

The week from 06 Jan 2025 to 12 Jan 2025

Facing increasing unpopularity, Canadian PM Justin Trudeau announced that he would step down and end his nine-year reign as PM. He said he would stay on in office until his Liberal Party chose a new leader, and that Parliament would be prorogued – or suspended – until 24 March 2025.

PM Modi inaugurated the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention, celebrated to honour the contributions of the Indian diaspora to their homeland. The theme for this year is the “Diaspora’s Contribution to a Viksit Bharat”. The event was jointly organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Odisha government.

Kalimpong-born Tshering Tobgay, serving Prime Minister of Bhutan, led his People’s Democratic Party (PDP) to a landslide victory in the Bhutanese general elections. The mechanical engineer, a former civil servant, has been PM since January 2024, and has also served as PM from 2013 to 2018

The largest and most devastating wildfires to ever occur in USA have taken place in 6 locations near Los Angeles, California. Thus far, over 37,000 acres have been ravaged, leading to 16 deaths. This is a result of prolonged drought-like conditions caused by global warming. Losses are estimated at US\$250-275 billion, and mounting.

Cabinet Minister Nitin Gadkari announced the launch of the “Cashless Treatment” scheme to provide financial aid to road accident victims. Under this scheme, the government will cover treatment costs of up to ₹1.5 lakh for seven days, and an ex-gratia payment of ₹2 lakh will be made to families of those who lose their lives in hit-and-run cases.

Padma Vibhushan R. Chidambaram, one of the very few scientists involved in both of India’s nuclear tests (1974 & 1998), died aged 88. Former Principal Scientific Advisor to the Indian government, as well as Chairman of Department of Atomic Energy, he contributed significantly to condensed matter physics, nuclear energy, and strategic technologies.

Mumbai’s Ira Jadhav made cricketing history by scoring 346 not out in just 157 deliveries in a Women’s Under-19 one day match against Meghalaya at Bengaluru. Mumbai registered a colossal score of 563/3 in their 50 overs. Both scores are records for the tournament.

Compiled by
Seema Chari and
Kunal Savarkar

xpress minds