

October Monthly Current Affairs 2023

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INTERNATIONAL

IAF Deploys Three S-400 Missile Units Along China And Pakistan Borders

- India along with China and Pakistan by deploying three out of the five agreed-upon S-400 air defense missile squadrons.
- In 2018-19, India entered into a crucial defense agreement with Russia to procure S-400 missiles worth ₹35,000 crore.

About IAF:

Founded: 8 October 1932, India

Headquarters: New Delhi

Norway to Support India's 'Hunger Project' In Uttarakhand

- With a budget of ₹44.7 million and a three-year duration until September 2026.

About Uttarakhand:

Chief Minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami

Governor: Gurmit Singh

About Norway:

Capital: Oslo

King: Harald V of Norway

Currency: Norwegian Krone

Prime minister: Jonas Gahr Støre

Republican Mike Johnson Elected New US House Speaker

- Mike Johnson, a relatively lesser-known Republican from Louisiana, has taken the elected as the new speaker of the US House of Representatives.
- He is the first Louisianan to become speaker and the first southerner to serve as speaker since Republican Newt Gingrich of Georgia in the 1990s.
- Johnson was elected to the Louisiana statehouse in 2015 and ran for Congress successfully in 2016.

Malaysia picks ruler of Johor state as country's new king

- Malaysia's royal families have elected Sultan Ibrahim Iskandar of Johor state as the country's new king.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres Launches Advisory Body On Artificial Intelligence

- To facilitate international cooperation and consensus on AI governance, a 39-member advisory body has been established.

CCI Becomes A Member Of International Competition Network Committee

- (CCI) has becoming a part of the prestigious 18-member steering committee of the International Competition Network (ICN).

Robert Fico to become Slovakia's new prime minister

- Slovakia's newly appointed Prime Minister, Robert Fico, has taken office for the fourth time.

About Slovakia:

Prime minister: Robert Fico
Capital: Bratislava
Currency: Euro

US house of representative elected its new speaker

- Republican Congressman Mike Johnson from Louisiana has been elected as the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- It's the third-highest in the line of succession after the U.S. President.

About USA:

Capital: Washington, D.C.
President: Joe Biden

Cyclone 'Hamoon' Weakens into Deep Depression over Bangladesh and Mizoram

- Cyclone 'Hamoon' was named by Iran. 'Hamoon' is a Persian term signifying temporary desert lakes and marshlands.

About Bangladesh:

Capital: Dhaka
Currency: Bangladeshi Taka
Prime minister: Sheikh Hasina
President: Mohammed Shahabuddin

About Mizoram:

Capital: Aizawl
Chief Minister: Zoramthanga
Governor: Kambhampati Hari Babu

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Sri Lanka announces free visas for Indians to boost tourism

- Sri Lanka, in a bid to revitalize its tourism sector, has taken a significant step by waiving visa fees for tourists from seven countries (China, India, Russia, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Japan).

About Sri Lanka:

Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte
Prime minister: Dinesh Gunawardena

US Imposes Sanctions on Three Chinese Firms for Alleged Missile Component Supply to Pakistan

- These sanctions were issued under Executive Order 13382.
- The three Chinese companies subjected to sanctions are-
 1. General Technology Limited
 2. Beijing Luo Luo Technology Development
 3. Changzhou Utek Composite Company

About USA:

Capital: Washington, D.C.
Attorney general: Merrick Garland
Continent: North America

About Pakistan:

Capital: Islamabad
President: Arif Alvi
Prime minister: Mr. Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar

Japan Becomes First Nation to Launch an Electromagnetic Railgun From An Offshore Vessel

- On October 17, the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) in collaboration with the Acquisition Technology & Logistics Agency (ATLA), a division of the Japanese Ministry of Defense, successfully test-fired a medium-caliber maritime electromagnetic railgun from an offshore platform.

About Japan:

Prime minister: Fumio Kishida
Capital: Tokyo

China's Nuclear Arsenal Buildup: U.S. Pentagon Report

- The Pentagon 2023 report suggests that China is on track to have over 1,000 nuclear warheads by 2030.
- China's aim is to modernize its military to become "world-class" by 2049. China's military spending in 2023 reportedly increased by 7.2% to \$216 billion USD.

About China:

President: Xi Jinping
Capital: Beijing

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S Jaishankar Unveils Mahatma Gandhi's Bust In Vietnam

- One of the prominent events during Jaishankar's visit to Vietnam was the unveiling ceremony of a bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Ho Chi Minh City.
- External Affairs Minister Jaishankar also unveiled the bust of Rabindranath Tagore in Bac Ninh province.

About Vietnam:

Capital: Hanoi
President: Vo Van Thuong

Power Minister R.K. Singh To conduct ISA's Sixth Assembly In New Delhi From October 30

- The ISA, a pivotal international initiative, was jointly launched by India and France following the COP21 summit in Paris.

India-Sri Lanka Ferry Service Reopens after Four Decades

- The passenger ferry service, named 'Cheriyapani,' was officially launched.
- Sea route between India and Sri Lanka has been rejuvenated with the inauguration of a passenger ferry service from Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu to Kankesanthurai in Jaffna, Northern Sri Lanka.
- Indo-Ceylon Express or Boat Mail operated between Chennai and Colombo via the Thoothukudi port from the early 1900s until 1982.

Sri Lanka's Strategic Trade Revisions: A Roadmap for Economic Transformation

- Sri Lanka's State Minister of Finance, Shehan Semasinghe, has announced the country's intentions to renegotiate its free trade agreements (FTAs) with key bilateral partners.
- Three pivotal partners are- India, China, and Thailand.
- This agreement involves 16 Asian countries and seeks to enhance trade and economic cooperation within the region.

Tallest BR Ambedkar Statue Outside India Unveiled In Washington

- In a historic event, a 19-foot tall statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the principal architect of India's Constitution, was formally inaugurated in a suburb of Maryland, Washington.
- The statue was crafted by the renowned artist and sculptor Ram Sutar, who is known for creating the 'Statue of Unity' of Sardar Patel, located on an island in Gujarat's Narmada River.
- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, born on 14th April 1891.
- He was the chairman of the Constituent Assembly's Drafting Committee.
- He is known as Babasaheb and is recognized as the Architect of the Indian Constitution.
- He passed away on 6th December 1956 and his legacy continues to inspire millions.

India, China hold 20th round of military talks In Ladakh

- India and China held their 20th corps commander-level meeting at the Chushul-Moldo border in Ladakh.
- The recent round of talks built on the progress made during previous Corps Commander meetings held on August 13 and 14.
- In 2019, the Indian government revoked the special autonomy of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcated it into two union territories – Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.
- China is the world's most populous country, with over 1.4 billion people.
- The capital of China is Beijing.

India, Switzerland celebrate 75 yrs of friendship at Kumaon village

- India and Switzerland recently celebrated 75 years of their enduring friendship and fruitful collaboration in a beautiful Kumaon village nestled in the Uttarakhand region of India.
- The three-day event, aptly named 'Swiss Himalayan Bounty,' unfolded last week at a charming homestay in Satoli village, positioned at an altitude of 6,000 feet near Mukteshwar in the Nainital district.
- A significant focus of the celebration was the showcase of the remarkable achievements of rural women in the Champawat district who have reaped the benefits of projects supported by the Switzerland-based organization, Swiss Himalayan Amity (SHA).
- SHA's involvement in the region revolves around four distinct programs: Aarohi, Arogya, Alaap, and Cankids.

“Operation Al-Aqsa Flood” Unleashed by Hamas Sparks Widespread Violence

- The Israel-Palestine conflict has escalated dramatically as Hamas, the armed Palestinian group, initiated “Operation Al-Aqsa Flood,” firing over 5,000 rockets into Israel. The situation quickly escalated into a full-scale war, resulting in significant casualties and widespread fear among civilians.
- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared a state of war, emphasizing the seriousness of the situation. He asserted that this was not a mere operation but a full-blown war. Netanyahu vowed that Hamas would face an unparalleled retaliation.
- Hamas launched a massive rocket barrage with more than 5,000 rockets targeting Israel. The attacks were swift and intense, causing panic among Israeli citizens. Reports indicated the use of unconventional methods, such as paragliders, and attacks on civilians on roads.

US deploying ships closer to Israel, sends munitions

- Amidst a recent attack by the Palestinian terrorist organization Hamas, President Joe Biden has promptly demonstrated solidarity with Israel. Given its role as a key arms provider to Israel, the United States is dispatching military reinforcements and aid to strengthen Israel’s defense capabilities.
- The Pentagon’s move to send the aircraft carrier USS Gerald R. Ford and accompanying warships to the eastern Mediterranean.
- Strengthening fighter aircraft squadrons in the region to bolster Israel’s defense.
- The United States’ historical role as a major supplier of arms to Israel.
- A swift and unwavering commitment to providing “rock solid” support.

Instant View: US job growth smashes expectations, raising prospects for rate hikes

- In a surprising turn of events, the U.S. job market experienced substantial growth in September, bolstering the case for potential interest rate hikes by the Federal Reserve later this year.
- While wage growth is exhibiting signs of moderation, the latest employment report from the Labor Department suggests that the labor market remains robust.
- Nonfarm payrolls, a key indicator of employment trends, saw a remarkable increase of 336,000 jobs in September. Even more encouraging, the August data was revised upward, indicating the addition of 227,000 jobs, as opposed to the previously reported 187,000.

Bangladesh gets first uranium shipment from Russia for nuclear power plant

- Bangladesh recently received its first shipment of uranium from Russia, which will be used to fuel the country’s Rooppur nuclear power plant. The plant, financed and constructed by Russia’s Rosatom.
- The Rooppur power plant, located in Ishwardi, Bangladesh, will generate 2,400 megawatts of electricity when both units are fully operational.
- This capacity will provide electricity to approximately 15 million households in Bangladesh, making a substantial contribution to the nation’s energy needs.

- Russia has funded the construction of the Rooppur power plant with an \$11.38 billion loan.
- Bangladesh will begin repaying this loan over a period of two decades, starting in 2027.
- Once the Rooppur plant begins production, Bangladesh will join the ranks of over 30 countries with operational nuclear power reactors.

Euro zone economy likely contracted in Q3

- Recent data and surveys suggest that the eurozone economy likely contracted in the third quarter of the year. Demand in the region saw a significant decline in September, marking the fastest pace of decrease in nearly three years.
- The final Composite Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), compiled by S&P Global and considered a reliable indicator of overall economic health, inched up to 47.2 in September.
- Compared to August's 46.7. However, this figure remained below the critical 50-mark, indicating a fourth consecutive month of economic contraction. While it slightly exceeded a preliminary estimate of 47.1, it still points to economic challenges.

Uganda Airlines to start direct flight to Mumbai thrice a week

- On 3 October, Uganda Airlines announced a significant milestone in its operations by commencing direct flight services between Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport and Entebbe International Airport in Uganda. The maiden flight for this route, UR 430, is scheduled to take off from Entebbe on 7 October, with the return flight, UR 431, departing from Mumbai on 8 October.
- Uganda Airlines has taken a significant step in expanding its international network by launching direct services between Mumbai and Entebbe. The commencement of this route, effective from 7 October.

Pakistan's inflation rises to 31.4% y/y amid high energy prices

- Pakistan's inflation rate surged to 31.4% year-on-year in September, driven by soaring fuel and energy prices. This alarming increase followed a high of 27.4% in August, highlighting the severe economic challenges faced by the nation.
- The International Monetary Fund's approval of a \$3 billion loan in July prevented a sovereign debt default but imposed stringent conditions. Reforms, such as easing import restrictions and removing subsidies, fueled annual inflation, reaching a record 38.0% in May.
- To curb inflation, Pakistan increased interest rates to a staggering 22%.

Maldives election: Pro-China candidate Muizzu wins presidency

- In a closely-watched election in the Maldives, Mohamed Muizzu, the candidate from the Progressive Party of Maldives (PPM), emerged victorious in the

presidential polls after a runoff vote. Muizzu secured more than 53 percent of the vote in the runoff, defeating the incumbent president, Ibrahim Solih.

- In the first round of voting, Muizzu led with approximately 46 percent of the votes, while Ibrahim Solih trailed with 39 percent.
- The runoff election saw Muizzu consolidating his lead with over 53 percent of the votes, as reported by local media sources after tallying results from all 586 ballot boxes.
- President Ibrahim Solih gracefully conceded defeat and congratulated Muizzu on his victory.

Indonesia Starts Southeast Asia's First High-Speed Rail Operations

- Indonesian President Joko Widodo officially inaugurated Southeast Asia's first high-speed railway on Monday, marking a significant milestone for the nation's infrastructure development. The ambitious project, known as the "Whoosh" high-speed railway, is a key component of China's Belt and Road Initiative and is poised to dramatically reduce travel times between two vital Indonesian cities.
- With an estimated cost of \$7.3 billion, this monumental infrastructure project was predominantly funded by China. It was brought to fruition through the joint efforts of PT Kereta Cepat Indonesia-China (PT KCIC), a collaboration between an Indonesian consortium comprising four state-owned companies and China Railway International Co. Ltd.

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NATIONAL

Manipur Celebrates Mera Houchongba 2023

- In this year's Mera Houchongba celebrations in Imphal on 28th October 2023.
- The festival is observed and celebrated during the month of 'Mera,' which typically falls in September or October.

About Manipur:

Chief Minister: N. Biren Singh

Governor: Anusuiya Uikey

Kerala Becomes First State With Hallmarking Centers In Every District

- Kerala, the southern state of India has inaugurated hallmarking centre in Idukki.
- This achievement has solidified Kerala's position as the first state in India to establish hallmarking centres in all of its 14 districts.

About Kerala:

Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan

Governor: Arif Mohammed Khan

Aligarh Muslim University To Launch Its Own Satellite, Gets Nod From IN-SPACE

- Approved by the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe).
- November 2021: Project initiation under AMU Robo Club's guidance.
- January 2023: Formal submission to IN-SPACe for approval, registration, frequency allocation, and launch.

- September 2023: Approval received from IN-SPACe's Student Satellite Committee after design review.

ICAR and Thünen Institute, Germany to organize a workshop to address food losses and waste from 30th October to 1st November, 2023

- The Indian Council of Agriculture Research in collaboration with the Thünen Institute is organizing International Workshop on Food Loss and Waste Prevention in South Asian Region at National Agricultural Science Centre Complex, New Delhi from 30th October to 1st November, 2023.
- The workshop will be inaugurated by Union Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje.

About ICAR:

Founded: 16 July 1929

Director: Himashu Pathak

President: Minister of Agriculture

Indian Army and Air Force Contingent Set Off for 'Exercise KAZIND-2023'

- The objective is to participate in the 7th edition of the Joint Military 'Exercise KAZIND-2023.'
- This collaborative endeavor will take place in Otar, Kazakhstan, spanning from 30th October to 11th November 2023.

Indian Navy Launches 25T Bollard Pull Tug 'MAHABALI' In Gujarat

- Commodore Sunil Kaushik, launched the remarkable vessel, the 25T Bollard Pull Tug named 'Mahabali,' on the 28th of October 2023 at M/s Shoft Shipyard Pvt Ltd in Bharuch, Gujarat.

FATF Removes Cayman Islands from Its 'Grey List'

- In a review published on October 27, 2023, Financial Action Task Force (FATF) announced the removal of several countries from its 'grey list.' These countries include the Cayman Islands, Panama, Jordan, and Albania.
- While several countries celebrated their removal from the 'grey list,' FATF added Bulgaria to the list.

About FATF:

Founded: 1989

Headquarters: Paris, France

Founder: Group of Seven

President: T Raja Kumar

Jai Bhim Mukhyamatri Pratibha Vikas Yojna Launched By Delhi Government

- The Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi is inviting applications from eligible students belonging to SC/ST/OBC/EWS categories for free coaching under the "Jai Bhim Mukhyamatri Pratibha Vikas Yojna."

PM Modi Inaugurated 37th Edition of National Games in Panaji, Goa

- The 37th edition of the National Games has marked a historic moment as it is being held in Goa for the very first time.

About Goa:

Chief Minister: Pramod Sawant

Governor: P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

Capital: Panaji (Executive Branch)

Amit Shah Launched Logo, Website and Brochure of NCEL in New Delhi

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah recently inaugurated the logo, website, and brochure of the National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL) during a grand event in New Delhi.

PM Modi Inaugurated the 7th Edition of Indian Mobile Congress (IMC) In New Delhi

- During the event, Akash Ambani introduced Reliance Jio's groundbreaking initiative – Space Fibre, India's first satellite-based giga fibre service capable of delivering internet speeds of up to 1 Gbps.
- The India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2023, scheduled from October 27 to 29, is Asia's largest telecom, media, and technology forum.

Rajasthan govt launched 'iStart Talent Connect Portal'

- Rajasthan government unveiled the 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' at Jaipur's Techno Hub.

About Rajasthan

Capital: Jaipur;

Chief minister: Ashok Gehlot;

Governor: Kalraj Mishra.

Shillong Hosts Green Tourism Conclave For Responsible Tourism In Northeast

- Meghalaya's Tourism Minister, Bah Paul Lyngdoh, graced the event as the chief guest.

About Meghalaya:

Capital: Shillong

Chief minister: Conrad Kongkal Sangma

Governor: Shri Phagu Chauhan

PM Modi To Attend The Inauguration Of Lord Ram's Idol At Ayodhya Temple

- The date set for this auspicious occasion is January 22, 2024.

India and Malaysia Kick Off "Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023" Bilateral Training

- The Indian and Malaysian armies have initiated "Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023."
- This joint bilateral training exercise, held at Umroi Cantonment in India.
- The last edition of "Exercise Harimau Shakti" took place in Pulai, Kluang, Malaysia, in November 2022.
- "Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023," scheduled until November 5, 2023, will involve approximately 120 military personnel from both sides.

About Malaysia:

Capital: Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur
President: Anwar bin Ibrahim
Currency: Malaysian Ringgit

54th IFFI Reveals Indian Panorama Lineup For 2023 Scheduled To Be Held in Goa In November

- IFFI has officially announced its Indian Panorama selection for 2023. Featuring a diverse array of 25 feature films and 20 non-feature films. These cinematic gems will be showcased during the festival, scheduled to run from November 20 to November 28 in Goa.

NCERT to Replace 'India' with 'Bharat' in Upcoming Books

- National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has given its approval to replace the term "India" with "Bharat"

About NCERT:

Founded: 1961

Founders: Ministry of Education of India, Government of India

Committee Chairperson: C I Isaac

Amit Shah to inaugurate India's first nano DAP plant in Gandhinagar

- Addressing a large number of farmers after inaugurating the Country's first Nano DAP plant by IFFCO near Kalol in Gandhinagar.
- The Nano liquid dap plant in Kalol has been set up by IFFCO at the cost of 300 crore rupees.
- The plant has been developed in tune with the Aatmnirbhar Bharat vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

About IFFCO:

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 3 November 1967, New Delhi

CEO: Dr. Udai Shanker Awasthi (1993–)

Founder: Udaybhansinhji Natwarsinhji Jethwa

About Gujarat:

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

India will Host World's Largest Textiles Event, Bharat Tex 2024

- The upcoming Bharat Tex 2024 Expo, scheduled to take place from February 26-29, next year.
- Bharat Tex 2024 Expo has been conceived as the largest textile fair in the world in terms of exhibition area.

Govt will Invest ₹30,000 Crore to Expand Crop Insurance Portal Coverage

- The government has unveiled plans to allocate ₹30,000 crore to enhance the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) portal.

About Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana:

Launched: 18 February 2016; 7 years ago

Ministry: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Prime Minister(s): Narendra Modi

Defence Minister Inaugurated Indian Military Heritage Festival In New Delhi

- Indian Military Heritage Festival took center at Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi.
- The event was inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who was joined by Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande.
- The United Service Institution of India (USI), the oldest tri-service think tank of India working since 1870.
- The year 2022-2023 marks India's presidency of the G-20, and in celebration of this, the Indian Military Heritage Festival.

Indian Government Grants Approval for Non-Basmati Rice Exports

- Indian government has given the green light for the export of 1.34 million tonnes of Non-Basmati White Rice to seven countries.
- The Philippines will receive the largest quota, with up to 295,000 metric tonnes.
- Cameroon is allotted 190,000 metric tonnes.
- Malaysia will import up to 170,000 metric tonnes.
- Both Cote D'Ivoire and the Republic of Guinea will receive 142,000 metric tonnes each.
- Nepal is set to receive 95,000 metric tonnes.
- Seychelles will be supplied with 800 metric tonnes.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Launches Project 'Udbhav' To Promote "Indianisation"

- The launch of 'Project Udbhav' coincided with the inauguration of the first edition of the Indian Military Heritage Festival in New Delhi.

About New Delhi:

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal

Capital: New Delhi

22nd Lieutenant Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena

India's First Semi-High-Speed Regional Rail Service 'Namo Bharat'

- Country's first semi-high-speed regional rail service, Namo Bharat. Previously known as RapidX.
- This also marks the introduction of the Regional Rapid Train Service (RRTS) in India.
- The Namo Bharat trains will offer a remarkable average speed of 100 kilometers per hour.

Two day Anthurium festival begins in Mizoram

- In Mizoram, a two-day-long Anthurium Festival began with all festivities and enthusiasm at Reiek in Mamit District.
- The festival is being organized by the Department of Tourism of Mizoram.

About Mizoram:

Chief Minister: Zoramthanga

Governor: Kambhampati Hari Babu

India Sri Lanka ferry service started after 40 years

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe inaugurated a ferry service connecting India and Sri Lanka.
- The ferry plies between Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu and Kankesanthurai in Sri Lanka's Jaffna.

About Sri Lanka:

Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

Prime Minister: Dinesh Chandra Rupasinghe Gunawardena

Assam CM Inaugurated 'Shraddhanjali,' Second Longest Flyover in the State

- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated the newly constructed 'Shraddhanjali' flyover in Guwahati on October 19, 2023.

About Assam:

Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor: Gulab Chand Kataria

Arunachal Cabinet Approves Formation of Special Tiger Protection Force for 3 Tiger Reserves

- Arunachal Pradesh State Cabinet has given the green light for the establishment of a Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) for three tiger reserves, the allocation of honorariums to third language teachers.

About Arunachal Pradesh:

Chief Minister: Pema Khandu

Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik

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Indian Army Clinched Gold Medal In 2023 Cambrian Patrol Military Exercise Held In UK

- The event, held in Wales, UK, witnessed the participation of an elite team from the 3/5 Gorkha Rifles.
- Test of endurance and teamwork, often referred to as the "Olympics of Military Patrolling."

India's First Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) To Be Launched In UP

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is all set to mark a historic moment in India's transportation landscape.
- Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) Corridor and simultaneously launches the RapidX train connecting Sahibabad to the Duhai Depot, symbolizing the beginning of RRTS operations in India.
- Foundation stone for the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor was laid by the Prime Minister on March 8, 2019.

Tamil Nadu's AI-Powered Elephant Protection System Aims to Prevent Train Collisions

- This innovative project is being implemented along the Ettimadai-Walayar railway section.

About Tamil Nadu:

Formation – 26 January 1950;

Capital – Chennai;

Chief Minister – M K Stalin;

Governor – R N Ravi.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Presidential Appointments: New Governors for Odisha and Tripura

Odisha's New Governor: Raghubar Das

Raghubar Das served as the Chief Minister of Jharkhand from 2014 to 2019.

Tripura's New Governor: Indra Sena Reddy Nallu

- Sanjay Kulshrestha has joined as the Chairman & Managing Director of the HUDCO from 16th October 2023.

About HUDCO:

Founded: 25 April 1970;

Headquarters: New Delhi

Arindam Bagchi Appointed as India's Ambassador to UN in Geneva

- Arindam Bagchi, currently serving as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as India's next Ambassador/Permanent Representative to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva.
- Arindam Bagchi is set to succeed the incumbent Indian envoy to the UN in Geneva, Indra Mani Pandey, who assumed the role in July 2020.

Dharmendra Pradhan Launched IndiaSkills 2023-24 in New Delhi

- Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship unveiled the IndiaSkills 2023-24 program.
- India, secured the 11th position in the global competition last year.

Kati Bihu festival 2023: 18th October

- Kati Bihu, also known as Kongali Bihu.
- It falls on the first day of the 'Kati' month, which typically occurs in the middle of October.

About Assam:

Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor: Gulab Chand Kataria

India to Invest ₹143 Lakh Crore in Infrastructure by 2030

- The rating agency CRISIL shared this information in its Infrastructure Yearbook 2023.
- CRISIL Ltd.'s Managing Director and CEO is Amish Mehta.
- He predicts a significant increase in per capita income, rising from \$2,500 to \$4,500 by fiscal year 2031.

About:

CEO: Amish Mehta (1 Oct 2021)

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 1987

PM Modi Inaugurates Rs 4200 Crore Worth Of Development Projects In Uttarakhand

- PM Modi marked a historic day in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand, as dedicated several development projects worth approximately Rs 4200 crore.

About Uttarakhand:

Chief Minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami

Governor: Gurmit Singh

SC refers electoral bond case to 5-judge Constitution Bench

- The Supreme Court decided to refer a group of petitions challenging the electoral bond scheme for political party funding to a five-judge Constitution bench.
- The bench, led by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud.

About Supreme Court:

Founded: 28 January 1950, New Delhi

Established: 26 January 1950

Judge term length: Mandatory retirement at 65 years of age

Number of positions: 34 (33+1; present strength)

Kerala Gets Its First 3D-Printed Building In Just 28 Days

- Amaze-28, the state's first building constructed using 3D printing technology.
- Director of Kerala State Nirmithi Kendram: Debi Varghese

About Kerala:

Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan

Governor: Arif Mohammed Khan

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PMJDY continues to grow, adding ₹30,000 crore to total balance in H1

- Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) has achieved remarkable success, with over 50 crore beneficiaries.
- In the first half of the current financial year, the total balance in PMJDY accounts increased by ₹30,000 crore, reaching ₹2.05 lakh crore as of October 4, 2023.
- The number of beneficiaries rose by over 3.5 crore in the last year, from 47 crore to 50.63 crore, growth in new enrollments.
- Public sector banks operate 40 crore accounts with a balance of ₹1.60-lakh crore.

About PMJDY:

Launch year: 2014

Launched by (prime minister): Narendra Modi

Ministry: Ministry of Finance

Jaishankar unveils Rabindranath Tagore's bust in Vietnam

- India's External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar, inaugurated a bust of Nobel Laureate writer and poet Rabindranath Tagore in Bac Ninh city.
- Links between India and Vietnam is the Bodhi tree, a gift from President Rajendra Prasad to President Ho Chi Minh in 1959.
- Rabindranath Tagore's famous work, "Gitanjali," was translated into Vietnamese and published in 2001.

- Rabindranath Tagore's "Gitanjali" earned him the Nobel Prize for Literature, making him the first non-European to receive this prestigious award in 1913.

About Vietnam:

Capital: Hanoi;

Currency: Vietnamese dong;

President: Vo Van Thuong;

Prime minister: Pham Minh Chinh;

National sport: Football.

Centre unveils tradeable Green Credit

- It is a voluntary initiative stemming from the 'LiFE' (Lifestyle for Environment) campaign.

The Green Credit program encompasses key activities are:

Tree Plantation

Water Management

Sustainable Agriculture

Waste Management

Air Pollution Reduction

Mangrove Conservation and Restoration

Schools asked to take parents' consent for students' new APAAR card

- The Ministry of Education and Government of India has initiated the APAAR ID, known as the "One Nation One Student ID Card."
- The school education department has issued a letter addressed to the Commissioner of Education, which also referred to a letter by the Union Ministry of Education dated October 11 and addressed to all chief secretaries regarding creation of APAAR ID for students.

CM of Jharkhand Hemant Soren Unveils 'Juhi' Mascot for Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2023

- 'Juhi,' the mascot, takes inspiration from the beloved elephant at Betla National Park.
- Savita will lead the Indian Women's Hockey Team as Captain, with Deep Grace Ekka serving as her deputy.

About Jharkhand:

Capital: Ranchi;

Chief Minister: Hemant Soren;

Governor: C.P. Radhakrishnan;

First Ever Mobile Tower Installed At Siachen Glacier By The Indian Army

- The Siachen Glacier, known as the world's highest battlefield, has witnessed a groundbreaking development with the installation of a mobile tower.

About Siachen Glacier:

Location: Karakoram, Ladakh (controlled by India, claimed by Pakistan)

Parent range: Karakoram

‘Miniature Eastern Ghats’ To Become A Key Tourist Destination In Visakhapatnam Soon

- Miniature Eastern Ghats’ (MEG) forest arena, scheduled to become a prominent tourist destination in Visakhapatnam from November 2023.
- The MEG is a splendid initiative set to take shape in approximately 30 acres of reserved land, which belongs to the Andhra Pradesh Forest Department.
- Within the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) limits.

Udaipur Set To Become India’s First Wetland City

- The Rajasthan government, in collaboration with the Environment and Forest Department, is making concerted efforts to elevate Udaipur, also known as the ‘City of Lakes

About Rajasthan:

- Chief Minister: Ashok Gehlot
- Governor: Kalraj Mishra

54th International Film Festival of India To Take Place From November 20 To 28

- Scheduled to take place from November 20 to 28 in the beautiful coastal state of Goa.
- Established in 1952, the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) has firmly established itself as a leading film festival in Asia.

UP Declares Gangetic Dolphin as State Aquatic Animal

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has made Gangetic Dolphin as state Aquatic animal.
- CM yogi also launched the “Meri Ganga Meri Dolphin 2023” campaign.

Union Cabinet approves setting up of ‘Mera Yuva Bharat’ autonomous body for youth development

- The Union Cabinet, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the establishment of an autonomous body named “Mera Yuva Bharat” (my Bharat).
- This initiative aligns with the National Youth Policy and targets individuals between the ages of 15-29.
- Mera Yuva Bharat will be officially launched on 31st October, 2023, which coincides with National Unity Day.

Operation Ajay set to evacuate Indian nationals from Israel

- External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar announced this operation, emphasizing the government’s commitment.

About Israel:

- Capital: Jerusalem
- Official language: Hebrew
- Continent: Asia

- Prime minister: Benjamin Netanyahu
- Founded: 14 May 1948

Dr. Jitendra Singh launches the Intelligent Grievance Monitoring System 2.0 Public Grievance portal and Automated Analysis in Tree Dashboard

- This campaign, themed “Digital Darpg,” aimed at enhancing service delivery, utilizing emerging technologies, and ensuring efficient management within government offices. Collaborating with 27 Senior Officials, including Right to Service Commissioners from States/UTs, darpg identified 164 services for pan-India e-service delivery, in addition to the 56 mandatory e-services.

Petroleum Minister Inaugurates 26th Energy Technology Meet At Bharat Mandapam

- Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, the Hon’ble Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Housing and Urban Affairs inaugurated the 26th Energy Technology Meet at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi during the 26th Energy Technology Meet.
- Furthermore, the ambitious target of 20 percent biofuel blending, originally set for 2030, has now been advanced to 2025.

3000 Crore has been approved by Assam for economic corridor project

- Assam cabinet has unveiled an ambitious plan to establish a 1000-km long economic corridor, significant investment of Rs 3000 crore.
- State Minister Jayanta Malla Baruah informed the press about the project under the Asom Mala Scheme.
- Funding for these projects will be sourced through a loan from NABARD.

First Talkie Movie in India, Know the Name of Movie

- On March 14, 1931, a historic moment unfolded in the annals of Indian cinema as the first talkie movie in India, “Alam Ara,” was released.
- Directed and produced by Ardeshir Irani
- No film copy of “Alam Ara” exists in the National Film Archives of India.
- Ardeshir Irani’s inspiration for “Alam Ara” came after watching the American talkie film “Show Boat” in 1929.

Govt Introduces Shreshta Scheme For Quality Education Of Scheduled Caste Students

- The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has unveiled the ‘Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas’ (SHRESHTA).
- The first category includes top CBSE/State Board-affiliated private residential schools known as SHRESHTA institutions.
- The second implementation approach relates to existing NGO/VO-operated schools and hostels.
- National Testing Agency (NTA) will conduct the National Entrance Test for SHRESHTA (NETS).

Bihar Caste Census Report 2023 PDF

- Extremely Backward Class (EBC) comprises 36.01% of the population.
- Other Backward Class (OBC) constitutes 27.13% of the population.
- Scheduled Caste (SC) population stands at 19.65%.
- Scheduled Tribe (ST) population is 1.68%.
- General Caste population is 15.52%.
- Hindus make up 82% of the population.
- Muslims account for 17.71%.

India's first solar roof cycling track thrown open in Hyderabad

- In a remarkable stride towards promoting eco-friendly and active mobility, Hyderabad, India, proudly inaugurated its first solar roof cycling track, Healthway.
- This innovative track, which is a pioneering initiative in the country, was officially opened by K Tarakarama Rao, the state Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister.
- Situated on the bustling Outer Ring Road (ORR) between the main carriageway and the service road, this track is designed to be accessible 24/7. Its inauguration marks a significant step towards transforming Hyderabad into the active mobility capital of India.

Country's oldest think tank USI to hold first Indian Military Heritage Festival

- The United Service Institution of India (USI), the nation's oldest think tank, is set to host the first-ever Indian Military Heritage Festival (IMHF), scheduled for October 21 and 22.
- The pursuit of self-reliance in military capabilities through the Atmanirbhar Bharat programs.
- The IMHF seeks to deepen our understanding of India's extensive military heritage and traditions.
- Through insightful discussions, the festival aims to enlighten attendees from all walks of life about the multifaceted dimensions of India's military history.

UP CM yogi Adityanath unveils freedom fighter Raja Rao stature in Unnao

- Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath on Monday inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of development projects worth Rs 804 crore on Monday and unveiled the equestrian statue of freedom fighter Raja Rao Rambaksh Singh in Daundiakheda village of UP's Unnao district.

Indian Air Force marks 91st anniversary with grand celebrations, unveils new ensign

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) celebrated its 91st anniversary at the Bamrauli Air Force Station in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh. The occasion was marked by the unveiling of the new IAF ensign by Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari.
- One of the notable features of the celebration was the introduction of the new IAF ensign. The key change is the addition of the Air Force crest.

- Group Captain Shaliza Dhami made history as the first woman officer to command the Air Force Day Parade. Her leadership and dedication not only shattered glass ceilings but also inspired a new generation of women to pursue careers in the IAF.

Largest Hindu temple outside Asia opens in New Jersey, built by 12,500 volunteers

- BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham, the largest Hindu temple in the United States, celebrated its grand opening on Sunday, October 8, in Robbinsville, New Jersey.
- The temple, set up in the picturesque city of Robbinsville, New Jersey, is a remarkable achievement. It stands as the largest Hindu temple outside India in the modern era.
- The construction of BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham is a testament to human creativity and resolution. The temple's front is crafted from four distinct varieties of marble sourced from Italy and limestone from Bulgaria. These precious materials embarked on an extraordinary journey, covering over 8,000 miles worldwide to reach their final destination in New Jersey.

Rajasthan cm announces three new districts

- Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Friday announced the formation of three new districts – Malpura, Sujangarh and Kuchaman – ahead of the Assembly election, taking the total number of districts in the State to 53.
- The Congress government had created 19 new districts and three new divisions in the State in August this year

E-Cabinet System implemented in Tripura

- In a significant leap towards a more technologically advanced and environmentally responsible governance system, Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha recently introduced the state's e-cabinet system. This move positions Tripura as the fourth Indian state, and the second in the Northeast region, to adopt an e-cabinet system after Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Arunachal Pradesh. The introduction of this system signifies a commitment to paperless cabinet meetings, reducing the carbon footprint and promoting environmental sustainability through the use of digital tablets by ministers and bureaucrats.
- The launch of the e-cabinet system marks a substantial shift towards digital governance in Tripura. All future cabinet meetings in the state will be conducted in a paperless manner, aligning with global efforts to reduce environmental degradation.

India to begin ferry service to Sri Lanka from Nagapattinam Tamil Nadu

- The much-awaited resumption of high-speed passenger ferry service between Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu and Kankesanthurai in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka will begin on October 10 after a gap of nearly four decades.
- According to official sources, the High-Speed Craft (HSC) Cheriyaapani, owned by the Shipping Corporation of India, and a 14-member crew arrived at

Nagapattinam on Saturday evening. The vessel commenced its trial run from Nagapattinam port on Sunday around 09.40 a.m. and took roughly three hours to reach Kankesanthurai, which is roughly 60 nautical miles away, sources said.

First ever yak milk product, Arunachal Pradesh Yak Churpi, gets GI tag

- Slightly sour and salty churpi, a naturally fermented cheese prepared from the milk of Arunachali yak, nurtured in the high-altitude areas of Arunachal Pradesh, has recently received the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Churpi, rich in protein, has been a lifeline for tribal yak herders in the harsh, vegetation-starved, cold, and hilly mountainous regions of the state.
- Churpi, a traditional cheese made from yak milk, has been a staple food for tribal communities in Arunachal Pradesh.
- The yak herders, belonging mainly to the Brokpa and Monpa tribes in West Kameng and Tawang districts, rely on churpi as a substitute for vegetables in their diet.

Poll-bound Madhya Pradesh notifies 35% quota for women in govt jobs

- In an important development towards gender equality and women's empowerment, the Madhya Pradesh government has announced a groundbreaking policy to reserve 35% of all state government job positions for women, excluding the Forest Department. This progressive amendment to the Madhya Pradesh Civil Services (Special Provision for Appointment of Women) Rules, 1997.
- The notification states, "Notwithstanding anything contained in any service rules, there shall be reserved 35% of all posts in the service under the state (except Forest Department) in favor of women at the stage of direct recruitment, and the said reservation shall be horizontal and compartment-wise."

Telangana to get Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University in Mulugu

- On October 4th, the Union Cabinet approved the establishment of a tribal university in Telangana, named The Sarakka Central Tribal University. This university, with a budget of Rs 889 crore, will be located in Mulugu district.
- The initiative was a commitment made by the Central government as a part of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, which aimed to support both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in establishing tribal universities.
- The Telangana tribal university project faced significant challenges, primarily related to land allocation. Securing 500-600 acres of land for the university proved to be a time-consuming process.

Nokia CEO Lauds India's 5G Rollout, Launches 6G Lab in Bengaluru

- Telecom giant Nokia has made a significant stride towards the future of wireless technology with the establishment of its state-of-the-art 6G lab at the company's global R&D center in Bengaluru, India. This "first-of-its-kind" project is set to

revolutionize the way we perceive and interact with the digital and physical worlds.

- Nokia's 6G lab in Bengaluru is more than just a research facility; it's a hub for innovation and collaboration among industry stakeholders. The lab offers a platform for various stakeholders to come together and test groundbreaking solutions, assessing their potential for commercialization.

Government of India notifies constitution of National Turmeric Board

- The Union government of India has notified the constitution of the national turmeric board, which will focus on the development and growth of turmeric and turmeric products in the country. Turmeric is majorly cultivated in Tamil Nadu, Telangana state, Karnataka, MP, Odisha, Bengal and Gujarat.
- India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of turmeric in the world. It enjoys 62 per cent share in the global turmeric market. During 2022-23, 1.534 lakh tonnes of turmeric and products to the tune of \$207.45 million were exported to Bangladesh, UAE, the USA and Malaysia. With the focused activities of the board, it is expected that turmeric exports will reach ` one billion by 2030.

HAL hands over first LCA trainer to IAF, 7 more to come by March 2024

- State-run aircraft manufacturer Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) recently delivered the first trainer version of the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas to the Indian Air Force (IAF). This milestone is significant, as the twin-seater Tejas trainer will play a crucial role in training IAF pilots and can also serve as a fighter aircraft when needed.
- The Tejas trainer aircraft is part of an earlier order for 40 Mk-1 jets, which includes both the Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) and the more advanced Final Operational Clearance (FOC) configurations. Out of these 40 aircraft, the IAF has already inducted 32 single-seater jets and established two LCA squadrons. The remaining eight aircraft are trainers. HAL has committed to delivering seven more twin-seater aircraft to the IAF by March 2024.

Two-Day Literature Festival To Be Held in Bengaluru on 7 to 8 October

- The Neev Literature Festival 2023 is scheduled to take place on October 7th and 8th, 2023, at the Neev Academy in Yemalur, Bengaluru. This year, the theme of the event is 'What is childhood without stories?'. In the aftermath of the pandemic, children's lives have undergone a significant transformation. They now grapple with issues such as artificial intelligence, globalization, mental health challenges, shifting values, and numerous other factors. Consequently, the festival endeavors to address and respond to these changes.
- The Neev Literature Festival was initiated in 2017, followed by the introduction of the Neev Book Award in 2018. The goal was to discover and present exceptional children's books that center around Indian experiences and stories. Over the years, the festival has delved into thought-provoking themes such as

‘Partition: Memory and Memorialization’, ‘Peripheries: Boundaries on the Edge, Boundaries Within’, and ‘Embracing Diversity’.

Jammu and Kashmir's famed Pashmina gets geographical recognition with GI tag

- Basohli Pashmina, an age-old traditional craft originating from the picturesque district of Kathua in Jammu and Kashmir, has recently earned the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag. This recognition not only celebrates the exceptional craftsmanship of the artisans but also protects the authenticity and uniqueness of this artisanal heritage.
- Basohli Pashmina is renowned for its exceptional softness, fineness, and feather-like weight. Crafted by skilled artisans using traditional hand-spinning techniques, this exquisite fabric has been a symbol of luxury and elegance for over a century. Its hallmark is its remarkable ability to provide warmth without adding bulk, making it an ideal choice for cold climates and discerning fashion enthusiasts.

‘SHRAMDAAN EVENT’ organised by the MINISTRY OF MSME

- The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) took a significant step towards realizing the vision of a “Garbage Free India.” Aligning with the national initiative championed by the Hon’ble Prime Minister, a unique event titled ‘Shramdaan’ was organized by the Ministry. “Garbage Free India” The focal theme of ‘Shramdaan’ revolved around the concept of “Garbage Free India.”
- Development Facilitation Office, Okhla, Phase-1, New Delhi The event unfolded at the Development Facilitation Office, Okhla, Phase-1, New Delhi.

‘Har Ghar Solar’ campaign in Lucknow, Varanasi from October 2

- The state government of Uttar Pradesh will launch a month-long ‘Har Ghar Solar’ campaign in Lucknow and Varanasi to promote the use of renewable energy through the installation of solar rooftops. The government aims to generate 6,000 MW of solar power through rooftops under the Solar Policy, 2022.
- The state government will be launching a month-long ‘Har Ghar Solar’ campaign in Lucknow and Varanasi from October 2 to promote use of renewable energy in the state, a government spokesman said here on Saturday.

From K Sivan to Annadurai, Tamil Nadu govt fetes 9 ISRO scientists, announces award of ₹25 lakh for each scientist

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin recently celebrated the achievements of nine eminent space scientists from the state, including renowned figures like K Sivan and Mylswamy Annadurai, for their remarkable contributions to India’s space program. In a special event held in Chennai on 2nd October 2023, Chief Minister Stalin announced cash awards of Rs.25 lakh for each of the scientists.

Honored Scientists

1. ISRO Chairman K Sivan, Chandrayaan-1 and 2
2. Project Director, Mylswamy Annadurai

3. Director of Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre- ISRO V Narayanan
4. Director of Satish Dhawan Space Centre, A Rajarajan
5. Distinguished ISRO Scientist, M Sankaran
6. Chandrayaan-3 Project Director, P Veeramuthuvel
7. ISRO's M Vanitha
8. ISRO's Nigar Shaji
9. ISRO-Propulsion Complex Director, J Asir Packiaraj

'Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign' Becomes 'Jan Andolan'

- The Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) campaign, which kicked off on September 15, reached its culmination on the eve of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary. This nationwide initiative, also known as the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign, was led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and garnered widespread participation from citizens across India. The campaign was not just a standalone effort but a precursor to the grand celebration of 'Swachh Bharat Diwas' or 'Swachhta Diwas,' observed on October 2 each year.
- India observed 'Swachh Bharat Diwas' on October 2, marking the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Swachh Bharat: All 6.6k Villages In J&k Declared Odf+ Model

- All 6,650 villages of Jammu and Kashmir have been declared Open Defecation-Free (ODF) Plus Model under the Swachh Bharat Mission.
- Achieving ODF Plus Model status is not an overnight endeavor but a journey that involves three stages: Aspiring, Rising, and Model.
- When a village demonstrates visual cleanliness with minimal litter, stagnant water, effective solid and liquid waste management, and sufficient information, education, and communication (IEC) activities, it is declared as an ODF Plus Model.

Launch of New KHADI INDIA OUTLET at IIT, DELHI

- In a bid to bridge the generational gap and ignite a renewed interest in the age-old fabric, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) inaugurated a revamped Khadi India outlet at the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Campus in Delhi on October 2.
- In addition to the outlet's inauguration, Shri Manoj Kumar, Chairman of KVIC and Shri Nagendra Raghuvanshi, Member, Commission KVIC, also unveiled an exciting new collection of apparel designed by the Centre of Excellence for Khadi (CoEK) in collaboration with various Khadi Institutions.

Bihar Caste Census Important Highlights

1.OBCs and EBCs Dominate:

Extremely Backward Class (EBC) comprises 36.01% of the population.
Other Backward Class (OBC) constitutes 27.13% of the population.

2. Scheduled Castes and Tribes:

Scheduled Caste (SC) population stands at 19.65%.

Scheduled Tribe (ST) population is 1.68%.

3. General Caste and Yadavs:

General Caste population is 15.52%.

Yadavs represent 14% of the population.

4. Religious Composition:

Hindus make up 82% of the population.

Muslims account for 17.71%.

SPORTS

Lionel Messi wins eighth Ballon d'Or 2023

- Lionel Messi and Aitana Bonmati have been honored as the 2023 Ballon d'Or recipients.
- Messi secures his eighth Ballon d'Or, setting a new record.

Jyothi Yarraji Clinches Gold in 100m Hurdles in Record Time

- At the 37th National Games, Hangzhou Asian Games silver medallist Jyothi Yarraji, and Tejas Shirse displayed their athletic prowess, smashing National Games records in the 100m and 110m hurdles events.
- Jyothi Yarraji, a remarkable athlete, broke her own record by finishing the 100m hurdles in just 13.22 seconds.
- Vithya Ramraj of Tamil Nadu secured the gold medal in the 400m event, finishing in just 52.85 seconds.

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Max Verstappen Dominates Mexico City Grand Prix, Sets New Season Victory Record

- Max Verstappen's win at the Mexico City Grand Prix was his third consecutive victory at the Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez.
- Lewis Hamilton secured the second position in the race, continuing his consistent performance.

India Grabs 111 Medals at the 4th Asian Para Games

- Total 111 medals: 29 gold, 31 silver, and 51 bronze.
- India's previous best performance at the Asian Para Games occurred in 2018 in Jakarta when the contingent secured a total of 72 medals.

Paytm Becomes Official Sponsor for 37th National Games

- The 37th edition of the National Games kicked off in style as Paytm, India's renowned fintech giant, emerged as the official sponsor.
- The tournament was inaugurated with by PM Narendra Modi at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Fatorda, South Goa.

Sundar Singh Gurjar breaks World Record in men's javelin F46 event with gold

- Indian para-athletes excelled in the javelin throw events at the Asian Para Games in Hangzhou, China.
- Sundar Singh Gurjar breaking a world record and Sumit Antil successfully defending his gold medal.

India's Unnati Hooda wins Abu Dhabi Masters 2023

- At the Abu Dhabi Masters 2023, young Indian badminton talent Unnati Hooda emerged as the champion in the women's singles event.
- This remarkable win marks her second BWF Super 100 World Tour title.
- Final match held at the ADNEC Marina Hall in the UAE capital.

Mohammed Shami make history to claim 2nd 5-wicket haul in World Cups

- He became the first Indian bowler to pick two five-wicket hauls in ICC ODI World Cups against New Zealand.
- He joined an elite group of bowlers also now the ninth bowler worldwide to record two five-wicket hauls in ICC ODI World Cups.

About ICC:

Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Founded: 15 June 1909

CEO: Geoff Allardice

Chairman: Greg Barclay

India's represent his Contingent for the Asian Para Games

- India is set to be well-represented at the fourth Asian Para Games scheduled to take place in Hangzhou, China, from October 22 to 28.

About China:

President: Xi Jinping

Capital: Beijing

Grandmaster Raunak Sadhwani crowned U-20 world junior rapid chess champion

- Grandmaster Raunak Sadhwani won the FIDE World Junior Rapid Chess Championship in Sardinia, Italy.
- He is the ninth youngest player in history and the fourth youngest Indian to be awarded the title.

IOC has accepted the recommendation to include T20 cricket into the 2028 Olympics

- The acceptance of cricket's inclusion in the 2028 Los Angeles Summer Olympics represents a pivotal moment in the sport's history.
- IOC president Thomas Bach expressed his endorsement for the inclusion of these five sports in the Olympics.
- In 2022, cricket made its return to the Commonwealth Games, with women's T20 matches being played at Edgbaston in Birmingham.

About IOC:

Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland

Founded: 23 June 1894, Paris, France

Director General: Christophe De Kepper

Founders: Pierre de Coubertin, D. Bikélas

Alastair Cook a Former England captain announced his retirement from cricket

- Cook has chosen not to renew his contract with Essex, effectively bringing an end to his association with the county team.
- Cook had previously retired from international cricket in 2018, leaving behind an illustrious legacy.
- He amassed an astonishing 12,472 Test runs during his international career, making him the highest-scoring English batter and the fifth-highest run-scorer in Test history.
- The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) hailed Cook as a “titan of the game,”

Gold medalist Neeraj Chopra appointed Laureus Ambassador

- Neeraj’s association with Laureus began in 2022 when he was shortlisted for the Breakthrough of the Year award at the Laureus World Sports Awards.
- He joins esteemed figures in Indian sports, such as Kapil Dev, Rahul Dravid, and Sachin Tendulkar, who have been associated with the organization.
- His winning throw in Tokyo on August 7 is now celebrated as National Javelin Day in India

Manikanta H Hoblidhar Sets New National Record in 100m Sprint

- The 62nd National Open Athletics Championships 2023 kicked off with a bang in Bengaluru.
- Manikanta Hoblidhar from Services etched his name in the record books by smashing a new national record in the men’s 100m category.
- He powered his way to victory, crossing the finish line in first place with a remarkable timing of 10.23 seconds.
- He made a remarkable turnaround in the Services meet, clinching the gold with a time of 10.31 seconds.

11th Sultan of Johor Cup to Be Held In Johor, Malaysia In November 2023

- This prestigious tournament is set to take place from October 27 to November 4. Notably.
- This year’s edition will feature eight teams, expanding from the customary six.

National Games 2023 to be held in Goa from Oct. 26 to Nov. 9

- The 37th edition of the National Games, scheduled for 2023
- The National Games, formerly known as the Indian Olympic Games, made its debut in Lahore, undivided India, in 1924.
- Goa was originally awarded the hosting rights for the 36th edition of the National Games, slated for 2016.
- The National Games 2023 will feature an impressive 43 sports, including both Olympic and indigenous disciplines, a significant increase from the 36 sports in the previous edition.

IOC and Reliance Foundation Join Forces to Promote Olympic Values in India

- New cooperation was agreed upon by IOC President Thomas Bach and Nita Ambani, IOC Member in India and Reliance Foundation Founder Chairperson in Mumbai.

Kenyan Kiptum breaks Kipchoge's world record to win Chicago Marathon men's title

- Kenya's Kelvin Kiptum left the running world in awe as he shattered the men's world record, clocking a time of just two hours and 35 seconds, to claim victory at the Chicago Marathon on Sunday.
- He broke the previous record set by Eliud Kipchoge in the 2022 Berlin Marathon.
- Kelvin Kiptum's journey to the pinnacle of marathon running has been nothing short of extraordinary.
- The young Kenyan had previously secured victories in his first two marathon appearances, first triumphing in Valencia and then repeating his success in the London Marathon. However, Kiptum's record-breaking performance in Chicago surpassed all expectations.
- Kiptum's victory marked the third time a men's world record had been established on the streets of Chicago, but it was the first time since Morocco's Khalid Khannouchi achieved the feat in 1999.

IND vs AUS: David Warner becomes fastest to 1000 runs in ODI World Cup, beats Sachin Tendulkar's record

- Australia opener David Warner became the fastest batter to complete 1000 runs in ODI World Cup during his side's match against India in Chennai. Warner reached the milestone in 19 innings to break Sachin Tendulkar and AB de Villiers' joint record of 20 innings. Warner completed the feat within averaging 62 with three half-centuries and four tons since first being a part of the tournament back in 2011. Warner has struck three fifties and four hundreds in World Cups so far.
- Indian captain Rohit Sharma is also in the contention to get to the top of the list. Rohit has 978 runs in 17 innings and needs 22 more to pip Warner. Warner has won the Player of the Match award four times in the ODI World Cup, with the highest score of 178 against Afghanistan at home.

Asian Games 2023: Colourful closing ceremony brings curtains down on memorable Hangzhou Asian Games

- The 19th Asian Games 2023 concluded with a spectacular closing ceremony held at the Hangzhou Olympics Stadium in China. The event celebrated the love and unity between the participating countries, showcasing the cultural diversity and sporting excellence of the Asian nations.
- Renowned hockey player P. R. Sreejesh had the honor of being India's flag bearer during the closing ceremony, representing his country with pride on the international stage.

- The closing ceremony wowed spectators with a dazzling performance featuring more than 2000 performers. The show symbolized the harmonious spirit that unites the diverse nations of Asia in the pursuit of athletic excellence.

Pranav sign off with bronze in men's singles badminton

- HS Prannoy's terrific campaign at the 2023 Asian Games in Hangzhou came to a heartbreaking end on Friday after he went down in straight games against China's Li Shi Feng in badminton men's singles semifinal. After trailing by only a point going into the opening game interval, the world no. 1 roared through the contest, winning 21-16, 21-9 in just over 45 minutes, crushing all hopes for a gold-medal bid for the Indian.
- The loss implied that Prannoy had to be content with a bronze, but it was a historic feat for the star shuttler as he ended India's 41-year-long wait for a second medal at the Games in men's singles badminton. Syed Modi previously finished third in 1982 edition of the Asian Games.

Aman sehrawat won bronze medal in men's 57kg category

- Indian wrestler Aman Sehrawat on Friday displayed a power-packed performance to defeat China's Minghu Liu to claim a bronze medal in the men's freestyle 57Kg category bout in the ongoing 19th Asian Games on Friday.
- The Indian defeated Minghu to clinch an 11-0 victory by technical superiority.
- It is India's fifth wrestling medal, all bronze, in Hangzhou, following Sunil Kumar, Antim Panghal, Kiran and Sonam Malik.
- Aman was quick to get off the mark in fashion, executing a takedown first up. Liu was completely flabbergasted as Aman scored his second takedown.
- A passivity warning was given to the Chinese wrestler, who failed to get a point on a defensive Aman.

Ojas Deotale is Nagpur's First Asian Games Gold Medalist, eyes hat-trick at Hangzhou Asian Games

- In the final of 19th Asian Games 2023, on Saturday at the Fuyang Yinhu Sports Centre, Indian archer Ojas Deotale from Nagpur won gold medal in the men's individual compound archery event. This victory marks Ojas Deotale third gold medal in the Asian Games 2023.
- Ojas Deotale's third gold medal in this edition of the Asian Games 2023, making him the joint most successful Indian sportsperson in this Asian Games.
- Ojas Deotale's success can be attributed to his exceptional precision and determination in the archery field. Deotale missed the 10-point circle only once in the centre of the target only once as he compiled a score of 140 out of a possible 150 in the final in which each archer shoots five rounds (called End in archery) with three arrows in each round.

Indian Women's Kabaddi Team Clinches Gold Medal to beat China at Asian Games 2023

- In a heart-pounding final showdown at the Xiaoshan Guali Sports Centre in Hangzhou, the Indian women's kabaddi team emerged victorious against a determined Chinese Taipei, securing the gold medal in the Asian Games 2023.

- In a fiercely contested match, the Indian women's kabaddi team clinched the gold medal by defeating Chinese Taipei with a nail-biting score of 26-25. This triumph marks their third gold medal in Asian Games history.
- The Indian women's kabaddi team previously secured gold at Guangzhou 2010. They defended their title at Incheon 2014. In Jakarta 2018, they finished as runners-up.
- Chinese Taipei showcased their growth in kabaddi by upgrading their bronze medal from Jakarta 2018 to silver in the Asian Games 2023.

Asian Games 2023: Jyothi Surekha Vennam wins gold medal in women's individual compound archery, achieves rare treble

- India's Jyothi Surekha Vennam won gold medal in the women's individual compound archery event at the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, on Saturday. Jyothi defeated So Chaewon of South Korea 149-145 in the final to complete a hatrick of gold medals, having already won titles in the women's and mixed team events.
-
- Jyothi Surekha Vennam clinched her third Gold in the ongoing 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou as archers began the final day of games events on Saturday, October 7 on a high.
- It was a slightly off start for Jyothi with an 8-pointer but she slowly came back with 10-pointers in a row as she was leading 89-87 after three rounds.

ICC names Sachin Tendulkar as Global Ambassador for ODI world cup

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Tuesday named legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar as the 'Global Ambassador' for the Cricket World Cup 2023, which begins tomorrow in Ahmedabad.
- Sachin, who has participated in a record six 50 -over World Cups, will unveil the World Cup trophy before the inaugural match between England and New Zealand, thereby officially opening the tournament.

Rest of India win Irani cup 2023-24

- Defending Ranji Trophy champion Saurashtra was bundled out for 79 in a 175-run defeat by Rest of India in the Irani Cup at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium in Rajkot on Tuesday.
- Chasing a 255-run target, Jaydev Unadkat's men were skittled by a spin attack led by left-armers Saurabh Kumar's six-wicket haul (6/43). Shams Mulani and off-spinner Pulkit Narang picked up the remaining wickets as RoI bagged the title.

Avinash Sable wins gold in men's 3000m steeplechase

- India's Avinash Sable won the gold medal in men's 3000m steeplechase at the Hangzhou Asian Games on Sunday. He took top honours with a timing of 8:19:50s, breaking the Games record along the way.
- Sable's medal is India's 12th gold at this edition of the Asian Games and the first track and field gold in Hangzhou.

- Sable, a 2022 Commonwealth Games silver medallist, holds the national record of 8 minutes 11.20 seconds. His season's best time is 8:11.63, placing him in second position among Asians behind Miura Ryuji (SB: 8:09.91) of Japan.
- In Hangzhou, besides the 3000m steeplechase, his pet event, Sable will also compete in the 5000m race.

Asian Games 2023: Tajinderpal Singh Toor wins shot put gold

- Tajinderpal Singh Toor defends Asian Games crown
- Tajinderpal Singh Toor wins Gold in Shotput
- Tajinderpal registers best attempt of 20.36m
- India's Tajinderpal Singh Toor defended his Asian Games crown by clinching a gold medal in Shotput in the ongoing Hangzhou Games.
- Toor's journey to win was not a smooth one. Starting off impressively with a powerful first throw that nearly touched the 20m mark.

Indian origin Pereira wins Singapore first athletics Asian Games Gold

- Singapore is celebrating its first athletics gold win in 49 years at the Asian Games with its Indian-origin sprinter Shanti Pereira winning the women's 200m final in Hangzhou, China.
- Pereira clocked 23.03 seconds to finish the race on Monday at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Centre Stadium. This is the first athletics gold medal for the city-state since 1974, when sprinter Chee Swee Lee had won the women's 400m race.
- China's Li Yuting took the silver with 23.28 seconds and Bahrain's Edidiong Ofonime Odiong came third at 23.48 seconds in the Monday race. Odiong's compatriot, Salwa Eid Naser, was disqualified for a false start.

Indian team (U-19) won the men's Championship

- India won the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-19 Championship after defeating Pakistan 3-0 in a dominating display in the finals at the Dashrath Rangasala Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- India U19: Lionel Daryl Rymmei, Ishaan Shishodia, Ricky Meetei Haobam, Manabir Basumatary (Surajkumar Singh Ngangbam 46th minute), Raja Harijan, Gwngwmsar Goyary, Naoba Meitei Pangambam (Kelvin Singh Taorem 81st minute), Sahil Khurshid, A Siba Prasad, Ebindas Yesudasan (Manglenthang Kipgen 46th minute), Thomas Kanamoottil Cherian.

Football for Schools (F4S) program organized by AIFF

- A two-day master training program for capacity-building within the F4S program was launched in Sambalpur, Odisha. This event saw the participation of 95 Physical Education Teachers/Trainees from various States/UTs, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), and AIFF.
- Football for Schools (F4S) is an ambitious program spearheaded by the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA). In collaboration with the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, and the

support of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and the Sports Authority of India (SAI).

India's squash team win gold medal

- India has won a gold medal in men's squash team event after beating Pakistan 2-1 at the Asian Games. In a tightly contested match, the team led by Abhav Singh outperformed their rivals in the final round.
- The best-of-three tie started with Mahesh M losing to Nasir Iqbal in straight games – 8-11, 3-11, 2-11. Saurav Ghosal, however, pulled the contest square with his 11-5, 11-1, 11-3 victory over Muhammad Asim.
- The decider between Abhay Singh and Noor Zaman stretched the full distance but the Indian eventually prevailed 11-7, 9-11, 7-11, 11-9, 12-10.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

India Submits 'Letter of Request' To France For 26 Rafale-M Naval Fighter Jets

- This formal communication signifies India's intent to acquire 26 Rafale Marine fighter aircraft.

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) And Safran To Make Aircraft Engine Parts

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Safran Aircraft Engines, a leading French aero engine design, development, and manufacturing company.

Skyroot Aerospace unveils Vikram-1 rocket, scheduled for full launch next year

- Dr. Jitendra Singh, the Union Minister of Science and Technology, unveiled Skyroot's Vikram-1 orbital rocket in Hyderabad.
- Skyroot's co-founder and CEO, Pawan Kumar Chandana, has emphasized the partly commercial nature of Vikram-1's inaugural launch.
- Vikram-1 is designed to place multiple satellites into orbit, a first for India and one of the first globally.
- This rocket represents Skyroot's second successful project following the Vikram-S rocket's triumphant launch on November 18th, 2022.

ISRO's Gaganyaan Test Missions TV-D1: A Historical Milestone

- United States and Russia have vied for supremacy above Earth, especially during the 1950s and 1960s.
- Additional test flights will be conducted before the planned 2025 crewed mission.

About ISRO:

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 15 August 1969

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai

ISRO tie-up With Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA) For 'Space On Wheels' Exhibition

- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA) have joined hands to create an exciting and educational initiative called the "Space on Wheels" program.

- This program is designed to take the wonders of space exploration to the East Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh.

About ISRO:

Headquarters: Bengaluru;

Founded: 15 August 1969;

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai;

Chairperson: S. Somanath.

ISRO to Conduct Maiden Test Flight of Gaganyaan Mission On October 21

- Jitendra Singh, Minister of State for Space, Science, and Technology, officially announced that, on October 21.
- ISRO is poised to make history as it prepares to conduct the first in a series of critical test flights in anticipation of the much-anticipated Gaganyaan mission.
- Test flight will be executed at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota

Indian Navy unveils cutting-edge autonomous weaponized boat swarms and underwater vessels at Swavlamban 2.0

- The Indian Navy is preparing to host the second edition of the Naval Innovation and Indigenization Seminar, known as Swavlamban, scheduled to take place on October 4th and 5th in the vibrant city of New Delhi. The Autonomous Weaponized Boat Swarms and the Autonomous Vessel Underwater (AUV).
- This initiative, championed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, aims to foster innovation and technology development within the Defense and Aerospace Sector, actively engaging Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), start-ups, and individual innovators to develop specialized technologies.
- The Indian Navy has entered into a significant agreement with Sagar Defence Engineering Pvt. Ltd for the development of Autonomous Weaponized Boat Swarms.

India: IAF to conduct Astra missiles by end of 2023

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) is making significant strides towards enhancing its air defense capabilities with the impending induction of indigenous Astra Beyond Visual Range (BVR) Air-to-Air Missiles. The IAF has entered into contracts with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL).
- The first batch of Astra-MK1 missiles, developed by the Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL) and Research Centre Imarat (RCI) among other DRDO laboratories, is slated for induction by the end of 2023.
- Astra missiles have been successfully integrated onto the SU-30MKI aircraft, demonstrating their compatibility and effectiveness.
- The missile was test-fired from the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas off the coast of Goa, reaching an altitude of 20,000 ft.

OBITUARY

Renowned Bangladeshi Scientist Saleemul Huq Passed Away At 71

- Saleemul Huq, a Bangladeshi-British scientist who gained renown as a “climate revolutionary” for his efforts.
- Dr. Huq attended all 27 Conference of the Parties (COP) talks of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- Last year, Dr. Huq was honored with the Order of the British Empire for his efforts.

About Bangladesh:

Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina

Capital: Dhaka

Currency: Bangladeshi taka

Matthew Perry, Renowned For His Role as Chandler in ‘Friends,’ Died At 54

- “Friends” star Matthew Perry was found dead in a hot tub at his Los Angeles home. He was 54.
- The iconic actor, known for his portrayal of Chandler Bing in the legendary TV series “Friends”.

Baijnath Aggarwal, trustee of Geeta Press Gorakhpur, Passes Away

- Baijnath Agarwal, the dedicated trustee of Gita Press Gorakhpur, passed away at the age of 90.
- He was honored with the prestigious Gandhi Peace Prize for the year 2021.

About Gita Press

Founder: Jayadayal Goyandka

Founded: 3 May 1923

Headquarters: Gorakhpur

First Black Action Hero, Richard Roundtree Passed Away At 81

- Richard Roundtree, the iconic actor who redefined African American masculinity in the movies with his groundbreaking portrayal of the title role in “Shaft,” passed away.
- “Shaft,” released in 1971, was a groundbreaking film, marking one of the first entries in the Blaxploitation genre.

Legendary Spinner and Former Indian Captain, Bishan Singh Bedi Passes Away at 77

- In 1976, Bedi was appointed captain of the Indian cricket team.
- In 1970, Bishan Singh Bedi was honored with the Padma Shri, one of India’s highest civilian awards.

Former Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari, Renowned Peace Broker, Dies at 86

- Martti Ahtisaari, Finland’s 10th president and renowned peace mediator, passed away at the age of 86.
- He was known for his exceptional work in brokering peace in conflict zones, including Kosovo, Indonesia and Northern Ireland.

- His lifelong commitment to resolving conflicts earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 2008.

Former Chief Election Commissioner MS Gill Passed Away at the age of 86

- He served as a significant figure in both the Indian bureaucracy and politics.
- He assumed this prestigious role in December 1996 and held it until June 2001.
- He became the first former CEC to join politics when he entered the Rajya Sabha as a member of the Congress party.
- In 2008, he was appointed as the Union Sports Minister.

Terence Davies: Screenwriter and film director dies aged 77

- British filmmaker Terence Davies, known for his thought-provoking and introspective films, has sadly passed away at the age of 77 at home after a short illness. He is recognized for his internationally acclaimed films, including 'Distant Voices, Still Lives' and 'The Long Day Closes'.
- Terence Davies was celebrated for his unique approach to cinema, which often delved into themes such as LGBT life, Catholicism, and other common aspects of human existence.

World Post Day 2023: 9th October

- World Post Day is celebrated each year on October 9th to commemorate the creation of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874. It's a day to recognize the crucial role that post offices play in connecting communities, and in 2023, the theme is "Together for Trust: Collaborating for a safe and connected future."
- The history of postal services dates back centuries, with the first organized postal service said to have been established during the time of Augustus Caesar in Rome. Remarkably, the oldest functioning post office is in Sanquhar, Scotland, operating since 1712 AD.
- World Post Day was officially declared by the UPU Congress in Tokyo, Japan, in 1969. The UPU is an international organization that promotes and coordinates postal services worldwide. It currently has 151 member countries, all of which participate in this annual celebration.

Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day 2023: 9th October

- Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day is an annual celebration held on October 9th. This special day honors the establishment of the Indian Foreign Service, a critical institution for India's diplomatic, consular, and commercial representation worldwide.
- Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day is a momentous occasion to celebrate the establishment and enduring legacy of the IFS. It serves as a reminder of the invaluable contributions made by diplomats and foreign service officers in promoting India's interests and fostering global cooperation.
- This day not only honors the past but also looks forward to a future where diplomacy continues to play a vital role in shaping India's international relationships.

India designates October 10th as Good Manufacturing Practice Day

- The Indian government, in collaboration with the Indian Drugs Manufacturers' Association (IDMA), is set to observe the first-ever National Current Good Manufacturing Practice Day (cGMP Day) on 10th October. This initiative aims to underscore the importance of adhering to cGMP guidelines in pharmaceutical manufacturing, with a focus on improving product quality and ensuring patient safety.
- Current Good Manufacturing Practices, commonly referred to as cGMP, are stringent quality standards mandated by the World Health Organization (WHO) for pharmaceutical manufacturing. These guidelines serve as the backbone of pharmaceutical operations, providing essential standards to enhance product quality by regulating various aspects of the manufacturing process, including materials, methods, machinery, processes, personnel, facilities, and environmental conditions.

Veteran Trade Union Leader Anathalavattom Anandan Dies

- Veteran CPI(M) leader and former legislator Anathalavattom Anandan, who played a key role in building the trade union base for the party in the state, passed away at a hospital on Thursday. He was 86 years old.
- Anathalavattom Anandan was born in Varkala, Thiruvananthapuram district, in 1937. His journey in the world of politics began in 1954 when he actively participated in an agitation advocating for higher wages for coir workers in his village.
- In 1956, Anandan became a member of the undivided Communist Party of India (CPI) and remained steadfast even after the party split in 1964.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

SBI Ropes in Cricket Icon MS Dhoni as Brand Ambassador

- The State Bank of India (SBI), the nation's largest lender, has appointed the legendary cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni as its official Brand Ambassador.

About SBI:

Chairperson: Dinesh Kumar Khara;

Founded: 1 July 1955;

Headquarters: Mumbai.

Swiss Watchmaker 'Rado' Appoints Katrina Kaif as Global Brand Ambassador

- Adrian Bosshard, the CEO of Rado also expressed his enthusiasm about this association.
Founded: 1917, Lengnau, Switzerland
Parent organization: The Swatch Group
Headquarters: Lengnau, Switzerland
Founders: Ernst Schlup, Werner Schlup, Fritz Schlup

ISB Prof Sarang Deo appointed by WHO on its TB Advisory Group

About WHO:

Founded: 7 April 1948

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

President: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

About Indian School of Business:

Founded: 2001

Chairperson: Harish Manwani

Dean: Madan Pillutla

Founders: Rajat Gupta, anil kumar

Amol Muzumdar Takes Over as Head Coach of India Women

- The position of the head coach had been vacant since December 2022 when Ramesh Powar was abruptly removed from his post as part of the BCCI's "restructuring module."

About Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI):

President: Roger Binny

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: December 1928

EC To Appoint Actor Rajkummar Rao As Its 'National Icon'

- Actor Rajkummar Rao, celebrated for his portrayal of a principled government clerk in the Hindi film "Newton".

About Election Commission of India (EC):

Formed: 25 January 1950

Jurisdiction: Government of India

Headquarters: New Delhi

First executive: Sukumar Sen

Current executive: Rajiv Kumar

Air Marshal Sadhna Saxena Nair takes charge as DG Hospital Services

- She is the first woman to hold this esteemed position upon her promotion to the rank of Air Marshal.

Lay's Appointed Mahendra Singh Dhoni as Brand Ambassador

- Lay's announces cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni as its brand ambassador, starring in a campaign – 'No Lay's, No Game.'

About Lay's:

Parent organization: PepsiCo, Inc

Founded: September 1961

Chetan Bhagat Appointed Brand Ambassador For Edtech startup, Henry Harvin Education

- Edtech startup Henry Harvin Education (HHE) recently announced acclaimed author and speaker Chetan Bhagat as its Brand Ambassador.
- Founder and CEO of Henry Harvin Education: Kounal Gupta

Ashok Vaswani to Succeed Uday Kotak As New CEO Of Kotak Mahindra Bank

- Ashok Vaswani, a seasoned international banker with a remarkable career, is set to take the chair as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Kotak Mahindra Bank.
- In the interim period, the board of Kotak Mahindra Bank appointed Dipak Gupta as the Chief Executive Officer for four months. Uday Kotak, despite relinquishing his role as CEO, continues to serve on the board as a non-executive director.

About Kotak Mahindra Bank:

Founder: Uday Kotak

Founded: 21 November 1985

Headquarters: Mumbai

Sanjay Kumar Jain Appointed as CMD of IRCTC

About IRCTC:

Founded: 27 September 1999

Headquarters: New Delhi

HP Appoints Ipsita Dasgupta as Senior Vice President & MD for India

- Ipsita Dasgupta as the Senior Vice President & Managing Director for its India market.
- Ms. Dasgupta's role will encompass overseeing all facets of HP's strategy and profitability in the India, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka regions.

About Hewlett-Packard (HP):

Headquarters: Palo Alto, California, United States;

President: Enrique Lores.

Puma Ropes In Mohammed Shami as Its Brand Ambassador

About Puma:

Founder: Rudolf Dassler

Founded: 1948, Herzogenaurach, Germany

Headquarters: Herzogenaurach, Germany

Justice Siddharth Mridul appointed as the chief justice of Manipur High Court

- Justice Siddharth Mridul was appointed as the chief justice of Manipur High Court three months after the Supreme Court Collegium recommendation.

About Manipur:

Chief Minister: N. Biren Singh

Governor: Anusuiya Uikey

B K Mohanty Assumes Charge As Director Of Finance At IREDA

- Dr. Bijay Kumar Mohanty officially assumed the role of Director (Finance) at the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA).
- Dr. Bijay Kumar Mohanty's appointment as Director (Finance) at IREDA signals.

About IREDA

Founded: 1987

Headquarters: India Habitat Centre, East Court

South Indian Bank appoints VJ Kurian as its new chairman

- VJ Kurian has been appointed as the non-executive part-time chairman of the South Indian Bank, based in Thrissur
- This development follows regulatory approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and comes as Salim Gangadharan.
- South Indian Bank Headquarters: Thrissur, Kerala;
- South Indian Bank Founded: 25 January 1929.

Navneet Munot Elected Chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)

- AMFI has recently elected Navneet Munot, the Managing Director and CEO of HDFC Asset Management, as the Chairman.
- He will succeed A Balasubramanian, Managing Director of Aditya Birla Sun Life Asset Management Company.
- A Balasubramanian, the outgoing Chairman of AMFI, has played a pivotal role in the organization.
- Board of AMFI has also elected Anthony Heredia, MD and CEO of Mahindra Manulife Mutual Fund, as the Vice-Chairman.

Mukesh Ambani's JioMart ropes MS Dhoni as brand ambassador

- Reliance Retail's JioMart has signed up Mahendra Singh Dhoni, India's most iconic cricketer, as its brand ambassador. Dhoni's association comes alongside the rebranding of their festive campaign JioMart to "JioUtsav, Celebrations Of India," which is scheduled to launch on October 8, 2023.
- Whether it's electronics, groceries, fashion, or home essentials, JioMart aims to provide a wide array of choices to cater to every customer's needs. Currently, the platform collaborates with over 1000 artisans and offers a diverse range of 150,000 unique products.

Government Extends tenure of SBI Chairman Dinesh Khara Until August 2024

- In a significant development, Centre has decided to extend the tenure of Mr. Dinesh Khara as the Chairman of the State Bank of India (SBI), the nation's largest lender, until August of the following year.
- It is began on October 7, 2020, for a three-year term, is now set to continue until he reaches the age of 63.
- Dinesh Khara, the man at the helm of India's largest commercial bank, has a remarkable career trajectory within the State Bank of India. He embarked on his journey with the bank as a probationary officer in 1984, marking the beginning of a distinguished service record spanning almost four decades.

RBI appointed Muneesh Kapur as its new executive director

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the appointment of Muneesh Kapur as an Executive Director (ED) starting from October 3, 2023.

- This significant appointment brings Mr. Kapur into a key leadership position within the central bank.
- Before his promotion to the role of Executive Director, Muneesh Kapur held the position of Adviser-in-Charge within the Monetary Policy Department.
- Additionally, he served as the Secretary to the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), where he played a crucial role in shaping the nation's monetary policy.
- In his new capacity as Executive Director, Muneesh Kapur will assume responsibility for overseeing the operations of the Department of Economic and Policy Research.

Former HDFC Bank chief Aditya Puri joins Deloitte as senior adviser

- Former managing director and CEO of HDFC Bank Aditya Puri joined Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP as senior adviser.
- Puri would leverage his expertise and experience to help drive a tech-enabled transformation in the financial services sector and champion initiatives aimed at boosting financial inclusion across India, Deloitte said in a statement.
- Puri was appointed CEO of HDFC Bank in 1994 and retired after 26 years of service. In June, Deloitte announced the appointment of Manoj Kohli, former CEO of Bharati Airtel and Softbank India, as senior adviser.

Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti, AVSM, VSM assumed charge as Deputy Chief Of Naval Staff

- Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti, AVSM, VSM, took over as the Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff, marking a significant transition in the leadership of the Indian Navy. With a distinguished career spanning over 35 years, Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti brings a wealth of experience and expertise to his new role.
- Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti was commissioned into the Indian Navy on July 1, 1988, embarking on a journey that would see him become a distinguished leader in the maritime domain. He specialized in Navigation and Direction, a critical aspect of naval operations.

Centre extends Amit Agarwal's tenure as CEO of UIDAI for one year

- The central government has extended the tenure of senior IAS officer Amit Agrawal as CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) for one year.
- As per an order issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Amit Agrawal, a 1993-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre, has been given in extension of his service as the CEO of UIDIA for a period of one year beyond November 2, 2023, to November 2, 2024, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Cricket World Cup 2023: Ajay Jadeja named Afghanistan's team mentor for WC2023

- Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) appointed former India captain Ajay Jadeja as the team mentor for the upcoming ODI World Cup, scheduled to be held in India from October 5 to November 19.

- Ajay Jadeja, a former Indian captain and middle-order batter, has a distinguished cricketing career to his name. He played 15 Test matches for India from 1992 to 2000, amassing 576 runs at an impressive average of 26.18, with four half-centuries to his name.
- Ajay Jadeja's contributions extend beyond international cricket. He has been an integral part of 111 First-Class matches and 291 List A games, showcasing his versatility and proficiency across different formats of the game.

Lt General Raghu Srinivasan Takes Over As Border Roads Organisation Chief

- Lieutenant General Raghu Srinivasan assumed the role of the 28th Director General (DG) of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) on Saturday. This transition follows the superannuation of Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry.
- Srinivasan is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy in Khadakwasla and the Indian Military Academy in Dehradun, where he was commissioned into the Corps of Engineers in 1987.

IMPORTANT DAYS

114th Birth Anniversary of Homi Jehangir Bhabha

- Dr. Homi Jehangir Bhabha, born on October 30, 1909, was a renowned nuclear physicist and a key figure in shaping India's scientific future.
- The Government of India awarded him the Padma Bhushan in 1954.
- He was recognized as a Fellow of the Royal Society, London.
- **World audio drama day 2023: 30th October**

International Day of Care and Support 2023: 29th October

- This 29 October marks the UN's first official International Day for Care and Support.

World Stroke Day 2023: 29th October

- The theme for World Stroke Day 2023 was officially chosen by the World Stroke Organization (WSO) as 'Together we are #Greater Than Stroke.'
- The WSO launched its first campaign in 2010 called "1 in 6."

76th Shaurya Diwas Celebrates To Mark Landing Of Forces In Kashmir

- The Indian Army marked the 76th 'Shaurya Diwas' in Jammu and Kashmir.
- The landing of Indian forces in Kashmir on 27 October 1947.
- On October 27, 1947, Indian Army troops landed at Budgam Airport.

World Polio Day 2023: Date, Theme and Significance

- The theme for World Polio Day 2023 is "A healthier future for mothers and children."

About WHO:

Head: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus;

Founded: 7 April 1948;

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.

Accession Day 2023: Union Territory of J&K celebrates on 26th October

- UT Jammu and Kashmir celebrates October 26 as a public holiday to commemorate the historic signing of the Instrument of Accession in 1947.

World Development Information Day 2023: 24th October

- Established in 1972.
- Coinciding with United Nations Day, this occasion carries historical significance, commemorating the UN's beginning in 1945.

United Nations Day 2023: 24 October

- Anniversary of the entry into force of the UN Charter in 1945.
- On October 24, 1945, the United Nations came into existence as the UN Charter was ratified.

About United Nations

Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States;

Headquarters: New York, New York, United States;

Founders: United States, Brazil, United Kingdom, India, France, Iran;

Secretary General: António Guterres.

International Stuttering Awareness Day 2023: 22 October

- This year, the theme for International Stuttering Awareness Day is "One Size Does NOT Fit All."
- The ISA, IFA, and European League of Stuttering Associations jointly proclaimed October 22nd as Stuttering Awareness Day in 1998.

About International Stuttering Association (ISA):

Founded: 1995, Linköping, Sweden

Headquarters: New Ulm, Minnesota, United States

National Police Commemoration Day 2023 Celebrates on 21 October

- On October 21, 1959, ten courageous Policemen laid down their lives in a fierce ambush by heavily armed Chinese troops at Hot Springs in Ladakh.

World Statistics Day 2023 Celebrates On 20 October

- In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly established World Statistics Day, marking October 20.
- The theme of World Statistics Day 2023 is not known yet.

World Osteoporosis Day 2023 Observed On 20th October

- Step Up for Bone Health – Build Better Bones" serves as the central theme for World Osteoporosis Day in 2023.
- The first World Osteoporosis Day took place in 1996.

International Chef's Day 2023 Celebrates On 20th October

- This day, introduced by the late chef Dr. Bill Gallagher in 2004.
- Theme for this year is 'Growing A Healthy Future.'

World Trauma Day 2023: 17th October

- The Day was first observed in 2011 in New Delhi.
- Theme for World Trauma Day 2023 is "Embracing, Resilience, Overcoming Trauma's Impact".

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2023: 17th October

- The UN General Assembly officially declared October 17 as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty through resolution 47/196 on December 22, 1992.
- Theme for the 2023 is "Decent Work and Social Protection: Putting dignity in practice for all."

World Food Day 2023: 16 October

- The roots of World Food Day trace back to the establishment of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 1945. However, it wasn't until 1979, during the FAO Conference.
- The theme for World Food Day 2023 is "Water is life, water is food. Leave no one behind."

About FAO:

Director-General, QU Dongyu;
Headquarters: Rome, Italy;
Founded: 16 October 1945.

World Anaesthesia Day 2023: 16 October

- Also known in some countries as National Anaesthesia Day or Ether Day
- On 16 October to commemorate the first successful demonstration of diethyl ether anaesthesia by William T. G. Morton on 16 October 1846.
- The theme for World Anaesthesia Day in 2023 is 'Anaesthesia and Cancer Care.'

August 23 to be celebrated as National Space Day, Govt issues notification

- Indian government has designated August 23rd as National Space Day, a day to celebrate the remarkable success of the Chandrayaan 3 mission.
- "With the success of the Chandrayaan-3 Mission on 23rd August 2023, which involved the landing of the Vikram lander and deployment of the Pragyaan Rover on the lunar surface, India joins an elite group of spacefaring nations.

World Students Day 2023: 15 October

- World Students Day, observed on October 15 each year, is a day dedicated to commemorating the birth anniversary of the late Indian President, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.
- In 2023, World Students Day takes on special significance as we celebrate the 92nd birth anniversary of the A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

- Theme for the day is FAIL: stands for First Attempt in Learning.

International Day of Rural Women 2023: 15 October

- The theme of International Day of Rural Women 2023 is “Rural Women Cultivating Good For All”.
- On 18th December 2007, the United Nations General Assembly passed resolution 62/136, formally acknowledging the crucial role of rural women in agricultural and rural development, enhancing food security and reducing poverty. Subsequently, on 15th October 2008, the first-ever International Day of Rural Women celebrated.

International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2023: 13th October

- The theme of UN International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2023 is “Fighting inequality for a resilient future.”
- The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction was started in 1989.
- In 2015 at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan.

World Post Day 2023: 9th October

- WPD is celebrated each year on October 9th to commemorate the creation of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874.
- Theme for the 2023 is “Together for Trust: Collaborating for a safe and connected future.”
- National Postal Day also celebrated on October 10.
- It was Lord Dalhousie who established India Post for the first time in 1854.

World Mental Health Day 2023: 10th October

- World Mental Health Day on October 10th is a global initiative that brings organizations and individuals together to commemorate the importance of mental well-being.
- This occasion serves to enhance knowledge, raise awareness, and drive actions that promote and protect the mental health of all individuals as a fundamental human right.
- World Mental Health Day 2023 provides a platform for individuals and communities to unite under the theme “Mental health is a universal human right.”
- The theme of World Mental Health Day 2023 serves as a catalyst for individuals and communities to address mental health challenges.

World Cotton Day 2023: 7 October

- World Cotton Day, observed on October 7 each year, emphasises cotton’s importance in generating jobs and supporting economies, especially in less developed countries. The initiative of World Cotton Day was born in 2019, when four cotton producers in sub-Saharan

Africa– Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali, known as the Cotton Four -proposed the World Trade Organization a World Cotton Day celebration on October 7.

- The theme for World Cotton Day 2023, 'Making cotton fair and sustainable for all, from farm to fashion,' is championed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

World Animal Welfare Day 2023: 4th October

- World Animal Day, also known as World Animal Welfare Day, is a global initiative celebrated annually on October 4th. This day serves as an International Day of Action, advocating for the rights and welfare of animals. The choice of this date coincides with the feast day of Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. This event unites animal lovers worldwide, raising awareness and fostering a sense of responsibility towards the well-being of animals.
- The theme for World Animal Day 2023, "Great or Small, Love Them All," emphasizes the importance of acknowledging animals as sentient beings. It underscores the need to elevate global animal care standards and advocates for animal rights universally.

World Nature Day 2023: 3rd October

- World Nature Day, established by the World Nature Organization (WNO) on October 3, 2010, serves as a crucial platform to raise awareness.. In this article, we delve into the significance, celebration, and key facts about World Nature Day, highlighting its vital role in addressing the environmental issues that affect us all.
- World Nature Day is celebrated in various ways, involving people of all ages and backgrounds.

National zoological park begins celebration of 69th wildlife week

- National Zoological Park kick-started the celebration of 69th Wildlife Week with the theme "Partnerships for wildlife conservation", honoring the people who are making a difference, on the theme of UN World Wildlife Day 2023 and activities in context to wildlife conservation.
- The National Zoological Park will celebrate "Wildlife Week - 2023" from 02.10.2023 to 08.10.2023.
- The programme was started with floral tribute for animals died in the National Zoological Park. After this activities were inaugurated with lightning of lamp by the dignitaries Shri Bivash Ranjan, ADG (WL), MoEF&CC, Shri Sanjay Shukla, Member Secretary Central Zoo and Dr. Faiyaz A. Khudsar, Biodiversity Expert, University of Delhi. Awareness activities were organized like Nukkad Natak, expert talk on Biodiversity, video on mission LiFE and pledge.

SUMMITS AND MOU'S

Centre Launches 'Dark Patterns Buster Hackathon 2023' To Combat Deceptive Practices in E-Commerce

- The Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) in India, in partnership with IIT-BHU, has launched the 'Dark Patterns Buster Hackathon 2023.'

Jio MAMI Film Festival Began In Mumbai after a Four-Year Break

- A ceremony at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre (NMACC) in Mumbai on October 27.
- Priyanka Chopra Jonas is the chairperson of Jio MAMI.

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri Inaugurates 16th Urban Mobility India Conference & Exhibition 2023 in New Delhi

- Theme, of the exhibition is "Integrated and Resilient Urban Transport".

Reliance Jio Partners With Plume to Provide In-Home Services Enhanced By AI

- This partnership brings forth a range of innovative offerings under the names "HomePass" and "WorkPass."

About Reliance Jio:

Founder: Mukesh Ambani

Founded: 2007, Ahmedabad

Headquarters: Reliance Corporate Park, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

Owner: Reliance Industries

Dr S. Jaishankar reaches Bishkek for 22nd SCO Council of heads of Government meeting

- Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar recently visited Kyrgyzstan for a two-day trip.
- Jaishankar will participate in the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting hosted by Kyrgyzstan.

Airbus tie-up with IIT Kanpur to promote aerospace education and innovation in India

- The Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK) and Airbus have formalized their partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

IRCTC Partners With Zomato For Delivery Of Pre-Booked Meals

- As part of this groundbreaking partnership, IRCTC has launched a Proof of Concept (PoC) at five prominent railway stations: New Delhi, Prayagraj, Kanpur, Lucknow, and Varanasi.
- This PoC allows passengers to order and receive pre-ordered meals through the IRCTC E-Catering portal, with the assistance of Zomato.

About Zomato:

Owners: Info Edge, Ant Group

Founders: Deepinder Goyal, Akriti Chopra, Gunjan Patidar, Pankaj Chaddah

Founded: July 2008; 15 years ago

Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana, India

About IRCTC:

Founder: Ministry of Railways

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 27 September 1999

Owner: Government of India (67%)

Google and Qualcomm partner to make RISC-V chip for wearable devices

- The partnership between Qualcomm and Google to produce wearable devices based on RISC-V technology.

About Google:

Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin

Parent organization: Alphabet Inc.

Founded: 4 September 1998, Menlo Park, California, United States

Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States

CEO: Sundar Pichai (2 Oct 2015–)

About Qualcomm:

Headquarters: San Diego, California, United States

CEO: Cristiano Amon (30 Jun 2021–)

President: Cristiano Amon

Founded: July 1985, San Diego, California, United States

India & UK Hold First 2+2 Foreign & Defence Dialogue in New Delhi

- The inaugural India-UK '2+2' foreign and defence dialogue held in 16th October.
- The Indian delegation was co-chaired by Shri Piyush Srivastava, Joint Secretary Europe West, Ministry of External Affairs, and Shri Vishwesh Negi, Joint Secretary, International Cooperation, Ministry of Defence.
- On the UK side, Mr. Ben Mellor, India Director, Indian Ocean Directorate, FCDO, and Lt. General Rob Magowan.

About UK:

Capital: London

Prime Minister: Rishi Sunak

PM Modi to Inaugurate Global Maritime India Summit 2023 in Mumbai

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will virtually inaugurate the third edition of the Global Maritime India Summit 2023 (GMIS 2023).
- Set to be held from 17th to 19th October at MMRDA Grounds in Mumbai.
- GMIS 2023 provides the ideal platform for unveiling 'Amrit Kaal Vision 2047,' a comprehensive 25-year roadmap for India's maritime blue economy.

About Maharashtra:

Chief Minister: Shri Eknath Shinde

Governor: Ramesh Bais

World bank and japan collaborate for developing countries

- A ground-breaking new partnership launched today between the World Bank and Japan—joined by Italy, the Republic of Korea, Canada, and the United Kingdom—addresses both.
- Japan, Canada, Italy, the Republic of Korea, and the United Kingdom have pledged an initial total contribution of more than \$40 million to RISE, and more donors are expected to contribute.

- Japanese Finance Minister Suzuki Shunichi and World Bank President Ajay Banga announced the partnership during a launch event they co-hosted at the 2023 World Bank-International Monetary Fund Annual Meetings in Marrakech.
- Italy will contribute to RISE and will support its implementation in 2024, under the Italian G7 Presidency.”

About World Bank:

President: Ajay Banga

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

Founded: July 1944, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States

About Japan:

Prime minister: Fumio Kishida

Capital: Tokyo

PM Modi to Inaugurate 141st IOC Session in Mumbai

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate the 141st International Olympic Committee (IOC) session at the Jio World Centre in Mumbai on October 14.
- India’s second time hosting the IOC session, following a gap of nearly four decades since the 86th IOC session was held in New Delhi in 1983.
- International Olympic Committee President: Thomas Bach
- India’s second time hosting the event after a gap of nearly 40 years.
- India last hosted the IOC session in 1983.

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17th CII Annual Tourism Summit

- India’s G20 Presidency presents a unique opportunity to attract tourists worldwide.
- The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is organizing the 17th CII Tourism Summit on October 13, 2023, in Mumbai.
- Ms. V Vidyavathi, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, addresses inaugural session of 17th CII Annual Tourism Summit

India, France Defence Ministers hold fifth dialogue

- Shri Rajnath Singh, the Indian Defence Minister, concluded his two-nation European tour with a significant meeting in Paris with the French Minister of Armed Forces, Mr. Sebastien Lecornu.

About France:

Capital: Paris

PM: Élisabeth Borne

IGNOU & ICAI ink MoU for academic collaboration

- Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has recently renewed and restructured its Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI).
- Nageshwar Rao, is the Vice Chancellor of IGNOU, and CA Aniket Sunil Talati is the President of ICAI.

- The MoU was officially signed by CA Jai Kumar Batra, Secretary of ICAI, and Dr. Alok Chaube, Registrar of IGNOU.

India and Tanzania Set to Ink 15 Agreements, Aiming for USD 10 Billion Trade

- India and Tanzania are set to boost their bilateral cooperation as Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan visits India after an eight-year gap.
- The visit aims to elevate their relations to a strategic partnership and enhance trade and investment ties. Tanzanian Foreign Minister January Yusuf Makamba anticipates the signing of 15 agreements covering various areas of cooperation.
- Expectations of 15 agreements spanning government-to-government and private sector collaborations.
- Tanzanian President to address a business forum in New Delhi.
- Objective: Enhance trade volumes and expand bilateral trade to USD 10 billion in the next three years.

India, Saudi Arabia tie up for electrical interconnections, green Hydrogen

- India and Saudi Arabia have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on securing a green hydrogen supply chain and collaborating on power grid interconnection. This significant agreement was formalized in Riyadh during the MENA Climate Week 2023, with Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, RK Singh, representing India and Saudi Minister of Energy, Abdulaziz bin Salman Al-Saud, representing Saudi Arabia .
- The Ministry of Power released a statement highlighting the key areas of cooperation outlined in the MoU. **These include:**

Electrical Interconnection:

Co-development of Projects:

Green/Clean Hydrogen and Renewable Energy:

Secure Supply Chains:

Building on Previous Agreements

PM Modi to inaugurate Vibrant Gujarat Summit on Jan 10

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate the 10th edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Summit on January 10, 2024. Gujarat's Chief Minister, Bhupendra Patel, has emphasized the state's status as an attractive investment destination.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the 10th edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Summit on January 10, 2024. This event holds significance as it aligns with the Prime Minister's vision of "Viksit Bharat @2047," emphasizing India's growth and development.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Nita Ambani Receives USISPF Global Leadership Award for Philanthropy and Corporate Social Responsibility

- Nita Ambani, Founder and Chair of Reliance Foundation, was honored with the 2023 USISPF Global Leadership Award for Philanthropy and Corporate Social Responsibility. The award was presented by John Chambers, Chairman of USISPF, at a reception in New Delhi.

US President Biden Honors Indian-American Scientists with National Medal for Technology & Innovation

- US President Joe Biden recently awarded the prestigious White House National Medal for Technology and Innovation and the National Medal of Science to Ashok Gadgil and Subra Suresh, respectively.
- Gadgil's achievement marks the 17th national medal earned by Berkeley Lab researchers and the second National Medal of Technology and Innovation.

About USA:

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

Continent: North America

CJI Chandrachud Honored With "Award For Global Leadership" By Harvard Law School

- Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud, an distinguished alumnus of Harvard Law School, was bestowed with the prestigious 'Award for Global Leadership'.

Gujarat's Dhordo Awarded UNWTO's Best Tourism Village 2023

- Dhordo in Gujarat has garnered international recognition after it secured a place on the list of the 54 best tourism villages announced by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

About Gujarat:

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

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Shreya Ghoshal Won 5th National Awards 2023

- Won Best Female Playback Singer award at the 69th National Film Awards.
- The award was presented to her by the Hon'ble President of India, Droupadi Murmu, in a grand ceremony held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- Her fifth National Film Award. Her first National Award was in 2003 for the soul-stirring rendition of "Bairi Piya" in the iconic movie 'Devdas.'

Nawanpind Sardaran Village In Punjab Receives Best Tourism Village Award

- Nawanpind Sardaran village, located in Gurdaspur, Punjab, was recently awarded the title of "Best Tourism Village of India 2023" by the Union Ministry of Tourism.
- This recognition was a testament to the remarkable efforts of the Sangha sisters.
- The history of Nawanpind Sardaran dates back to the late 19th century when it was founded by Narain Singh.

Michael Douglas to be conferred Satyajit Ray Excellence in Film Lifetime Award

- Hollywood actor Michael Douglas is set to receive the prestigious Satyajit Ray Excellence in Film Lifetime Award at the 54th International Film Festival to be held in Goa.
- The upcoming 54th International Film Festival of India promises to be a star-studded event with the presence of Hollywood veteran Michael Douglas, Catherine Zeta Jones, and their son.

- The Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award, instituted in the IFFI in 1999.

NTPC Becomes The Only Indian PSU To Feature In Forbes “World’s Best Employers 2023” List

- India’s largest integrated energy conglomerate, NTPC Limited, has achieved a remarkable distinction by being named one of the “World’s Best Employers 2023” in the Forbes World’s Best Employers list, which was officially unveiled on October 10, 2023.
- This prestigious recognition places NTPC at the 261st position among the top 700 companies globally.
- NTPC’s inclusion on the Forbes World’s Best Employers List 2023 underscores the company’s commitment to a progressive “People before PLF” (Plant Load Factor) approach.

About NTPC:

Founded: 7 November 1975

Headquarters: New Delhi, India

Owner: Government of India

UP wins award for using telecommunication technology in mental health and counselling

- On October 10th, Uttar Pradesh was awarded the third prize for its outstanding efforts in operationalizing Telemanas.
- The award was presented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

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MRPL Secured ‘Best Innovation in Refinery’ Award For 2022-23

- mrpl bestowed by the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas at the 26th Energy Technology Meet 2023.

About Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL):

- Parent organization: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation
- Headquarters: Mangaluru
- Founded: 7 March 1988
- Key people: Subhash Kumar, (Chairman); M. Venkatesh; (md)

Vivek Agnihotri launches his latest book “The Book of Life: My Dance with Buddha for Success”

- Vivek Agnihotri, director of The Kashmir Files, has launched his latest book, “The Book of Life: My Dance with Buddha for Success” in Lucknow.
- He also directed a medical drama film ‘The Vaccine War’ in 2023. Balram Bhargava is the writer of the book on which the movie is based.
- Bhargava’s book, ‘Going Viral – Making of Covaxin: The Inside Story’, documents his experiences.

The survivor wins best action film at Cannes world film festival

- Each year, over 100 films grace the screens, but it’s only a handful among them that truly engraves an enduring and unforgettable impact on people. One such cinematic gem that has the global audience in sheer astonishment is multi-

talented Rajath Rajanikath's 'The Survivor.' It has set new standards of excellence, leaving an indomitable legacy in its wake by garnering praise at numerous film festivals.

- Having the outmost passion & desire of being an actor Rajath learnt aspects of filmmaking to put himself on screen, playing the Lead Actor, writer, director & editor of the film.
- This Indian action featurette hooks the viewers to the edge of their seats with its hair-raising plot and amazing action sequences. Helmed on a meager budget by a group of film graduates from Bengaluru, The Survivor proves that some movies don't need extravagant margins to make a mark.

Jailed Iranian activist Narges Mohammadi wins Nobel Peace Prize

- Narges Mohammadi "for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all". The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided to award the Nobel Peace Prize for 2023 to Narges Mohammadi for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all. Her brave struggle has come with tremendous personal costs. Altogether, the regime has arrested her 13 times, convicted her five times, and sentenced her to a total of 31 years in prison and 154 lashes.
- This year's peace prize also recognises the hundreds of thousands of people who, in the preceding year, have demonstrated against Iran's theocratic regime's policies of discrimination and oppression targeting women. The motto adopted by the demonstrators – "Woman – Life – Freedom" – suitably expresses the dedication and work of Narges Mohammadi.

Nobel Peace Prize awarded to jailed Iranian activist Narges Mohammadi

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- The motto adopted by the demonstrators – "Woman – Life – Freedom" – suitably expresses the dedication and work of Narges Mohammadi.

Bal Sahitya Puraskar in Manipuri language for Dilip Nongmaithem

- The Sahitya Akademi, India's premier literary institution, has once again recognized and celebrated outstanding literary contributions with the prestigious 'Bal Sahitya Puraskar' for the year 2023. This time, the honor has been conferred upon Dilip Nongmaithem, an accomplished author in the Manipuri language, for his remarkable work titled "Ibemama Amasung Ngabemama."

- In this instance, a panel of distinguished literary experts comprising three members, namely Dr. Hamom Nabachandra Singha, Dr. Khundongbam Gokulchandra Singh, and Prof. Naorem Bidyasagar Singha, played a pivotal role in evaluating the nominated works.

Mathematician Ruixiang Zhang to receive 2023 Sastra Ramanujan Prize

- Mathematician Ruixiang Zhang, an Assistant Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, USA, has been selected as the recipient of the prestigious 2023 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize.
- The prize, which includes a cash award of \$10,000, will be presented during an international conference in Number Theory, held in the hometown of the renowned mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan, at SASTRA University in Kumbakonam during the third week of December.
- In keeping with the legacy of Srinivasa Ramanujan, whose groundbreaking work was accomplished during his tragically brief life of 32 years, the SASTRA Ramanujan Prize maintains an age limit of 32 years for its recipients.

Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman get Nobel Prize for medicine

- Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman were jointly awarded the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine on Monday for their groundbreaking contributions to the development of highly effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19.
- The prestigious recognition underscores the critical role of their discoveries related to nucleoside base modifications in enabling the rapid creation of these vaccines during the pandemic.

Trio win 2023 Nobel Prize in Physics for use of light to study electrons

- Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L'Huillier “for experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electron dynamics in matter”. This year Nobel Laureates in Physics 2023 are being recognised for their experiments, which have given humanity new tools for exploring the world of electrons inside atoms and molecules.
- Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L'Huillier have demonstrated a way to create extremely short pulses of light that can be used to measure the rapid processes in which electrons move or change energy.

Sudha Murty Makes History As The First Female Recipient of Global Indian Award

- Renowned author, philanthropist and the wife of Infosys co-founder N.R. Narayana Murthy, Sudha Murthy, was honored with the prestigious Global Indian Award by the Canada India Foundation (CIF) at a grand Indo-Canadian gala in Toronto. The award, which carries a value of \$50,000, is presented annually to an outstanding Indian personality who has left an indelible mark in their respective field.

RANKING

India Ranks Third In Fintech Unicorns, With United States at the Top

- In 2023, India has secured the third position in the global fintech landscape with 17 fintech unicorns.
- In the world of fintech, the United States and the United Kingdom maintain their supremacy in terms of both quantity and value.
- UK ranks second with 27 fintech unicorns.

Mumbai second most polluted major global city as air quality worsens

- Mumbai ranking as the second most polluted city according to IQAir.
- Delhi, the capital, also faces significant air quality challenges, ranking sixth globally.

About Maharashtra:

Chief Minister: Eknath Shinde

Governor: Ramesh Bais

Capital: Mumbai

EU Report Recommends 2% Global Wealth Tax on Billionaires to Curb Evasion

- The European Union Tax Observatory has published the 'Global Tax Evasion Report 2024,' calling for a 2% global wealth tax on billionaires

Global Pension Index 2023: Countries With The Best Pension System

- The 15th annual Mercer CFA Institute Global Pension Index (MCGPI) recently revealed the ranking of retirement income systems in various countries.
- The Netherlands secured the top position, followed by Iceland and Denmark.
- India showed improvement, moving up to the 45th rank out of 47 systems analyzed.

Cirium's report: Kempegowda International Airport tops global on-time performance rankings

- Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru, also known as the Bengaluru International Airport.
- It has been recognized as the "world's most punctual airport" for the past three consecutive months.
- Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport was the only other Indian airport listed among the top five punctual airports globally.

About Karnataka:

Chief Minister: Siddaramaiah

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Annual Report 2022-2023 Released

- In April 2017, the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) launched the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS).

About NSSO:

Director General: Shri Bivas Chaudhuri

Global infrastructure faces annual losses of over USD 300 bn amid worsening climate impacts: CDRI report

- The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) has released a biennial report highlighting the alarming annual losses in global infrastructure due to the worsening impacts of climate change and disasters.
- The global annual average loss (AAL) in principal infrastructure sectors due to disasters and climate change stands between USD 301 and USD 330 billion.
- When including health and education infrastructure, along with building stock, this range increases significantly to USD 732 to USD 845 billion. Approximately half of this contingent liability is held by LMICs.

BANKING AND ECONOMY

PM Narendra Modi releases three books at Tulsi Peeth in Chitrakoot

- PM Modi made his way to Tulsi Peeth in Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh.
- The books unveiled were 'Ashtadhyayi Bhashya,' 'Ramanandacharya Charitam,' and 'Bhagwan Shri Krishna ki Rashtraleela.'
- Tulsi Peeth, established by Jagadguru Rambhadracharya in 1987.

About Madhya Pradesh:

Chief Minister: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Governor: Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

IMF Forecasts Global Growth Slowdown To 2.9% In 2024

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has recently unveiled latest prediction 3 percent in 2023 and further decline to 2.9 percent in 2024.

About IMF:

Founded: July 1944, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States

Founders: John Maynard Keynes, Harry Dexter White

Swan Energy pays ₹231 cr to acquire Reliance Naval and Engineering

- Swan Energy successfully completed the acquisition by paying ₹231 crore, well ahead of the November 15 deadline.

About Swan Energy:

Headquarters: India

Founded: 1909

"Vision India@2047: Transforming India into a Developed Nation by 2047"

- The Indian government is working on a comprehensive national vision plan, known as 'Vision India@2047', aimed at transforming the country into a developed nation by 2047.

Fincare SFB to merge with AU Small Finance Bank

- Fincare Small Finance Bank (Fincare SFB) is set to merge with AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB) starting from February 1, 2024.
- Shareholders of Fincare SFB will receive 579 shares in AU SFB for every 2,000 shares they hold in Fincare SFB.

About AU Small Finance Bank:

Headquarters: Jaipur

Founded: 1996

Founder: Sanjay Agarwal

RBI Approves MobiKwik's Zaakpay To Operate As Payment Aggregator

- Zaakpay offers over 100 different payment methods, including UPI, debit and credit cards, net banking, and mobile wallets.

Tata To Become India's First iPhone Manufacturer As Wistron Approves Factory Sale

- The Tata Group has taken a significant step towards manufacturing and assembling Apple iPhones in India for both domestic and international markets by acquiring Wistron's operations in India.
- Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar announced this major venture.

Zomato Introduces Maternity Insurance Plan for Women Delivery Partners

- Zomato has partnered with ACKO, a technology-driven insurance company, to provide this maternity insurance coverage.

About Zomato:

Owners: Info Edge, Ant Group

Founders: Deepinder Goyal, Akriti Chopra, Gunjan Patidar, Pankaj Chaddah

Founded: July 2008; 15 years ago

Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana, India

India to surpass Japan in 2030 to become 2nd largest economy of Asia, says S&P Global

- In 2030, India's GDP is expected to surpass even Germany.
- India's GDP had already outgrown that of the United Kingdom and France.
- India to become the third-largest economy in Asia-Pacific and the fifth-largest in the world.
- Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is predicted to reach a whopping \$7.3 trillion.
- Making it the second-largest economy in the Asia-Pacific region, just after China.

ONGC Secures Bid To Purchase PTC's Wind Power Division For Rs 925 crore

- Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has successfully secured a bid to acquire PTC India Ltd's wind power unit for Rs 925 crore.
- Board of PTC approved ONGC's bid to acquire a 100% equity stake in PEL, valuing the equity at Rs 925 crore.
- PEL was incorporated on August 1, 2008, and boasts a renewable energy portfolio with a total capacity of 288.8 MW.
- This portfolio includes 50 MW wind power projects in Madhya Pradesh, 50 MW wind power projects in Karnataka, and 188.8 MW wind power projects in Andhra Pradesh.

MeitY urges RBI to design more detailed KYC to ensure traceability

- Illegal instant loan apps have become a significant problem in India.
- Leading to financial scams and even driving some victims to suicide.

- These apps offer quick money but compromise users' privacy and security.

About RBI:

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

NLC India Green Energy Limited to Boost India's Green Energy Capacity

- NLC India, a Navratna public sector company, has unveiled its latest venture into the renewable energy sector.
- NLC India Ltd. 1956 - The Corporation was incorporated as a private limited company on 14th November, by the Government of India.
- HDFC Bank Unveils XpressWay Digital Platform for Swift Loans

About HDFC Bank:

Founded: August 1994, Mumbai

Headquarters: Mumbai

Key people: Atanu Chakraborty; (Chairman); Sashidhar Jagdishan; (CEO)

RBL Bank Introduces GO Savings Account

About RBL Bank:

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 14 June 1943

Key people: R. Subramania kumar; (MD & CEO)

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RBI Imposes ₹2.5 Crore Penalty On L&T Finance For Non Compliance

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently taken regulatory action against L&T Finance Limited by imposing a monetary penalty of ₹2.50 crore due to non-compliance with specific provisions of the Non-Banking Financial Company.

About RBI:

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

About L&T:

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founders: Henning Holck-Larsen, Søren Kristian Toubro

Founded: 7 February 1946, Mumbai

RBI Approves Kotak Mahindra Bank To Acquire MFI Sonata Finance

- Kotak Mahindra Bank has received the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval to acquire 100% stake in micro-lender Sonata Finance.

About Kotak Mahindra Bank:

Founder: Uday Kotak

Founded: 21 November 1985

Headquarters: Mumbai

About RBI:

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

RBI initiates Pilot Run to Test E-Rupee for Inter-Bank Borrowing

- Initiating a pilot run to test the E-Rupee, a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), for inter-bank borrowing.
- The pilot project is believed to have been introduced via nine prominent banks, which were already part of the G-Sec pilot. These banks include:
 1. State Bank of India
 2. Bank of Baroda
 3. Union Bank of India
 4. HDFC Bank
 5. ICICI Bank
 6. Kotak Mahindra Bank
 7. Yes Bank
 8. IDFC Bank
 9. HSBC

About RBI:

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

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India's Growing Contribution To Global Economic Growth

- Krishna Srinivasan, Director of IMF Asia & Pacific Department, has stated that India's contribution to global economic growth will increase from its current 16% to 18% within the next five years.
- Srinivasan highlighted that the region's economy is expected to grow by 4.6% in 2023 and 4.2% in 2024.

Tata Motors To Invest ₹150 Crore To Acquire 27% Stake In 'Freight Tiger'

- The company revealed its plan to acquire a 27% stake in Freight Tiger.
- Tata Motors also holds the option to further invest ₹100 crore over the next two years.

About Tata Motors:

Founded: 1945, Mumbai

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founder: J. R. D. Tata

Federal Bank Launched 'Mookkannoor Mission' Initiative At Its Founder's Village

- On the occasion of the 106th birth anniversary of its visionary founder, K.P Hormis yesterday, the Federal Bank recently inaugurated the 'Mookkannoor Mission'.
- Mookkannoor, located in the Ernakulam district of Kerala.

About Federal Bank:

Headquarters: Aluva

CEO: Shyam Srinivasan (23 Sept 2010–)

Founded: 23 April 1931, Nedumpuram

Founder: K. P. Hormis

Centre approves 4% hike in DA for central govt employees

- Central government employees and pensioners by increasing the Dearness Allowance (DA) and Dearness Relief (DR) by 4%. This increase will be effective from July 1, 2023.
- The DA will go up from 42% to 46%.
- This decision benefits a large number of people, including 48.67 lakh central government employees and 67.95 lakh pensioners.

Govt To Sell 7% Equity Stake In Hudco Through OFS

- GOI has announced its plans to divest 7% equity in Housing and Urban Development Corp. Ltd (Hudco) via an offer for sale (OFS) scheduled for October 18-19. This strategic move is expected to ₹1,100 crore in revenue.
- Secretary of the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management: Tuhin Kanta Pandey

PM Modi unveils long term blueprint for India's maritime economy

- These initiatives are aligned with the 'Amrit Kaal Vision 2047' for the Indian maritime blue economy.
- The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of the Tuna-Tekra all-weather deep-draft terminal, to be built at a cost of more than Rs 4,500 crore at Deendayal Port Authority in Gujarat.

About Gujarat:

Chief Minister: Bhupendra Patel

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

IDFC gets CCI nod for merger with IDFC First Bank

- Competition Commission of India (CCI) has given its approval for the merger of the Infrastructure Development Finance Company (IDFC) and IDFC First Bank.
- These include the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).
- As of June 30, 2023, IDFC held a 30.93 percent stake in IDFC First Bank through its non-financial holding company.
- IDFC Limited was set up in 1997

About IDFC FIRST Bank:

CEO: V. Vaidyanathan (19 Dec 2018)

Founded: October 2015

Headquarters: Mumbai

The expected economic growth of India in 2023-24 by the World Bank

- India's economy grew at 7.2% in FY22/23.
- Bank credit grew by 15.8% in the first quarter of FY23/24
- India's GDP growth for FY23/24 is forecasted to be 6.3%

About World Bank:

President: Ajay Banga

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

Founded: July 1944, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States

Asian Development Bank Invests \$181 Million to Improve Ahmedabad's Peri-urban Areas

- One of the main goals of this project is to control urban sprawl.

About Gujarat:

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

RBI Imposes ₹1 Crore Penalty On Union Bank

- RBI has imposed a penalty of ₹1 crore on Union Bank of India for its failure to adhere to the regulatory guidelines on 'Loans and Advances – Statutory and Other Restrictions.'
- RBL Bank has been fined an amount of ₹64 lakh for its failure to comply with RBI's regulatory approval norms.
- Bajaj Finance has also been levied a penalty of ₹8.50 lakh for breaching regulatory norms.

Zomato Introduces Parcel Delivery Service, 'Xtreme' With Primary Focus On Merchants

- Zomato charges an initial fee of Rs 25 for the first kilometer of delivery.
- It's important to note that these prices do not include the Goods and Services Tax (GST) component.

About Zomato:

Founders: Deepinder Goyal, Akriti Chopra, Gunjan Patidar, Pankaj Chaddah

Founded: July 2008; 15 years ago

Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana, India

ICICI Bank Introduces 'iFinance,' A One-Stop Solution for Multi-Bank Account Access

- Siddhartha Mishra, the Head of Digital Channels at ICICI Bank.

About ICICI bank:

Headquarters: Mumbai

CEO: Sandeep Bakhshi (15 Oct 2018–)

Founded: 1994, Vadodara

Founder: Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India

RBI Cancels Registration Certificate Of Ind Bank Housing Ltd

- Ind Bank Housing Ltd, established in 1991, has been facing financial challenges, as evidenced by its widening net loss and negative capital adequacy ratio.
- The RBI has directed that the company is not permitted to transact the business of a Housing Finance Institution or a Non-Banking Financial Institution as defined

in the National Housing Bank Act, 1987, and the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, respectively.

About RBI:

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

BITES Ltd, a prominent Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Railways.

- It has achieved the prestigious 'Navratna' status, becoming the 16th CPSE in India.

List of Other 15 Navratna PSUs:

1. Bharat Electronics Limited,
2. Container Corporation of India Limited,
3. Engineers India Limited,
4. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited,
5. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited,
6. National Aluminium Company Limited,
7. National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited,
8. Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited,
9. NMDC Limited,
10. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited,
11. Shipping Corporation of India Limited,
12. Rail Vikas Nigam Limited,
13. ONGC Videsh Ltd,
14. Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited, and
15. IRCON.

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Bharti Group to Acquire French Insurer AXA's 49% Stake in Bharti AXA Life Insurance Co.

- For almost twenty years, Bharti axa Life Insurance co was a joint venture between Bharti Group and axa.
- The acquisition by Bharti Group, conducted through its Bharti Life Ventures arm, is expected to conclude by December this year.
- Founder and Chairman of Bharti Enterprises: Sunil Bharti Mittal

Ahead of Bima Vistaar rollout, IRDAI issues guidelines on Bima Vahaks

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has announced its ambitious plan to deploy 'Bima Vahaks' in every Gram Panchayat across the country by December 31, 2024.
- IRDAI has introduced the 'Bima Vahaks (BV)' initiative to expand insurance coverage and accessibility.

- The objective of this initiative remains women-centric, with the aim of creating a dedicated distribution channel that ensures the availability of insurance services in every corner of India.
- These guidelines distinguish between two categories of Bima Vahaks: individual and corporate.
- Both these categories play a crucial role in the distribution of insurance services.

YES BANK becomes the first bank to offer 'ONDC Network Gift Card'

- YES Bank, a prominent financial institution in India, has taken a significant leap forward in the digital commerce space by introducing the ONDC Network Gift Card. This move makes YES Bank the first bank in the country to issue such a card.
- The ONDC Network Gift Card is at the forefront of democratizing digital commerce. Unlike traditional gift cards that restrict usage to a specific brand or store, this concept empowers customers to utilize the gift card for purchasing products from any brand and any seller across a wide array of segments.

Urban unemployment falls to 6.6% in Q1 FY24

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released its quarterly bulletin of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), shedding light on the urban unemployment situation in India during the first quarter of the fiscal year.
- In the April-June quarter of this fiscal year, the urban unemployment rate in India dropped to 6.6%.
- This was the lowest level recorded since the PLFS bulletin was launched in 2018.
- For males above the age of 15, the urban unemployment rate decreased from 6.0% in the previous quarter to 5.9%.

Indian Navy & SBI launches unique NAV-eCash card

- To support the Indian government's Digital India initiative, the State Bank of India (SBI) introduced a new card called NAV-eCash on the Indian Navy's aircraft carrier, INS Vikramaditya. The launch took place on October 1, 2021, at Karwar.

Key Points:

1. Digital Payment Advancement
2. Joint Unveiling
3. Unique Features
4. Collaborative Effort
5. Digital Transactions Anywhere

GST council announces significant reduction in tax rates for millets

- The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council has taken a significant step towards promoting healthy eating by announcing a substantial reduction in GST rates for millet flour food preparations.

- The sources told the tax rate has been reduced from the current 18 percent to a more affordable 5 percent.
- Millet flour, known for its nutritional value and health benefits, has gained popularity among health-conscious consumers in India.
- By reducing the GST rate on millet flour food preparations, the government aims to make these nutritious food items more accessible to the public.

RBI says to continue to focus on inflation, liquidity in banking system

- In a recent announcement, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) underscored the significance of addressing high inflation to maintain macroeconomic stability and sustainable growth. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das emphasized the central bank's commitment to achieving a durable 4% inflation target while keeping benchmark interest rates unchanged for the fourth consecutive meeting.
- RBI Governor Das highlighted that the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is steadfastly dedicated to realigning inflation with the 4% target.

REC launches its 54EC Bonds Mobile App

- REC Limited, a prominent Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) specializing in Power Sector Financing and Development, announced the launch of its latest digital innovation, the 'SUGAM REC' mobile application. This exclusive app has been specifically designed to cater to the needs of investors interested in REC's 54EC Capital Gain Tax Exemption Bonds.
- Section 54EC Bonds: These bonds are a type of fixed-income financial instrument that offers tax exemption on capital gains to investors, as per Section 54EC of the Income Tax Act.

SBI launches 'Mobile Handheld Device' for its financial inclusion customers

- In a groundbreaking move aimed at enhancing accessibility and convenience in availing banking services, the State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced the 'Mobile Handheld Device' for its Financial Inclusion (FI) customers. This pioneering initiative, unveiled by the Chairman of SBI, Shri Dinesh Khara, seeks to empower financial inclusion and extend essential banking services to the masses.
- Financial inclusion, often referred to as inclusive finance, is the endeavor to ensure that financial products and services are within reach and reasonably priced for everyone, whether they are individuals or businesses, regardless of their personal wealth or the size of their company.

India's Sept diesel exports to Europe highest so far in '23

- In September 2023, India witnessed a remarkable surge in its diesel exports to Europe, reaching their highest levels for the year. This surge was driven by a combination of factors, including reduced supplies from West Asia and the United States (US) due to the autumn refinery maintenance season and robust demand in Europe.

- India's diesel exports to Europe in September reached approximately 333,000 barrels per day (bpd), marking a substantial increase of nearly 47 percent from August.
- This surge was even more impressive when compared to the same month the previous year, with a year-on-year increase of 57 percent, according to data provided by Vortexa.

Government Maintains GPF Rate at 7.1%

- In a recent announcement, the government has decided to keep the interest rate on General Provident Fund (GPF) savings unchanged at 7.1% for the October - December quarter. This marks the 15th successive quarter where the government has maintained the status quo, ensuring stability for government employees' retirement savings.
- The Finance Ministry officially notified the retention of the 7.1% interest rate.
- The last adjustment to the GPF rate occurred in the first quarter of 2020-21 when it was reduced from 7.9% to 7.1%.

UNCTAD expects global economic growth for 2023 to slow down to 2.4%

- The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has revised India's economic growth forecast for 2023 upward to 6.6% from the earlier projection of 6%. However, the report also anticipates a slowdown in India's growth to 6.2% in 2024.
- Furthermore, the UNCTAD highlights concerns about the global economic outlook, with a deceleration to 2.4% in 2023, followed by a marginal improvement to 2.5% in 2024.
- UNCTAD revises India's 2023 economic growth forecast to 6.6%, up from the previous estimate of 6%.
- Predicts a slight decline in India's growth to 6.2% for the year 2024.

PMI manufacturing hits 5-month low at 57.5 in September

- In September, India's manufacturing sector saw a notable slowdown, reaching a five-month low, as reported by the seasonally adjusted S&P Global India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI). This index slipped to 57.5 from 58.6 in August, indicating a deceleration in activity. A PMI reading of 50 represents no change in activity levels.
- While input cost inflation reached its lowest point in over three years, firms raised their output charges at a pace higher than the long-run average. This decision may potentially impact future sales prospects. Firms attributed the price hikes to increased labor costs, optimistic business confidence, and robust demand observed in September.

World Bank retains India's FY24 GDP growth at 6.3%, cites inflation hurdle

- Despite substantial external challenges, India's economy remains robust, prompting the World Bank to maintain its growth forecast for the fiscal year

2023-24 at 6.3%. This decision reflects India's remarkable resilience within a demanding global environment.

- India's economic resilience is underpinned by key factors, including strong domestic demand, significant public infrastructure investments, and a strengthening financial sector. Notably, bank credit growth has surged to 15.8% in the first quarter of FY23/24, indicating a healthy financial environment.
- India does face challenges due to ongoing global headwinds, including sluggish demand, elevated interest rates, and geopolitical tensions. The World Bank anticipates these challenges to persist and potentially intensify due to factors such as high global interest rates, geopolitical conflicts, and subdued global demand. Consequently, global economic growth is expected to slow down over the medium term.

World bank research paper on karnataka Gram panchayat fund

- Though the Karnataka government has taken many legislative measures to decentralise powers to rural local bodies during the last three decades, fund allocations in gram panchayats (GPs) are most influenced by the elite, according to a research paper of the World Bank. Men and 'upper' caste individuals in GPs ensure that their preferences are represented better in allocation of funds, it said.
- "Funding is least representative of the needs of women and Scheduled Castes and this a clear indication of an elite bias in funding allocations in elected GPs of Karnataka," said the report.

Agri-start-ups recommended for technical & financial

- In a significant boost to the agri-tech sector, experts have recommended 24 start-ups for technical and financial support from a dedicated fund of Rs 20 crore. This transformative initiative was announced during the ATMAN (Agri sTartup deMo And funding) 2023 program.
- ATMAN (Agri sTartup deMo And funding) 2023 program was organized by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) in collaboration with four Technology Innovation Hubs. These hubs, established under the National Mission on Inter-disciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) at prominent Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).