



Commissioning of Nilgiri, Surat and Vaghsheer

[Source: ET](#)

The [Indian Navy](#) announced the commissioning of **Nilgiri**, **Surat**, and **Vaghsheer**, built at [Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited \(MDL\)](#), on 15th January 2025, at Mumbai.

- **Nilgiri**: The lead ship of [Project 17A](#), represents a major upgrade over the Shivalik-class frigates, featuring advanced **stealth technology** and state-of-the-art weapon systems to strengthen naval defense.
- **Surat**: The fourth and final destroyer under [Project 15B](#), is an enhanced version of the **Kolkata-class destroyers**, equipped with [long-range missiles](#) and indigenous weapons systems.
 - **Project 15B** is an initiative by the Indian Navy to design and construct four advanced guided-missile destroyers
- **Vaghsheer**: The sixth submarine in the [Scorpene-class \(Project 75\)](#), is one of the quietest diesel-electric submarines globally, capable of [anti-surface and anti-submarine warfare](#), surveillance, and special operations.
 - **Project-75 (India)** aims to build **18 conventional submarines and six nuclear-powered submarines** for the Indian Navy.

Read More: [Project 17A and INS Taragiri](#)

World Hindi Day 2025

[Source: IE](#)

[Vishwa Hindi Divas](#) or **World Hindi Day** is celebrated annually on 10th **January** to expand **Hindi's presence** on the international stage.

- **About World Hindi Day:**
 - This date commemorates the historic moment in **1949**, when Hindi was first spoken at the [United Nations General Assembly \(UNGA\)](#).
 - In **1975**, the first [World Hindi Conference](#) was inaugurated by **Prime Minister Indira Gandhi**, marking an important step toward global recognition of **Hindi**.
 - **World Hindi Day**, designated on **10th January 2006**, is different from **Hindi Diwas** celebrated on **14th September**, as Hindi Diwas marks the adoption of Hindi as one of India's official languages in **1949**.
- **Significance:**
 - **Hindi**, with over **600 million speakers**, is the third most spoken language globally, and **most spoken language in India**.
 - The day is observed to raise awareness of **Hindi's importance** as a global language of communication.
- **World Hindi Day 2025 Theme:**

- The theme for **World Hindi Day 2025** is “**A Global Voice of Unity and Cultural Pride,**” focusing on promoting **linguistic exchange** and fostering **cultural pride** through Hindi.
- **Constitutional Status of Hindi:**
 - Hindi is recognized as the **official language of India** under **Article 343 of the Constitution**, alongside English for official purposes.
 - It is also listed in the **8th Schedule**, which includes 22 languages recognized for official use.

Read More: [Hindi Diwas 2024](#)

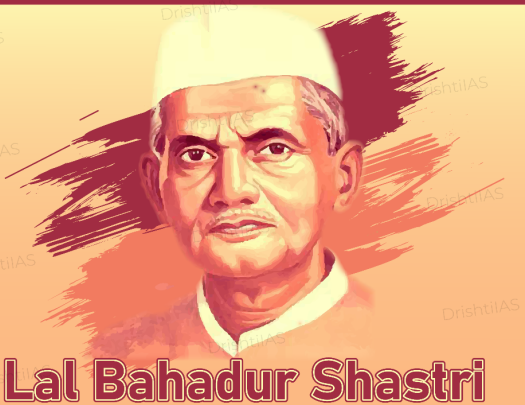
Death Anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri

[Source: IE](#)

11th January marked the **59th death anniversary** of **Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri**, the second **Prime Minister of India**.

- **About Lal Bahadur Shastri:**
 - **Shastri** was born on **2nd October 1904**, in **Mughalsarai**, near **Varanasi**.
 - A key figure in India's **freedom struggle**, Shastri was deeply influenced by **Mahatma Gandhi**.
 - He was known for his **integrity**, humility, and dedication to public service, rising through the ranks of the **Indian National Congress**.
 - **Shastri** held several critical ministerial positions, including **Home Minister, Minister of Railways**, and **Minister of Commerce and Industry**.
 - As **Railways Minister**, he resigned twice following major train accidents, demonstrating his **moral accountability**.
 - As **Prime Minister** (1964-1966), Shastri displayed decisive leadership during the **1965 Indo-Pak war**, authorizing military action to defend **Kashmir**.
 - Shastri's legacy includes the famous slogan "**Jai Jawan Jai Kisan**", emphasizing the importance of **soldiers** and **farmers** in India's progress.
 - Shastri died **suddenly in Tashkent** on **11th January 1966**, shortly after signing the **Tashkent Declaration**; his death remains a subject of mystery.

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Lal Bahadur Shastri
The Man of Peace

- ▲ **1935:** General Secretary of UP Pradeshik Congress Committee (PCC)
- ▲ **1940:** Participated in **Individual satyagraha** and sent to prison
- ▲ **1942:** Released from jail; Participated in the **Quit India Movement**

Post-independence Journey

- ▲ **1952:** Minister of Railways and Transport
- ▲ **1959:** Minister of Commerce and Industry
- ▲ **1961:** Minister of Home Affairs

Prime Minister of India (1964-66)

- ▲ **1964:** Second Prime Minister of the Republic of India
- ▲ **1964:** Took initiative of White Revolution
- ▲ **1965:** Established National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)
- ▲ **1965:** Took initiative for Green Revolution

Wars During His Tenure

- ▲ **1962:** War with China
- ▲ **1965:** War with Pakistan

Death

- ▲ **11th January 1966:** Died in Tashkent, Uzbekistan
 - ▲ Just one day after signing the peace treaty to end the 1965 war with Pakistan
- ▲ **1978:** A Book '**Lalita ke Ansoo**' was published by M.L Verma
 - ▲ Tragic story of his death is narrated by his wife Lalita Devi
- ▲ **1977:** Raj Narain committee: To look into the mysterious death of Shastri ji
- ▲ **Vijay Ghat:** Shastri ji's resting place (Delhi)
- ▲ **IAS training institute, Mussoorie:** Named as Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA)



Brief Description

- ▲ **Birth:** 2nd October 1904, Mughalsarai (Uttar Pradesh)
- ▲ **Kashi Vidyapeeth:** Degree in Philosophy and Ethics
- ▲ **Famous Slogan:** 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan'
- ▲ **Bharat Ratna (1966):** Awarded Posthumously
- ▲ **Lifetime Member:** Lok Seva Mandal (founded by Lala Lajpat Rai)

Political Journey

- ▲ **1928:** Joined Indian National Congress
- ▲ **1930:** Joined Freedom Movement

"Discipline and united action are the real source of strength for the nation."

▪ **Tashkent Declaration:**

- The **Tashkent Declaration** was signed in **January 1966**, between **India** and **Pakistan**.
- It aimed to restore peace and resolve issues arising from the **1965 Indo-Pak war**, promoting mutual understanding.

Read More: [Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti](#).

Cyclone Dikeledi Hits Mayotte

Source: [DTE](#)

Cyclone Dikeledi hit Mayotte, a French Indian Ocean territory, located in the [Mozambique Channel](#) (Indian Ocean).

▪ **About Mayotte:**

- It consists of **two islands** of the [Comoros archipelago](#), with the main island called **Mayotte (or Grande Terre)** and the **smaller island Pamandzi (Petite Terre)**.
- It is the **poorest territory** in both **France** and the [European Union](#).

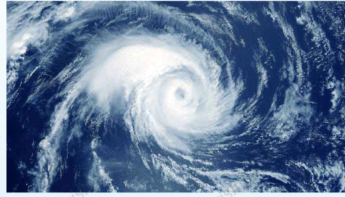


- **France colonised** Mayotte in **1843** and **annexed** the whole archipelago, including Comoros, in **1904**.
 - In a **1974** referendum, **95%** backed **separation** but **63%** of Mayotte voted to **stay French**.
 - **Grande Comore, Anjouan and Moheli** declared independence in **1975**. **Mayotte** is still ruled from **Paris**.
- **Cyclone Chido**, which had struck **Mayotte** in **December 2024**, was the **worst** storm to hit the archipelago in **90 years**.



CYCLONE

Cyclones are rapid **inward** air circulation around a **low-pressure** area.

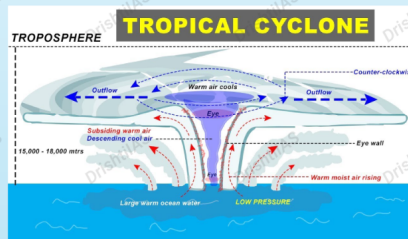


Cyclone v/s Anticyclone

Pressure System	Pressure Condition at the Center	Pattern of Wind Direction	
		Northern Hemisphere	Southern Hemisphere
Cyclone	Low	Anticlockwise	Clockwise
Anticyclone	High	Clockwise	Anticlockwise

Classification

- **Tropical Cyclones;** originate between the **Tropics of Capricorn and Cancer**
- **Extra Tropical/ Temperate Cyclones;** originate in the **Polar Regions**



Conditions for Formation

- Large sea surface with temperature $>27^{\circ}\text{C}$.
- Presence of the **Coriolis force**
- Small **variations in the vertical wind speed**
- **A pre-existing weak low- pressure area**
- **Upper divergence** above the sea level system

Different Names for Tropical Cyclones

- **Typhoons** - Southeast Asia and China
- **Hurricanes** - North Atlantic and eastern Pacific
- **Tornados** - West Africa and southern USA
- **Willy-willies** - Northwest Australia
- **Tropical Cyclones** - Southwest Pacific and Indian Ocean

Nomenclature

- Nodal Authority - **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**
- Indian Ocean Region - **Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand** contribute to naming cyclones that occur in this region.

Cyclones in India

- **Bi-annual Cyclone Season** - March to May and October to December
- Recent Cyclones - **Tauktae, Vayu, Nisarga and Mekanu** (in Arabian Sea) and **Asani, Amphan, Fani, Nivar, Bulbul, Titli, Yaas and Sitrang** (in Bay of Bengal)

Read More: [Cyclone Chido in Mayotte](#)

Prevalence of Hysterectomies in India

Source: [TH](#)

[National Family Health Survey \(NFHS\)-4](#) data shows higher **hysterectomy** (surgical removal of **uterus**) rates in India among **low-income agricultural workers** and **affluent women**, due to differing reasons.

Reasons for High Hysterectomy:

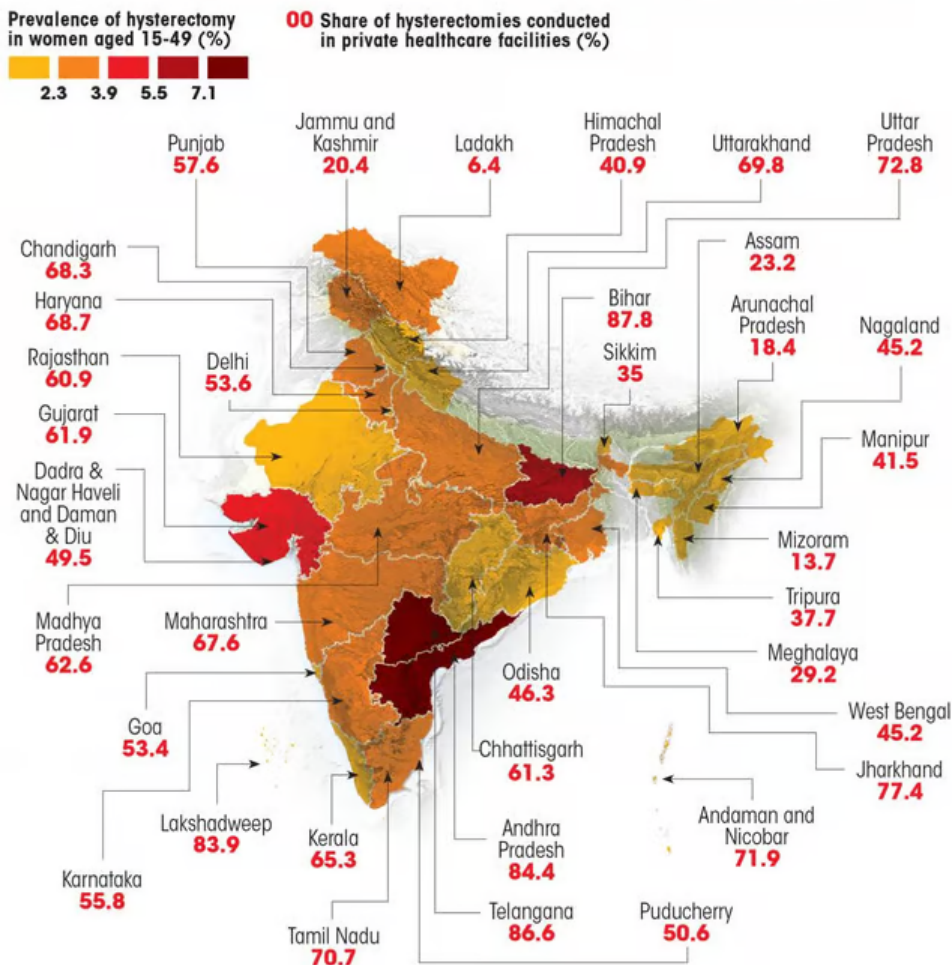
- **Factors for agricultural workers** include poor hygiene, menstrual taboos, delayed gynecological care, and physical labor.
 - **Example:** Maharashtra's Beed district reports an unusually **high number of hysterectomies** among female sugarcane workers.
- **Wealthier women** often opt for the procedure due to **better affordability and access**.
- **Financial incentives** under schemes like [Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana \(RSBY\)](#) sometimes lead to unnecessary surgeries.

Hysterectomy:

- **About:**
 - A hysterectomy is a surgical procedure to **remove the woman's uterus (womb)**.
 - It is performed for gynecological conditions like **fibroids, endometriosis, abnormal bleeding, and pelvic inflammatory disease** when other treatments fail.
 - It is also used in **cancer treatment** and for **severe, unresponsive pelvic pain**.
- **Prevalence in India:**
 - **NFHS-5** data shows that **3% of women aged 15-49 in India** have undergone a hysterectomy.
 - **Highest Prevalence:** Andhra Pradesh (9%) and Telangana (8%)
 - **Lowest Prevalence:** Sikkim (0.8%) and Meghalaya (0.7%).
 - The Southern region has the **highest prevalence (4.2%)**, followed by the Eastern region (3.8%), while the Northeast has the lowest (1.2%).

CUT ACROSS COUNTRY

Some 3.3 per cent of women aged 15-49 have undergone hysterectomy, a marginal rise since 2015-16. Most of the country, barring Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and the eight northeastern states, see an increase in surgeries in private facilities



Source: Fifth round of National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) for 2019-21

Read More: [NFHS-5 National Report, Hysterectomy](#)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/current-affairs-news-analysis-editorials/news-analysis/14-01-2025/print>

