists to the Kullu valley.
- The Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh flagged off a new heli-taxi service, to enhance regional connectivity in the state. This aerial service will directly link the key locations of Sanjauli, Rampur, and Reckong Peo, significantly reducing travel time across difficult mountainous terrain. The initiative is strategically designed to boost local tourism and provide rapid transportation options for residents and visitors alike.
- The Ipsos Quality of Care Perception Index 2026 was released, evaluating global public satisfaction with healthcare services. In this latest ranking, Malaysia secured the first position, while India achieved a notable third place globally. This high ranking for India reflects significant recent improvements in the accessibility and perceived quality of the nation's healthcare delivery systems.
- The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) officially approved the novel drug Zytorvi (Toripalimab) on October 22, 2026. This immunotherapy medication is specifically indicated for the treatment of patients suffering from advanced esophageal cancer. The approval marks a significant advancement in India's oncology care, offering a targeted and effective therapeutic option for complex cancer cases.
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced that the Women's Under-19 T20 World Cup 2027 will commence on January 21, 2027. The tournament will be uniquely

co-hosted by Bangladesh and Nepal, marking a significant milestone for women's cricket in South Asia. This expansion aims to foster grassroots talent and provide a global competitive platform for emerging female cricketers.

- India observed the birth anniversary of renowned freedom fighter Ashfaqullah Khan on October 22, 2026, honoring his pivotal role in the independence movement. Khan was a key mastermind behind the historic 1925 Kakori train robbery, which was executed to fund revolutionary activities against British rule. His sacrifice and dedication continue to inspire generations in the study of India's fierce struggle for freedom.
- India's Index of Eight Core Industries registered a robust growth of 7.9% in September 2026, as per the latest government data released. This positive trajectory highlights strong performance across key sectors such as coal, crude oil, natural gas, and steel. The sustained industrial expansion signals a resilient domestic manufacturing base and favorable macroeconomic conditions.
- The 9th edition of the IBSAMAR multilateral maritime exercise, involving the naval forces of India, Brazil, and South Africa, successfully concluded. The exercise focused on enhancing cross-naval interoperability, advanced surface warfare tactics, and joint maritime security operations. This concluding event reinforces the strategic defense ties and collaborative commitment of the three IBSA forum nations.
- President Droupadi Murmu presented prestigious awards to eminent artists at the 65th National Exhibition of Art in New Delhi. The ceremony honored exceptional contemporary artworks, celebrating the rich diversity and evolving talent within the Indian art landscape. This annual exhibition, organized by the Lalit Kala Akademi, remains a cornerstone event for promoting visual arts in the country.