

Highlights of 30 October 2026 Current Affairs

Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan to Visit Tamil Nadu

The Vice President of India, **C. P. Radhakrishnan**, will visit Tamil Nadu on **30 October 2026** to participate in various official and academic programmes. During his visit, he will pay floral tributes at **Pasumpon in Ramanathapuram district** on the occasion of **Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar Jayanthi**. He will also attend the Golden Jubilee celebrations and the **39th Convocation Ceremony of Gandhigram Rural Institute**, a deemed-to-be university located in Dindigul district.

Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar was a prominent political and social leader from Tamil Nadu. His birth anniversary is observed as Thevar Jayanthi, and the occasion holds considerable importance in the state. The Vice President's participation in the university's Golden Jubilee and convocation celebrations also highlights the importance of higher education and academic institutions.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Visit Gujarat

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will visit Gujarat on **30 and 31 October 2026** to inaugurate development projects and participate in the National Unity Day celebrations. During the visit, he will attend programmes connected with **Banas Dairy** in Banaskantha district and visit Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, where the **Statue of Unity** is located. The Banas Dairy projects include two Bio-CNG plants at Tharad and Radhanpur, which will use cattle dung as raw material for producing Bio-CNG.

The two proposed Bio-CNG plants will have cattle dung processing capacities of **75 metric tonnes per day at Tharad and 100 metric tonnes per day at Radhanpur**. The visit also includes programmes related to the Bharat Bovine Breeding and Research Centre, which is dedicated to improving cattle breeding and genetic quality, particularly the indigenous Kankrej cattle breed.

On **31 October**, the Prime Minister will participate in the **Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day)** celebrations at the Statue of Unity. National Unity Day is observed every year on 31 October to mark the birth anniversary of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**, India's first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister. The occasion recognises his contribution to the integration of princely states and the political unification of India.

ISRO to Launch NVS-03 Navigation Satellite

The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** is scheduled to launch its navigation satellite **NVS-03** on 30 October 2026 using the **GSLV-F18 rocket**. The launch is planned from the Second Launch Pad at the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh**. NVS-03 is the third satellite in India's next-generation navigation satellite series and is designed to strengthen the country's regional satellite navigation services.

The satellite is part of the **Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS)**, which is also known as **NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation)**. NavIC provides positioning, navigation and timing services over India and the surrounding region. These services are useful in road and marine navigation, vehicle tracking, disaster management, location-based services and other applications.

One of the important features of NVS-03 is its **indigenous atomic clock**, which will support accurate timekeeping for satellite navigation. The satellite will also carry L1 navigation signals along with the existing L5 and S-band signals. Its planned coverage includes the entire Indian landmass and an area extending approximately **1,500 km beyond India's geographical boundary**.

The GSLV-F18 mission is also significant because it is the 20th flight of India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV). The satellite is intended to maintain continuity and improve the reliability of India's independent navigation services.

Kajal Dhochak Wins Silver Medal in Wrestling

Indian wrestler **Kajal Dhochak** won a silver medal at the **2026 World Wrestling Championships** held in **Astana, Kazakhstan**. She competed in the women's **76 kg freestyle category** and reached the final after defeating her opponents in the earlier rounds. In the gold medal bout, she faced Ukraine's **Anastasiya Alpyeyeva** and lost by a score of **8–6**, securing the silver medal.

Kajal produced an impressive performance in the semi-final, where she made a remarkable comeback against Kyrgyzstan's **Aiperi Medet Kyzy**. After trailing 1–7, she recovered to win the bout 10–7 and qualify for the final. Her performance was particularly important because it was her senior World Championships debut.

Another Indian wrestler, **Neelam Sirohi**, also won silver in the women's 50 kg category at the same championship. This was a significant achievement for Indian women's wrestling, as two Indian women reached the gold medal bouts at the same edition of the senior World Championships for the first time.

P. N. Vasudevan Resigns as Equitas Small Finance Bank MD and CEO

P. N. Vasudevan, the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD and CEO) of **Equitas Small Finance Bank**, has submitted his resignation on 29 October 2026. His decision came amid concerns raised by investors regarding a perceived conflict of interest because his daughter is associated with **Unico Housing Finance**, a non-banking financial company (NBFC), as its co-promoter.

Vasudevan stated that the relevant relationship had already been disclosed to the bank's Board and the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**. However, concerns about the perceived conflict continued among investors. He decided to resign to address these concerns and protect the interests of the bank and its stakeholders. The bank's Board has initiated the process of

identifying a suitable successor, and Vasudevan is expected to continue in his position until the successor takes charge.

Vasudevan has been associated with Equitas since its microfinance operations began in 2007. He played an important role in its development into a small finance bank, which received its banking licence in 2016. This development is important for banking awareness because it involves leadership changes, corporate governance and the relationship between banks and non-banking financial companies.

India's Diesel Exports Reach 13-Month High

India's diesel exports reached a **13-month high in October 2026**, reflecting increased shipments by Indian oil refineries to international markets. According to preliminary data from commodity market analytics firm **Kpler**, India's diesel exports averaged approximately **0.71 million barrels per day (7.1 lakh barrels per day)** during the period from 1 to 29 October. This represented an increase of 19.6% compared with September 2026.

The increase in exports was mainly linked to strong international demand, disruptions in global fuel supplies and attractive refining margins. Supply disruptions caused by geopolitical tensions in West Asia and the Russia-Ukraine conflict affected the international diesel market. As a result, Indian refineries increased exports to take advantage of favourable international prices and demand.

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) accounted for the largest share of India's diesel exports during October, exporting approximately 0.55 million barrels per day. Other major contributors included Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL).

India is one of the world's major petroleum refining countries. Although it imports a large quantity of crude oil to meet its energy requirements, its refining capacity allows it to process crude oil into petroleum products such as diesel and petrol and export surplus products to other countries. Higher diesel exports can generate foreign exchange earnings and provide additional revenue to Indian oil companies.

FICCI Names Vijay Sankar as Its Next President

The **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)** has appointed **Vijay Sankar** as its President-Elect for the year 2026–27. The decision was announced during a meeting of FICCI's National Executive Committee. He will succeed **Anant Goenka** as the president of the organisation after its Annual General Meeting and Annual Convention scheduled for **18–19 November 2026 in New Delhi**.

Vijay Sankar is the Chairman of **The Sanmar Group**, a Chennai-based industrial conglomerate with business interests in chemicals, speciality chemicals, engineering, steel foundries and shipping. He is also the Chairman of Chemplast Sanmar Limited and serves as an independent director on the boards of **TVS Motor Company Limited** and **Larsen & Toubro Limited**.

FICCI is one of India's leading business and industry organisations. It represents the interests of businesses and industries and works to promote industrial development, investment, trade and economic growth. The organisation also provides a platform for discussions between industry representatives and policymakers on important economic and business issues.

Vijay Sankar's appointment is important because FICCI plays a significant role in representing Indian businesses and promoting industry-related discussions at national and international levels.

PI Industries to Introduce India's First Pioxaniliprole Insecticide

PI Industries Limited has introduced **Pioxaniliprole**, recognised as India's first indigenously discovered insecticide active ingredient. The company developed this molecule through more than a decade of research and scientific development. It is an important achievement for India's agricultural research and crop-protection industry because the molecule was discovered and developed within the country rather than simply being imported or manufactured under a foreign-developed technology.

Pioxaniliprole has received registration from the **Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee (CIB&RC)** under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. The registration covers its technical material and formulation. The product will be marketed as **Pioxazon**, and its commercial launch is planned for the Rabi season.

The registered formulation, Pioxaniliprole 20% w/v SC, has been approved for use against specific crop pests in four crops: rice, chilli, tomato and Bengal gram. These include yellow stem borer, leaf folder and fall armyworm in rice; fruit borer and tobacco caterpillar in chilli; fruit borer in tomato; and pod borer in Bengal gram.

The development is important for Indian agriculture because insecticides help farmers protect crops from harmful insects and reduce crop losses. The discovery of an indigenous insecticide molecule also highlights India's growing research and development capabilities in agricultural science and crop protection.