



## Current Affairs of the Day

### Britain, EU clinch Brexit trade deal

#### Highlights:

1. Britain clinched a Brexit trade deal with the European Union on Thursday, just seven days before it exited one of the world's biggest trading blocs in its most significant global shift since the loss of the empire.
2. The deal guarantees Britain is no longer in the lunar pull of the EU and will not be bound by EU rules. There is no role for the European Court of Justice and all of our key red lines about returning sovereignty have been achieved.

### Jumbo menace worries A.P. farmers

#### Highlights:

1. Tension gripped about a dozen villages in V. Kota Mandal here in Andhra Pradesh after a herd of 17 wild elephants strayed into the district from the forests of Karnataka in the early hours of Thursday.
2. Forest officials of Chittoor West division have deployed additional forces at vulnerable villages to prevent the entry of the wild animals into fields and human habitations.

#### Way Forward: for elephant conservation and man-animal conflict

1. Need a National Elephant Conservation Authority
2. Legalize Elephant Corridors
3. Local-level Task Force to deal with Man-Elephant conflict



## Xi Jinping tightens grip on China

### Highlights:

1. A year that began in China with the country's leadership facing searching questions about its handling of a new pandemic that struck the city of Wuhan ends with President Xi Jinping firming up his political control.
2. If 2020 started as China's annus horribilis, the year has, in the eyes of many strategic experts in Beijing, only hastened China's ascendancy and narrowed the gap with the United States, its great rival.
3. Now the leadership is showcasing China's recovery as underlining the superiority of its political system. The trend of political centralisation under Mr Xi is only expected to continue, as also the shrinking space for dissent.
4. China's subsequent recovery from the pandemic helped the leadership mute its critics, with the world's second-largest economy likely to be the only major country to grow in a pandemic-hit year.
5. That has prompted Mr Xi to double down on his push for greater self-reliance, which he has called a "dual circulation" model that strikes a better balance between relying on domestic consumption and external trade.
6. If 2020 has reinforced the belief in Beijing of its global ascendancy, it has also been marked by an increasingly muscular approach abroad on all of its frontiers.

### India-China

1. In early May, China appeared to disregard three decades of a carefully built consensus with India as it mobilised two divisions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), in a move that officials in Delhi saw as aimed at unilaterally redrawing the LAC in Ladakh.
2. Many former Indian officials described 2020 as a major inflexion point in relations with China.



## EU leaders hail post-Brexit deal

### Highlights:

1. Political leaders in Europe on Thursday hailed the belated sealing of a U.K.-EU post-Brexit deal that aims to lay the groundwork for long-term future cooperation.
2. Britain formally left the EU in January after a deeply divisive referendum in 2016, the first country to split from the political and economic project that was born as the continent rebuilt in the aftermath of the Second World War.
3. With Britain outside the EU single market and customs area, cross-Channel traders will still face a battery of new regulations and delays.
4. Economists expect both economies, already weakened by the coronavirus epidemic, to take a hit as supply chains are disrupted and costs mount.