



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

"Hamari Bhasha, Hamari Virasat" and 75th International Archives Day

The Ministry of State for Culture inaugurated the exhibition "Hamari Bhasha, Hamari Virasat " under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) at the [National Archives of India in New Delhi](#), commemorating the **75th International Archives Day**. The exhibition aims to celebrate India's linguistic diversity, highlighting its status as one of the most linguistically diverse countries globally, with approximately **788 languages spoken**. India is thus **one of the four most linguistically diversified countries** in the world, along with [Papua New Guinea](#), [Indonesia](#), and [Nigeria](#).

The exhibition features a variety of original manuscripts, including the ancient **Gilgit Manuscripts** (written between the 5th -6th centuries CE, which is the oldest surviving manuscript collection in India), **Tattvartha Sutra (Ancient Jain Text)**, Ramayana, and Srimad Bhagwad Gita, among others. Furthermore, the **National Archives of India has made over 72,000 manuscripts available, both physically and through digitization**, ensuring their accessibility to people worldwide.

International Archives Day is a day of celebration and awareness of the importance and value of archives and archivists. It is celebrated on **June 9 every year, since 2008**, to commemorate the date when the **International Council on Archives (ICA) was created under the auspices of UNESCO in 1948**.

Read more: [National Archives of India](#), [UNESCO](#).

Birsa Munda

The Indian Prime Minister paid tributes to [Bhagwan Birsa Munda](#), an iconic freedom fighter and tribal leader, on his death anniversary on June 9.

Bhagwan Birsa Munda was born on **November 15, 1875**, and belonged to the **Munda tribe**. He founded a faith called **Birsait**, which attracted many tribal followers. He organised and led the "**Ulgulan**" or "**Munda Rebellion**" (**1899-1900**) against the British authorities and the landlords who were usurping tribal lands and subjecting them to inhumane working conditions. He envisioned a **society free from exploitation and sought to restore the rights and dignity of the tribal communities**.

He is widely revered as a folk hero and a symbol of tribal resistance. The state of "Jharkhand" means "The Land of Forests" was brought into existence by the **Bihar reorganisation Act on 15th November 2000 - the birth anniversary of the legendary Bhagwan Birsa Munda**.

Read more: [Birsa Munda](#), [Munda Rebellion](#).

Shakti Scheme

The government of **Karnataka has launched the 'Shakti' scheme**. The scheme offers women **free travel in non-premium services** provided by State-run Road Transport Corporations (RTCs). The scheme **aims to empower women to join the workforce** and contribute to the development of the state and the country. The government will issue **'Shakti Smart Cards' to women after receiving applications**, and in the meantime, they can use any identity card issued by the Central or State

government as a proof of eligibility for free travel.

The **scheme is limited to women who are domicile of Karnataka** and applies to general and express services operated by RTCs, with certain exclusions. Additionally, 50% of seats in eligible services are reserved for men.

PM-SVANidhi

According to **data from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**, women in southern states are availing the loan scheme for street vendors, PM-SVANidhi, at a higher rate compared to their counterparts in the north. Of the total beneficiaries of the scheme in the country, **41% are women. Southern states** like Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka **have a majority of women beneficiaries**, with percentages ranging from 50% to 70%. **In the northeastern states**, although the **overall number of beneficiaries is small**, a high percentage of women are benefiting from the scheme.

Northern states like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Rajasthan **have lower percentages of women beneficiaries**, but the absolute numbers are still significant.

PM SVANidhi is a **Central Sector Scheme**, fully **funded by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**. Its objectives are: To facilitate working capital loan; To incentivize regular repayment; and to reward digital transactions

Read more: [PM-SVANidhi](#)

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