



Poila Boishakh

Source: PIB

The **Prime Minister** extended greetings on **Poila Boishakh**, the **Bengali New Year**, celebrated on **15th April 2025** across **West Bengal, Tripura, Assam, and Bangladesh**.

- **Poila Baisakh:** It means the **first day of Baisakh**, the opening month of the **Bengali lunisolar calendar** which typically falls on **14th or 15th April** each year.
 - It traces back to the reign of **King Shoshangko (~594 CE)**, when the Bengali calendar was introduced.
- **Other Regional Harvest & New Year Festivals:**
 - **35%- 40%** of Indians celebrate **Chaitra Shukla Pratipada** (March-April) as the **New Year**, known regionally as **Gudi Padwa** (Maharashtra), **Ugadi** (Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh), **Cheti Chand** (Sindhi), **Nowroz** (Parsis, Kashmiris), and **Thapna** (Marwaris).
 - Over **50%** of Indians celebrate **Baisakhi** (April 13th-15th) as the **new year**, with variations based on agricultural cycles. **Punjab** celebrates it as a harvest festival, while the **Deccan** regions observe it earlier.
 - Other regional New Year celebrations in **Baisakh month** include **Pohela Boishakh** (Bengal), **Rongali Bihu** (Assam), **Puthandu** (Tamil Nadu), **Vishu** (Kerala), **Pana Sankranti** (Odisha), and **Jude Sheetal** (Bihar).

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