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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Nepal Becomes First South Asian Nation to Register Same-Sex Marriage

- Nepal, adopted in 2015, took a bold step by explicitly prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation.
- Nepal became the first South Asian country to formally register a case of same-sex marriage.
- Pushpa Kamal Dahal is the current Prime Minister of Nepal.

India, US to Launch Joint Microwave Satellite for Earth Observation

- India and the United States joint launch of the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite.
- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, in a recent meeting with a high-level NASA delegation led by Administrator Mr. Bill Nelson.

About NASA:

Founder: Dwight D. Eisenhower

Founded: 29 July 1958, United States

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

About ISRO:

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai

Founded: 15 August 1969

India-Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise Culminates at Southern Command in Pune

- The Mitrashakti 2023 joint military exercise, a collaborative effort between the Indian Army and the Sri Lankan Army, concluded at Pune's southern command foreign training node.

About Sri Lanka:

Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

Prime Minister: Dinesh Gunawardena

President: Ranil Wickremesinghe

Angkor Wat Becomes the 8th wonder of the world

- Angkor Wat, located in the heart of Cambodia, has recently earned the prestigious title of the 8th wonder of the world, surpassing Italy's Pompeii.
- This UNESCO World Heritage Site is not only the largest religious structure in the world but also a testament to architectural brilliance and cultural significance.
- It spans approximately 500 acres and serves as the largest religious monument in the world.
- Originally constructed in the 12th century by King Suryavarman II, the temple was dedicated to the Hindu deity Vishnu.

Indian-Origin Ex-MP Dave Sharma wins Australian Senate Seat

- Dave Sharma, winning the New South Wales Liberal Senate race.
- Sharma served as Australia's ambassador to Israel from 2013 to 2017.

Reassessing India's Bilateral FTAs: A Closer Look at Singapore

- Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) has recommended review of India's bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs).
- Singapore, a member of the 10-nation ASEAN bloc, has been in a free trade agreement with India since 2010.
- India and Singapore entered into a comprehensive FTA in 2005.
- India and Thailand established a limited free trade pact in 2006, known as the early harvest scheme (EHS).

About Singapore:

Capital: Singapore

President: Tharman Shanmugaratnam

About Thailand:

Capital: Bangkok

King: Maha Vajiralongkorn

Currency: Thai Baht

Prime minister: Srettha Thavisin

Robert Shetkintong Appointed as the Next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Mozambique

- Robert Shetkintong, the current Ambassador of India to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, has been designated as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Mozambique.

About Mozambique:

Capital: Maputo

Currency: Mozambican metical

Official language: Portuguese

President: Filipe Jacinto Nyusi

Malaysia Opens Visa-free Travel for Indian Visitors and Chinese Citizens

- Malaysia has joined Thailand and Sri Lanka to offer 30 days of visa-free travel to visitors from India, starting from December 1.
- Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim also announced a similar provision for Chinese citizens.

Afghanistan Closes Its Embassy in India Permanently

- The Afghanistan embassy in New Delhi has officially announced its permanent closure, citing persistent challenges from the India.

About Afghanistan:

Acting prime minister: Mohammad Hasan Akhund

UAE Inaugurates World's Largest Single-Site Solar Power Plant

- United Arab Emirates (UAE) has inaugurated the world's largest single-site solar power plant, the 2-gigawatt (GW) Al Dhafra Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Independent Power Project (IPP).

- The project was inaugurated by Sheikh Hazza bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Ruler of Abu Dhabi.

About UAE:

Capital: Abu Dhabi

Prime Minister: Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

President: Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan

The Langlands Program: World's Largest Mathematics Project

- Five years ago, in 2018, Dr. Langlands was awarded the Abel Prize, one of the highest honors for mathematicians.
- This groundbreaking initiative, known as the Langlands Program, has its roots in a 17-page letter written by Dr. Langlands to the French mathematician André Weil in 1967.

About Abel Prize:

Established: 23 August 2001

First awarded: 2003

Luc Frieden Assumed the Position of Prime Minister in Luxembourg

- Former finance minister Luc Frieden assumes the role of prime minister.

About Luxembourg:

Capital: Luxembourg

Prime minister: Luc Frieden

Currency: Euro (€) (EUR)

USI Hosts UN Forum 2023 on Humanitarian Law and Peacekeeping

- The United Service Institution of India (USI), founded in 1870 as the country's premier think-tank for national security and military affairs, is hosting the Annual UN Forum 2023 in New Delhi on November 21-22.

About UN:

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

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

Headquarters: New York, New York, United States

Secretary general: António Guterres

UK stance on agri GI items remains hurdle in FTA talks with India

- The UK seeks heightened safeguards for its GIs, including renowned items like Scotch whisky, Stilton cheese, and Cheddar cheese.

About UK:

Capital: London

President: Rishi Sunak

India-bound ship hijacked by Yemen's Houthi rebels in Red Sea, says IDF

- A cargo ship named "Galaxy Leader," en route from Turkey to India, has been hijacked by Yemen's Houthi rebels in the Red Sea.

About Yemen:

Capital: Sana'a
Currency: Yemeni Rial
President: Ali Abdullah Saleh

India Dispatches Second Round Of Aid to Gaza amidst Israel-Hamas Conflict

- The second batch of aid, carried by the Indian Air Force's C17 aircraft, comprises 32 tonnes of essential supplies.
- The aircraft is destined for the El-Arish Airport in Egypt, approximately 45km away from the Rafah crossing, the sole entry point for humanitarian aid into Gaza.

About Israel:

Capital: Jerusalem
Prime minister: Benjamin Netanyahu
President: Isaac Herzog

Argentina Elects 'Shock Therapy' Libertarian Javier Milei as President

- Argentinians have elected Javier Milei as their next president.

About Argentina:

President: Alberto Fernández
Capital: Buenos Aires

Putin to Participate In Virtual G20 Meeting on November 22

- Russian President Vladimir Putin is set to participate in a virtual G20 leaders meeting on November 22, as reported by Russian state television.

About Russia:

President: Vladimir Putin
Capital: Moscow

Pedro Sanchez Re-Elected As Spanish Prime Minister

- Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez has secured a second term.
- He assumed office as Prime Minister in June 2018.

About Spain:

Capital: Madrid
King: Felipe VI of Spain
Official language: Spanish
Continent: Europe, Africa

Pakistan-Based Startup She-Guard Wins Top Climate Innovation Competition

- Pakistan-based cleantech startup She-Guard emerged victorious at the 'ClimateLaunchpad Asia-Pacific' finals.
- She-Guard faced stiff competition with 172 other teams from six countries in the Asia-Pacific in the finals.
- The event hosted by national partner Centre4 Creativity & Sustainability, and funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland (Irish Aid).
- Mehreen Raza is the founder and CEO of She-Guard.

6th India-OPEC Energy Dialogue High-Level Meeting Held in Vienna, Austria

- The 6th High-Level Meeting of the India-OPEC Energy Dialogue took place on 9 November 2023.
- At the OPEC Secretariat in Vienna, Austria. The co-chairs of the meeting were HE Haitham Al Ghais, Secretary General of OPEC.
- And Hardeep Singh Puri, Honourable Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs of the Republic of India.

Former PM David Cameron Appointed As the UK Foreign Secretary

- Rishi Sunak appointed David Cameron as Foreign Secretary, Victoria Atkins as the new Health Secretary, and Steve Barclay for the role of the Environment Secretary.

Russia Pulled Out Of Treaty of Conventional Armed Forces in Europe

- The move follows Russia's recent revocation of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).
- Signed in 1990 after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

About Russia:

Capital: Moscow

Continent: Europe, Asia

Currency: Russian Ruble

Prime minister: Mikhail Mishustin

UK To Add India to Safe States List, Restrict Asylum Rights for Illegal Migrants

- India and Georgia are the two countries featured in the draft legislation that has been laid in the House of Commons.

About United Kingdom:

Capital: London

President: Rishi Sunak

Record 7.5 million people globally diagnosed with TB in 2022: WHO

- A total of 7.5 million people were diagnosed with tuberculosis in 2022, the highest recorded since WHO began global TB monitoring in 1995, according to a report featuring data from 192 countries and areas.

About WHO:

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Founders: United States, Brazil, Mexico, France, United Kingdom, MORE

Founded: 7 April 1948

Director General: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Sanya Malhotra's 'The Great Indian Kitchen' Hindi remake titled 'Mrs'; to premiere at Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival

- Hindi film "Mrs", fronted by Sanya Malhotra, will receive its world premiere on November 17 at the 2023 POFF, the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival.

- Directed by Arati Kadav, "Mrs" will also compete in the Critics' Pick Competition section, the makers said.

US Announces \$553 Million Investment in Adani's Sri Lanka Port Terminal Project

- The United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) has revealed a substantial investment of \$553 million in Adani Ports' container terminal project located in the Port of Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Adani Ports initiated this project in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) and John Keells Holdings. The consortium, named Colombo West International Terminal Pvt. Ltd.

About Sri Lanka:

Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

Currency: Sri Lankan Rupee

Official languages: Sinhala, Tamil

President: Ranil Wickremesinghe

Prime minister: Dinesh Gunawardena

About USA:

Capital: Washington, D.C.

Continent: North America

President: Joe Biden

China Faces Deflationary Pressures in October despite Import Surge

- China, the world's second-largest economy, encountered a setback as it slipped back into deflation in October.
- The National Bureau of Statistics reported a 0.2 percent year-on-year decline in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
- The CPI had shown marginal improvement in September and August following a 0.3 percent drop in July.

About China:

Capital: Beijing

President: Xi Jinping

Chile becomes 95th member of International Solar Alliance ISA

- Chile has recently become the 95th member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- ISA was initially conceived as a joint effort by India and France.

G7 Foreign Ministers Meet in Japan, With the Israel-Gaza Conflict as a Key Focus

- The Group of Seven (G7) foreign ministers' meetings held this week have taken center stage in addressing the Israel-Hamas conflict and the ensuing humanitarian crisis in Gaza.
- Japan, which chairs this year's G7 meetings, hosted the discussions.
- U.S. Secretary of State Blinken engaged in bilateral talks with Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa.

IIT Madras Sets Its First International Campus on Zanzibar Island in Tanzania

- IIT Madras has become the first Indian Institute of Technology to establish an international campus on the picturesque Zanzibar Island in East Africa.
- Inaugurated by the President of Zanzibar, Hussein Ali Mwinyi.

About Tanzania:

Capital: Dodoma

President: Samia Suluhu Hassan

“AI” Named Collins Dictionary’s Word of the Year for 2023

- Collins Dictionary has declared “AI” as the Word of the Year for 2023.

About Collins Dictionary:

Originally published: 1979

Original language: English

Minuteman III missile test launched by US air force

- The U.S. Air Force said on Wednesday it had blown up a Minuteman III missile over the Pacific Ocean after an anomaly was detected following its launch from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California.
- The nuclear-capable Minuteman III, made by Boeing, is key to the U.S. military’s strategic arsenal. The missile has a range of 6,000-plus miles (9,660-plus km) and can travel at a speed of about 15,000 miles per hour (24,000 kph).

About USA:

President: Joe Biden

Capital: Washington, D.C.

Renowned Filmmaker Shekhar Kapur to Chair International Jury Panel at IFFI

- International Film Festival of India (IFFI), an annual cinematic extravaganza, is gearing up for its 54th edition.
- Set to unfold in the picturesque state of Goa from November 20 to November 28, 2023.

About International Film Festival of India:

Location: Goa, India

Next date: Mon, 20 Nov, 2023 – Tue, 28 Nov, 2023

Founded: 24 January 1952; 71 years ago

Hosted by: Government of Goa; Directorate of Film Festivals

Most recent: 2022

NATIONAL NEWS

Government Extends PMGKAY Scheme for 5 More Years, to Cost 11.8 Lakh Crore

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has announced a five-year extension of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) scheme.
- This initiative aims to provide 5 kilograms of free foodgrains per month to 81.35 crore poor citizens, incurring a cost of approximately ₹11.80 lakh crore for the exchequer.

Nitin Gadkari Inaugurates 'Classic Imperial' Luxury Cruise in Kerala

- Nitin Gadkari virtually marked the inauguration of 'Classic Imperial,' a luxury cruise vessel, in Kochi.
- The vessel, touted as the largest of its kind built in Kerala, can accommodate 150 people at a time.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Launched in SWGH

- Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in South West Garo Hills, orchestrated by the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) at MFC, Ampati.

Union WCD Minister Launches 'Anganwadi Protocol for Divyang Children'

- Union Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, recently launched the Anganwadi Protocol Divyang Children in a national outreach program at Vigyan Bhawan on November 28, 2023.

Railways to Upgrade 'Kavach' To LTE: Ashwini Vaishnaw

- Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced the Ministry of Railways' plans to upgrade its indigenous anti-collision system, Kavach, to 4G/5G (LTE-based) technology.
- Former railway board chairman and CEO: Anil Kumar Lahoti
- New Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Railways: Smt. Jaya Varma Sinha.

MAHASAGAR, Indian Navy's Initiative between Maritime Heads

- On November 29, 2023, the Indian Navy marked a significant milestone with the inaugural edition of MAHASAGR.
- Chief of the Naval Staff is Adm R Hari Kumar.

Bengaluru to Get India's Largest Circular Railway, Spanning 287 kilometers

- Bengaluru, the bustling IT hub of India, is poised to witness a groundbreaking development in its transportation infrastructure with the announcement of a 287-km circular railway.
- Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw disclosed this ambitious project.

About Karnataka:

Founded: 1 November 1956

Chief Minister: Siddaramaiah

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Capital: Bengaluru (Executive Branch)

Rajnath Singh Unveils Crest of India Guided Missile Destroyer 'INS Imphal'

- The crest of Yard 12706 (Imphal), Indian Navy's third stealth guided missile destroyer, was unveiled by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in a momentous ceremony held in New Delhi.
- Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh, marking a historic moment in the country's naval history.
- Designed by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau (WDB) and built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai.

Amritsar to Host Military Literature Festival Next Year

- The Military Literature Festival is set to return for its second district-level edition in Amritsar.
- Organized by the Military Literature Festival Association and chaired by Lt-Gen TS Shergill (retd.)
- Punjab state of government, as highlighted by Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann during last year's festival in Chandigarh.

Odisha CM Launches 'AMA Bank' for Gram Panchayat Banking

- Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the "AMA Bank" scheme aimed at providing banking services through CSP Plus banking outlets in all unbanked Gram Panchayats (GPs) of Odisha.
- Odisha as the pioneer state in India.

All 41 Workers Evacuated in Uttarakhand Tunnel After 17 days

- All 41 workers were successfully rescued from the collapsed Silkyara-Barkot tunnel in Uttarakhand, India.
- The 4.5 km-tunnel is part of the Centre's ambitious Char Dham project .

About Uttarakhand:

Capital: Dehradun (Winter)

Chief Minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami

Governor: Gurmit Singh

Founded: 9 November 2000

Center Renames Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centers to Ayushman Arogya Mandir

- The Union Government has recently made a significant decision to rebrand the existing Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) as 'Ayushman Arogya Mandir' with the tagline 'Arogyam Parmam Dhanam.'

Madhya Pradesh: India's Largest Tiger Reserve to be Set Up in Damoh

- Damoh district in Madhya Pradesh is poised to become the home of the country's largest tiger reserve.
- The central government has greenlit the merger of Noradehi Sanctuary with the Durgavati Sanctuary in Damoh.

About Madhya Pradesh:

Founded: 1 November 1956

Governor: Mangubhai C. Patel

Chief Minister: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Capital: Bhopal (Executive Branch)

CSJMU in Kanpur gets A++ Grading by NAAC

- Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj University (CSMUJ) in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, has achieved a significant milestone by securing the highest grading, A++, from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC).

- The university's leadership, guided by Chancellor Anandiben Patel and Vice Chancellor Professor Vinay Kumar Pathak.
- CSJMU, established in 1966 with affiliations to 617 colleges.

About Uttar Pradesh:

Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath

Capital: Lucknow (Executive Branch)

Governor: Anandiben Patel

President Droupadi Murmu Unveils Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Statue at Supreme Court

- On the auspicious occasion of Constitution Day, President Droupadi Murmu revealed a statue of Dr B R Ambedkar within the Supreme Court premises.
- Chief Justice of India, D Y Chandrachud, and Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal paid their respects to Dr B R Ambedkar by folding their hands and presenting flowers to the impressive over 7-feet tall sculpture.
- As 2015, November 26 has been dedicated to Constitution Day.

Hardeep Puri Inaugurates Second Floating CNG Station in Varanasi

- Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, inaugurated the city's second floating Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Mobile Refueling Unit (MRU) station at Ravidas Ghat. Developed by GAIL (India) Limited.

Mumbai Street to be named in Memory of Actor Vikram Gokhale

- As the first death anniversary of the legendary figure approaches, a street in Andheri West, Mumbai, is set to be named in his honor.
- Gokhale was conferred with the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2011) & National Award (2012).

India Unveils Biogas Blending Plan to Reduce Natural Gas Imports and Achieve Net Zero Emissions

- Indian government has announced a phased introduction of blending compressed biogas with natural gas.
- India's commitment to achieving net zero emissions by 2070.
- Commencing in April 2025, the government will initiate the mandatory blending of compressed biogas with natural gas at a rate of 1%.

India to Chair International Sugar Organisation

- India is set to take the helm as the chairman of the International Sugar Organisation (ISO) in 2024.
- The announcement came during the 63rd council meeting of the ISO, headquartered in London.

About International Sugar Organisation:

Founded: 3 December 1968;

Headquarters: London, E14; United Kingdom.

India and Nepal Convene for the 17th Edition of Joint Military Exercise SURYA KIRAN

- The 17th edition of the Joint Military Exercise SURYA KIRAN is set to strengthen the longstanding ties between India and Nepal.
- Exercise, scheduled from 24th November to 7th December 2023.

Telangana Unveils the World's First 3D-Printed Temple

- Telangana has unveiled the world's first 3D-printed temple, a groundbreaking structure situated in Burugupally, Siddipet district.
- The temple was constructed by Hyderabad-based Apsuja Infratech in collaboration with Simpliforge Creations, a 3D printing company.

About Telangana:

Capital: Hyderabad

Chief Minister: K. Chandrashekar Rao

Governor: Tamilisai Soundararajan

Founded: 2 June 2014

Indian Navy deploys INS Sumedha in Mozambique to boost interoperability

- Indian Naval Ship Sumedha arrived at Maputo, Mozambique on November 21, 2023, as part of the ongoing Extended Operational Deployment to Africa.

About Mozambique:

Capital: Maputo;

Currency: Mozambican metical;

President: Filipe Jacinto Nyusi;

Prime Minister: Adriano Afonso Maleiane.

Meghalaya Launches 'Water Smart Kid Campaign' For Youth Water Conservation Awareness

- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma launched the 'Meghalaya Water Smart Kid Campaign.'
- This initiative, operating under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), aims to educate children about the vital importance of water conservation.

About Meghalaya:

Capital: Shillong

Governor: Phagu Chauhan

Anurag Thakur Launched Inaugural VFX and Tech Pavilion at 54th IFFI

- Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, the Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, inaugurated the VFX and Tech Pavilion at the 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa.

About Goa:

Capital: Panaji

Governor: P.S. Sreedharan Pillai

CM: Pramod Sawant

“Ghol” Fish Declared State Fish of Gujarat

- The announcement was made by Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel during the inaugural ceremony of the first Global Fisheries Conference India 2023 held at Gujarat Science City.

About Gujarat

Capital: Gandhinagar

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

Government’s ‘Skills on Wheels’ Initiative for Rural Empowerment

- Indian government is set to launch the ‘Skills on Wheels’ initiative, aiming to deliver skill training directly to the doorsteps of rural individuals.
- Ved Mani Tiwari, the CEO of the National Skills Development Corporation (NSDC), revealed that.

Bihar Governor Approves Bill Raising Reservation From 50% to 65%

- Governor of Bihar, Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, approved the ‘Bihar Reservation Amendment Bill’ on November 17.
- The bill raises the reservation quota for Backward, Extremely Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from 50% to 65%, surpassing the 50% ceiling set by the Supreme Court.

Droupadi Murmu to Confer President’s Colour Award to AFMC on Dec 1

- On December 1, President Droupadi Murmu is set to confer the prestigious President’s Colour to the Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC).
- The President’s Colour, also known as ‘Rashtrapati ka Nishaan,’

Kochi in Condé Nast List of Best Places to Visit In 2024

- Kochi, a vibrant city in the Indian state of Kerala, has earned a prestigious spot on Conde Nast Traveller’s list of the best places to visit in Asia in 2024.
- Kochi International Airport (CIAL) stands out as the world’s first airport to operate solely on solar energy.

India Achieves Historic Milestone in Patent Grants: 41,010 Patents in 2023-24

- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal announced that the Indian patent office has achieved an unprecedented milestone by granting a record-breaking 41,010 patents in the current fiscal year, up until November 15.
- He hailed the accomplishment as the “highest ever number of patents granted so far in 2023-24.

Joint Military Exercise “Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2023” Begins in Pune

- The ninth edition of the Joint Military exercise, known as “Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2023,” kicked off in Aundh (Pune). Running from November 16th to 29th, 2023.

‘Hello Naariyal’ Call Centre Launched By CDB

- The Coconut Development Board (CDB) has recently launched the “Hello Naariyal” Friends of Coconut Trees (FoCT) call centre facility.
- This initiative is expected to benefit farmers not only in Kerala but also in traditional coconut-growing states like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka

Indian Navy Launches 4th Anti-Submarine Warfare Craft, named ‘Amini’

- India’s naval capabilities was achieved as ‘Amini,’ the fourth of the Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC) Project, was successfully launched at M/s L&T Shipbuilding in Kattupalli.

Assam Government Approves Merger of SEBA and AHSEC

- Assam Cabinet has given its nod for the merger of the Secondary Education Board of Assam (SEBA) and the Assam Higher Secondary Education Council (AHSEC).
- The amalgamated entity will now be known as the ‘Assam State School Education Board’ (ASSEB).

9th India International Science Festival to be Held in Faridabad in January 2024

- The 9th edition of the Indian International Science Festival (IISF) is set to be held at the Campus of Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) and the Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB) in Faridabad, Haryana from 17th January to 20th January 2024.
- The theme of the present edition of the science fair is ‘Science and Technology Public Outreach in Amrit Kaal’.

India’s Strategic Move: Auctioning 20 Critical Mineral Blocks for Economic and Energy Transition

- The Indian government is set to invite bids for 20 critical mineral blocks, including lithium and graphite, within the next two weeks.
- Rajnath Singh to Participate in 10th ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting-Plus in Jakarta.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is set to attend the 10th ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting-Plus (ADMM Plus) in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Govt Introduces PM Kisan Bhai to Break Traders’ Monopoly

- The Indian government, through the Ministry of Agriculture Introduces PM Kisan Bhai to Break Traders’ Monopoly.
- The scheme is set to undergo a pilot phase in seven states, namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.

Ministry of Power presents initiatives of power sector at IITF 2023, Union Power and NRE

Minister R. K. Singh inaugurates Power Pavilion

- The Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy Shri R. K. Singh today inaugurated a Power Pavilion set up by the Ministry of Power, Government of India at the ongoing India International Trade Fair 2023, at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

AATMANIRBHAR AIR ARM OF INDIAN NAVY SEMINAR-2023

- The Southern Naval Command, Kochi, is hosting a two day seminar, themed 'AatmaNirbhar Air Arm of the Indian Navy 2023', from 13-14 Nov 23. The event is being conducted under the aegis of Headquarters Naval Aviation. Admiral R Hari Kumar, Chief of the Naval Staff presided over the seminar as Chief Guest.

'AAINA Dashboard for Cities' portal launched

- The 'AAINA Dashboard for Cities' portal www.aaina.gov.in has been made live by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) on 13th November 2023.
- The Dashboard will present the data submitted by the ULBs on the basis of indicators across five broad pillars namely, (i) Political & Administrative Structure, (ii) Finance, (iii) Planning, (iv) Citizen Centric Governance and (v) Delivery of Basic Services.

PM Modi to Launch PM-PVTG Mission and Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra on Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas

- On November 15, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to launch the PM-PVTG Development Mission.
- The launch ceremony is strategically planned to take place in Jharkhand's Khunti district, specifically after a visit to Ulihatu village, the birthplace of Birsa Munda.

33rd Conference of the WOA Regional Commission for Asia and Pacific in New Delhi

- India is playing host to the 33rd Conference of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) Regional Commission for Asia and the Pacific. The event, slated from November 13 to 16, 2023, is unfolding in the city of New Delhi.
- Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Shri Parshottam Rupala, will lead the inauguration and conclusion ceremonies.

Hon'ble MoS Rajeev Chandrasekhar Joins India's Most Impactful Tech Event

- There has been growing anticipation surrounding Trescon's Digital Acceleration & Transformation Expo (DATE) as Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Hon'ble Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, has confirmed his participation at the event. The event will take place on 23-24 November 2023 at the newly inaugurated Yashobhoomi (IICC Dwarka).

Ayodhya Sets Guinness Record by Lighting 22 Lakh Diyas

- More than 22 lakh 'dijas' illuminated the banks of the Saryu river in Ayodhya during the seventh edition of the Deepotsav, setting a new world record.
- In 2017, the event saw the lighting of 1.71 lakh lamps, and the numbers have been consistently increasing since then.

Uttarakhand's Unique Products Gets Geographical Indication Tags

- The Geographical Indications (GI) Registry has bestowed the coveted GI tags upon more than 15 products from the state.

Uttarakhand to Become the First State to Adopt the Uniform Civil Code (UCC)

- Uttarakhand is on the brink of making history as it prepares to become the first state in India to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC).
- The Uniform Civil Code falls under Article 44 of the Constitution, advocating for a uniform civil code across the country's territory.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's Five-Day Visit to the United Kingdom

- External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar embarks on a five-day official visit to the United Kingdom.
- This strategic alliance is further underlined by the joint commitment outlined in the India-UK Roadmap 2030.

Ministry of I&B approves a path-breaking Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023 to enable & empower Central Bureau of Communication

- The Policy will enable CBC to empanel agencies and organisations in the OTT and Video on Demand Space.

NHAI Accepts First Insurance Surety Bond as Bid Security for NHAI TOT Bid for Monetization

- NHAI has accepted Insurance Surety Bond for the monetization program of the upcoming bid of Toll Operate Transfer (TOT) Bundle 14.
- NHAI has been working closely with Highway Operators Association of India (HOAI), SBI General Insurance and AON India Insurance to implement this initiative.

Bilateral Exercise BONGOSAGAR-23 and Coordinated Patrol CORPAT-23

Date: November 07-09, 2023

Location: Northern Bay of Bengal

Participants: Indian Navy and Bangladesh Navy

Indian Navy Ships: Kuthar, Kiltan, and Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA) Dornier

Bangladesh Navy Ships: Abu Bakr, Abu Ubaidah, and MPA

Bharat Botanics to Open India's Largest Cold Oil Production Facility in Gujarat

- Bharat Botanics announced the opening of its cutting-edge wood-pressed Cold Oil processing facility in Gondal, Rajkot Gujarat.
- Mr. Manish Popat, Co-Founder of Bharat Botanics.

Supreme Court: Nationwide Ban on Use of Barium and Other Prohibited Chemicals in Firecrackers

- Issued in the 2021 order, banning the use of barium and other prohibited chemicals in firecrackers applies not only to the National Capital Region but to the entire country.

Winter Session of Parliament Scheduled For December 4 – 22

- As announced by Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Prahlad Joshi on November 9.

Kozhikode and Gwalior Join UNESCO Creative Cities Network

- UNESCO welcomed 55 new cities into its Creative Cities Network (UCCN)

- Kozhikode, situated in Kerala, stands out as the first Indian city to be designated as the 'City of Literature' by UNESCO, marking a historic achievement.
- Gwalior, located in Madhya Pradesh, has earned the distinction of being designated as the 'City of Music' by UNESCO.

About UNESCO:

Founders: India, United States, France, Mexico, China, Brazil, MORE

Headquarters: Paris, France

Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom

Abbreviation: UNESCO

Head: Audrey Azoulay; (Director-General)

Indian Air Force Arrives For Dubai Air Show 2023

- Two of India's indigenous aircraft, the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas and the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Dhruv.

About UAE:

Capital: Abu Dhabi

Currency: United Arab Emirates Dirham

Prime minister: Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

President: Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Home minister Amit Shah launched 'Bharat Organics' brand of new cooperative body National Cooperative Organics Ltd.

- Shah also launched the NCOL's logo, website and brochure. He gave away NCOL membership certificates to five cooperative societies.

Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde unveils Shivaji Maharaj statue in J&K's Kupwara

- Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, along with other dignitaries, inaugurated a statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in the Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir on November 7.
- Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir is Manoj Sinha.

About Maharashtra:

Chief Minister: Eknath Shinde

Capital: Mumbai

Governor: Ramesh Bais

FM Nirmala Sitharaman Launches 12 GST Seva Kendras in Vapi, Gujarat

- Vapi, Gujarat, Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, inaugurated 12 Goods and Services Tax (GST) Seva Kendras.
- She recognized and rewarded the participants of the "Mera Bill Mera Adhikaar" (MBMA) scheme.

Government Launches 'Bharat Atta' Initiative for Affordable Wheat Flour

- Under the 'Bharat' brand, Piyush Goyal has initiated the sale of wheat flour (Atta) at prices not exceeding ₹27.50 per kilogram.

54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2023: A Glimpse

- The 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is set to unfold in Goa from November 20 to 28, 2023.
- Union Minister Shri Anurag Thakur announced the event, highlighting India's growing influence in the global media.
- A prestigious feature of IFFI is the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award (SRLTA), presented to honor Excellence in World Cinema.

About IFFI:

Location: Goa, India

Founded: 24 January 1952; 71 years ago

Hosted by: Government of Goa; Directorate of Film Festivals

About Goa:

Chief Minister: Pramod Sawant

Governor: Shri Sreedharan Pillai

MoHUA Rolls Out Swachh Diwali Shubh Diwali Signature Campaign

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs is launching the Swachh Diwali Subh Diwali Campaign from November 6th to 12th 2023, under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0.

17th Jaipur Literature Festival 2024 to Begin from February 1

- The Jaipur Literature Festival, often referred to as the "greatest literary show on Earth."
- The 17th edition of this iconic event is set to take place from February 1 to February 5, 2024.

About Rajasthan:

Chief Minister: Ashok Gehlot

Governor: Kalraj Mishra

NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd's First 50 MW Dayapar Wind Project in Kutch, Gujarat

- This project, a 50 MW wind farm located in Dayapar, Kutch, Gujarat is a first-of-its-kind effort in India's renewable energy journey.

About Gujarat:

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

About NTPC:

Founded: 7 November 1975

Headquarters: New Delhi, India

Owner: Government of India

Jal Diwali - "Water for Women, Women for Water Campaign" launched

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is poised to introduce a groundbreaking initiative called the "Women for Water, Water for Women Campaign"
- In collaboration with the Ministry's National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM) and in partnership with the Odisha Urban Academy.

- This campaign, known as “Jal Diwali,” is scheduled to kick off on November 7, 2023, and run through November 9, 2023.

COLORS joins forces to support the ‘Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao’ initiative

- COLORS, India’s leading Hindi GEC, today announced its collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development’s ‘Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao’ initiative.
- ‘COLORS’ is Viacom18’s flagship brand in the entertainment space in India.
- A combination of ‘emotions’ and ‘variety’, COLORS, launched on 21st July 2008.

About Colors TV:

Owner: Viacom 18

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

Language(s): Hindi

Launched: 21 July 2008; 15 years ago

‘Surat’ Becomes the First Navy Warship to Be Named After a City in Gujarat

- Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel will unveil the crest of the Indian Navy’s latest warship ‘Surat.’
- The Chief of Naval Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar
- Rear Admiral Anil Jaggi

About Gujarat:

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

PM Modi Extends Free Ration Scheme for 5 More Years

- In a recent public meeting held in Durg, Chhattisgarh Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, a free ration scheme aimed at assisting 80 crore impoverished individuals.
- The scheme, which was initially introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, provides 5 kg of free food grains every month to those in need.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi as Elected Chairman of Shree Somnath Trust for Five-Year Term

- At the 122nd meeting of the SST’s board of trustees held at Raj Bhavan in Gandhinagar.
- Keshubhai Patel had served as the SST chairman since 2004.

Sarbananda Sonowal flags off domestic sailing of the first International Cruise Liner in India

- Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, flagged off the maiden voyage of Costa Serena, India’s first International Cruise Liner from Mumbai.
- Driven by the visionary “Dekho Apna Desh” initiative of Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

PM To Inaugurate World Food India 2023 Mega Food Event

- This second edition unites culture, cuisine, and commerce, providing a platform for discussions, partnerships, and agri-food sector investments. The event will commence in Bharat Mandapam at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

About Delhi:

Lieutenant Governor: Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal

EPFO celebrated its 71st Foundation Day in New Delhi

- Union Minister for Labour & Employment, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav, inaugurated the 71st Foundation Day of the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) on 1st November at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

About Delhi:

Lieutenant Governor: Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal

Rajnath Singh Inaugurated 'India Manufacturing Show' In Bengaluru

- Shri Rajnath Singh, inaugurated the three-day 'India Manufacturing Show' in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- This is the sixth edition of the show. Organized jointly by Laghu Udyog Bharti & IMS Foundation and supported by the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence.
- This event carries the central theme of 'Make in India, Make for the World.'

About Karnataka:

Chief Minister: Siddaramaiah

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Kerala to Launch Multilingual Microsites For Boosting Religious Tourism

About Kerala:

Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan

Governor: Arif Mohammed Khan

India to Host 2024 World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly

- Union Communication & IT Minister, Ashwini Vaishnaw, made this announcement at the India Mobile Congress 2023.

Kerala Government Challenges Governor Arif Mohammed Khan in Supreme Court Over Pending Bills

- Kerala Government has approached the Supreme Court of India, seeking a declaration that Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan has failed to fulfill his Constitutional powers and duties in dealing with Bills passed by the State Legislature.

About Kerala:

Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan

Governor: Arif Mohammed Khan

Iconic 'Throne Room' at Raj Bhavan in Kolkata named after Sardar Patel

- This decision, a tribute to the stalwart freedom fighter, was made by Governor C.V. Ananda Bose on the occasion of Patel's birth anniversary.
- The 'Throne Room' will now bear the name 'Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Unity Room.'

About West Bengal:

Chief Minister: Mamata Banerjee

Governor: C. V. Ananda Bose

Kozhikode Named India's First 'City of Literature' by UNESCO

- On World Cities Day celebrated on 31 October, Kozhikode, a city located in Kerala, has been titled as the City of Literature, the first city in India to hold this distinction.

About UNESCO:

Founders: India, United States, France, Mexico, Brazil, China, MORE

Headquarters: Paris, France

Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom

Abbreviation: UNESCO

Head: Audrey Azoulay; (Director-General)

SPORTS**Rahul Dravid to Continue as India's Head Coach**

- Rahul Dravid has accepted the Board of Control for Cricket in India's (BCCI) offer to extend his term as India's head coach, ensuring his continued leadership of the national team until at least the 2024 T20 World Cup in June.

About BCCI:

President: Roger Binny

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: December 1928

Italy defeat Australia to win Davis Cup for first time since 1976

- Italy defeated Australia 2-0 to become Davis Cup champions for the first time since 1976.
- The United States is the most successful nation in Davis Cup history, having won the title a record 32 times. Australia is second with 28 titles, and Great Britain and France are tied for third with 10 titles each.

Vidya Pillai Clinches 6-Red Snooker World Title

- Vidya Pillai secured the IBSF 6-Red Snooker World Championship title in Doha, Qatar.

Shubman Gill Takes the Helm as Gujarat Titans Captain for IPL 2024

- Gujarat Titans have named Shubman Gill as the captain for the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 season.

About Gujarat Titans

Director of Cricket for Gujarat Titans: Vikram Solanki

Founded: 25 October 2021

Anish Bhanwala Becomes First Indian Shooter to Win a medal(Bronze) in 25m Rapid Fire at ISSF World Cup Final

- He became the first Indian shooter to clinch a medal in the men's 25m Rapid Fire event at the ISSF World Cup Final.

- ISSF (International Shooting Sport Federation) World Cup held in Doha, Qatar.

About ISSF:

President: Vladimir Lisin

Headquarters: Munich, Germany

Founded: 1907; 116 years ago

Anurag Singh Thakur launched Khelo India Para Games 2023 logo and Mascot Ujjwala

- Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, unveiled the logo and mascot for the first-ever Khelo India Para Games 2023 in New Delhi.
- The official mascot, 'Ujjwala,' a sparrow, was revealed during the ceremony.

Imad Wasim Retires From International Cricket

- Imad Wasim, the 34-year-old all-rounder from Pakistan, has decided to retire from all forms of international cricket.

About Pakistan:

Capital: Islamabad

President: Arif Alvi

Marlon Samuels, Former West Indies Player, Receives 6-year Ban

- Marlon Samuels, the former West Indies batter, was handed a six-year ban from all forms of cricket by the International Cricket Council (ICC). The ban was imposed due to his failure to disclose benefits received during the Abu Dhabi T10 league.

About ICC:

Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Founded: 15 June 1909

CEO: Geoff Allardice

Chairman: Greg Barclay

Anahat Singh Becomes Second Youngest to Win National Squash Championship Title

- Senior National Squash Championships 2023, 15-year-old Anahat Singh scripted history by becoming the second youngest title winner in the tournament's prestigious history.
- The young prodigy faced off against Tanvi Khanna in the final.

Max Verstappen won the Las Vegas Grand Prix 2023

- Max Verstappen emerged on top at the end of an action-packed Las Vegas Grand Prix, beating Ferrari rival Charles Leclerc and Red Bull teammate Sergio Perez.
- Max Emilian Verstappen is a Belgian and Dutch racing driver and the 2021, 2022, and 2023 Formula One World Champion.

Pankaj Advani wins World Billiards Championship for Record 26th Time

- Pankaj Advani secured his 26th IBSF World Billiards Championship title in a remarkable comeback, defeating compatriot Sourav Kothari in the final.

ICC moves men's U-19 World Cup from Sri Lanka to South Africa

- This decision comes in the wake of the ICC's provisional suspension of Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC).

About International Cricket Council (ICC):

Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Founded: 15 June 1909

CEO: Geoff Allardice

Chairman: Greg Barclay

ICC Bans Transgender Players from International Women's Cricket

- International Cricket Council (ICC) has recently implemented a ban on transgender cricketers from participating in international women's cricket at the highest level.

About International Cricket Council (ICC):

Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Founded: 15 June 1909

CEO: Geoff Allardice

Chairman: Greg Barclay

AIFF and Odisha Govt Ink MoU for FIFA-AIFF Academy

- All India Football Federation (AIFF) and the Government of Odisha, in collaboration with FIFA, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish the AIFF-FIFA Talent Academy.
- Additionally, Mr. Tushar Kanti Behera, the Sports Minister of Odisha, graced the ceremony with his presence.

About Odisha:

Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik

Founded: 1 April 1936

Governor: Raghubar Das

Novak Djokovic Wins Record Seventh ATP Finals Title

- Novak Djokovic made history on November 19, by securing his seventh ATP Finals title in Turin, Italy.
- The world number one defeated local favorite Jannik Sinner in a commanding fashion with a 6-3, 6-3 victory.

Australia Won the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 by 6 Wickets

- This is the 6th ICC ODI world Cup of Australia.
- Australia's Travis Head was declared the Player of the Match in his side's 2023 ODI World Cup final win against India in Ahmedabad.
- Virat Kohli has declared as the Player of tournament.

Shami Becomes First Indian Bowler to Claim Seven Wickets in a Single ODI Cricket Match

- Mohammed Shami etched his name in cricketing history by becoming the first Indian bowler to pick seven wickets in a One Day International (ODI).

- This remarkable achievement surpassed the previous best by Stuart Binny, who held the record with figures of 6/4.

Petroleum Minister Inaugurated 3rd Hockey India Women's Championship

- Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs, inaugurated the 3rd Hockey India Senior Women Inter Department National Championship 2023 at Shivaji Stadium.

Virat Kohli Breaks Sachin Tendulkar's Record for Most Centuries in An ODI

- Virat Kohli, the former Indian cricket captain, achieved a remarkable feat by becoming the first batter in the world to score 50 One Day International (ODI) centuries.
- He surpassed the iconic Sachin Tendulkar's record of 49 centuries.

ICC Suspends Sri Lanka Cricket's Membership over Government Interference

- The situation escalated when the Sri Lankan parliament unanimously passed a resolution demanding the removal of the SLC.
- The suspension follows a tumultuous World Cup campaign by the Sri Lankan cricket team, currently ranked ninth in the 10-team standings after a disappointing performance of winnings only two out of nine matches.

ICC Announced the Inclusion of Three Cricket Maestros In The ICC Hall Of Fame

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) recently announced the induction of three cricketing maestros into the coveted ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.
- Include the explosive opener Virender Sehwag, Indian trailblazer Diana Edulji, and Sri Lankan superstar Aravinda de Silva.

New Zealand's Rachin Ravindra and West Indies' Hayley Matthews Win ICC Player of the Month Awards

- New Zealand's Rachin Ravindra has claimed his first ICC Men's Player of the Month award for his outstanding performances in the group stages of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 in India.
- West Indies' Hayley Matthews has been named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for October after her scintillating performances in the T20I series against Australia.

About

Prime minister: Chris Hipkins

Capital: Wellington

Currency: New Zealand dollar (\$) (NZD)

Maharashtra Clinch Raja Bhalindra Trophy for First Time Since 1994

- Maharashtra secured an impressive haul of 80 gold medals, 69 silver medals, and 79 bronze medals, totaling 228 medals.
- This victory marked their return to the top position after 1994, ending the Services Sports Control Board's (SSCB) reign at the top, which had persisted since 2007.

About Maharashtra

Chief Minister: Eknath Shinde

Governor: Ramesh Bais

Australian Cricketer Meg Lanning Announces Retirement from International Cricket

- Australia women's national team captain Meg Lanning officially announced her retirement from international cricket.
- Notably, in just her second ODI, Lanning became the youngest Australian to score an international century, a record she still holds today.

About Australia:

Capital: Canberra

Prime minister: Anthony Albanese

Vidit Gujrathi, Vaishali R Claim Titles at FIDE Grand Swiss Chess Event

- Indian chess players Vidit Gujrathi and R Vaishali achieved remarkable victories at the FIDE Grand Swiss Chess 2023 held on the Isle of Man.
- R Vaishali was rewarded with a handsome prize purse of over 20 lakh rupees.
- Vidit Gujrathi's triumph was even more rewarding, with a whopping prize purse of over 66 lakh rupees.

Max Verstappen wins Brazilian Grand Prix 2023

- Brazilian Grand Prix is a three-time champion player.

Sri Lanka's Angelo Mathews becomes first Cricketer to get 'timed out'

- Angelo Mathews' timed out dismissal during the Cricket World Cup 2023 vs Bangladesh.

About Sri Lanka:

Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

Prime Minister: Dinesh Gunawardena

About Bangladesh:

Capital: Dhaka

Currency: Bangladeshi Taka

Prime minister: Sheikh Hasina

President: Mohammed Shahabuddin

About ICC:

Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Founded: 15 June 1909

CEO: Geoff Allardice

Chairman: Greg Barclay

Cricketer Sachin Tendulkar's statue unveiled at Wankhede Stadium

- Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar, is an Indian former international cricketer awarded by Bharat Ratna in 2013.
- He received the Khel Ratna Award, India's highest sporting honor, in 1997.
- He was awarded Padma Shri and Padma Vibhushan awards in 1999 and 2008.

Saudi Arabia to Host 2034 FIFA World Cup

- Australia has opted to focus on bidding for the Women's Asian Cup in 2026 and the FIFA Club World Cup in 2029.
- Spain, Portugal, and Morocco are already slated to co-host the 2030 tournament.

About Saudi Arabia:

Capital: Riyadh

Currency: Saudi Riyal

King: Salman of Saudi Arabia

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Indian Coast Guard and Navy to acquire 15 C-295 Aircraft for Maritime Surveillance

- The Indian Coast Guard and Navy are set to acquire 15 C-295 transport aircraft.
- Indian Coast Guard Chief Director General Rakesh Pal emphasized plans to acquire long-range maritime surveillance aircraft.
- Indian Air Force recently inducted the first C-295 transport aircraft manufactured in Spain.

SATHI Program Faces Cancellation under Department of Science and Technology

- SATHI (Sophisticated Analytical and Technical Help Institutes) program under the Department of Science and Technology (DST) has cancelled.
- SATHI Program Launched in 2020.

Popular Video Chat Service Omegle Shuts Down After 14 Years

- Omegle, a once-popular online chat service founded in 2009 by Leif K-Brooks, has recently announced its shutdown after more than 14 years.
- The platform reported a staggering 600,000 incidents of child sexual abuse in 2022, contributing to its reputation as a dangerous online space.

NASA, ISRO complete key tests ahead of NISAR's launch early next year

- NASA has handed over the NISAR satellite to ISRO, a US Airforce C-17 aircraft transported the payload from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California to Bengaluru.

Mika, the AI-Powered Robot, Takes the Helm as CEO of Dictador

- Dictador, a Polish beverage company, appointed Mika, an AI-powered humanoid robot, as its experimental CEO in August of the previous year.
- It is version of the well-known AI robot Sophia.

'Mika' Becomes World's First AI Human-Like Robot CEO

- Hanson Robotics and Dictador, a Polish run company, have appointed the world's first humanoid robot CEO named Mika.
- David Hanson, CEO of Hanson Robotics, emphasizes the importance of "humanizing".
- FOX Businesses reporter Lauren Simonetti took to the streets of New York City to gauge public opinions on Mika as a robot CEO.

SpaceX Launched Its 29th Mission to Deliver Research Gear and Equipment to the ISS

- SpaceX's Cargo Dragon embarked on its 29th mission to the International Space Station (ISS), launching from the iconic Pad 39 at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida on 9th November 2023.

About SpaceX:

Founders: Elon Musk, Tom Mueller

Headquarters: Hawthorne, California, United States

CEO: Elon Musk (May 2002–)

Founded: 14 March 2002

COO: Gwynne Shotwell

India's Deep Ocean Mission (DOM): Unlocking the Depths of the Ocean

- India's Deep Ocean Mission (DOM) marks a significant stride in underwater exploration, aiming to delve 6,000 meters into the ocean depths.
- Spearheaded by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), DOM.

OBITUARY

Henry Kissinger, Nobel Peace Prize winner, passed away

- Henry Kissinger, a towering figure in American foreign policy, passed away on November 29, 2023.
- He served as the United States Secretary of State under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford.
- Henry Kissinger was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1973 for his role in the Paris Peace Accords.
- He was also awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977.

C.K. Gopinathan, a Director on the Board of Dhanlaxmi Bank Passed Away

- Kerala-based Dhanlaxmi Bank mourned the sudden demise of Mr. C.K. Gopinathan, a director on the bank's board and a significant shareholder.
- Appointed to the board of Dhanlaxmi Bank in August 2016

Malayalam writer P. Valsala passes away at 85

- Ms. Valsala's received the Sahitya Akademi Award and Ezhuthachchan Puraskaram for her outstanding contributions to Malayalam literature.
- Her work 'Nizhalurangunna Vazhikal' also clinched the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award

Rosalynn Carter, Former First Lady of US Passed Away At 96

- Former US First Lady Rosalynn Carter, often referred to as the 'Steel Magnolia,' passed away.
- Rosalynn and Jimmy Carter made history as the longest-married U.S. presidential couple.
- While Jimmy Carter served as president from 1977 to 1981.

About USA:

Capital: Washington, D.C.

Continent: North America
President: Joe Biden

Dhoom Director Sanjay Gadhvi Passed Away At 56

- Renowned filmmaker Sanjay Gadhvi Best known for directing the blockbuster films “Dhoom” (2004) and its sequel “Dhoom 2” (2006) passed away.

Renowned Novelist A.S. Byatt Passes Away at 87

- Acclaimed British novelist Antonia Susan Byatt, widely known as A.S. Byatt, passed away at the age of 87.
- Her notable work, “Possession: A Romance,” earned her the prestigious Booker Prize in 1990.

Former RBI Governor S. Venkitaramanan Passed Away At 92

- He was assumed the role of RBI Governor in December 1990.
- Additionally, he served as an Advisor to the Governor in Karnataka during a critical period of President’s rule in May 1989.

Renowned Art Historian BN Goswamy Passed Away At 90

- GOI honored him with the civilian Padma Shri award in 1998.
- Furthermore, in 2008, Goswamy received another notable accolade as he was once again featured in the Republic Day Honours list, this time for the esteemed Padma Bhushan, the third-highest civilian honor.

Freedom Fighter and Communist Leader N Sankaraiah Passed Away At the Age Of 102

- N Sankaraiah, one of the oldest communist leaders in the country, passed away in Chennai.

Sahara Group Founder Subrata Roy Passes Away at 75 after Prolonged Illness

- Sahara Group’s visionary founder and chairman, Subrata Roy, passed away at the age of 75.

Lala Kedarnath Aggarwal, Founder and Chairman of Bikanervala, Passes Away at 86

- Lala Kedarnath Aggarwal, the visionary entrepreneur and founder of the renowned sweets and snacks brand Bikanervala passed away.

Former governor of Nagaland, P B Acharya passes away at 92

- Acharya was appointed Governor of Nagaland on July 14, 2014, after President Pranab Mukherjee accepted the resignation of Tripura Governor Vakkom Purushothaman.

NASA Apollo astronaut Thomas Kenneth Mattingly II passed away at age of 87

- Best known for his vital role in the safe return of the damaged Apollo 13 spacecraft to Earth.

About NASA:

Founded: 29 July 1958, United States

Founder: Dwight D. Eisenhower

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

Padma Shri awardee writer Leela Omchery passed away

- Eminent singer, musicologist and writer Leela Omchery, passed away at the age of 94 years. Proficient in Carnatic, Hindustani, Sopanam and folk music.
- She was honoured her with Padma Shri in 2008.

About Padma Shri Award:

Established: 1954

Last awarded: 2023

Next (higher): Kirti Chakra

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

HDFC Bank appoints former NABARD chairman Harsh Kumar Bhanwala as director

- HDFC Bank's Board of Directors has greenlit the nomination of Harsh Kumar Bhanwala as the Additional Independent Director.
- The tenure for this position is set for three years, commencing from January 25, 2024.

Col Sunita BS Appointed First Female Commanding Officer at Armed Forces Transfusion Centre

- Colonel Sunita BS, an officer in the Army Medical Corps, etched her name in history by becoming the first woman to assume the role of Commanding Officer at the Armed Forces Transfusion Centre (AFTC) in Delhi Cantt.

Bandhan Bank Board Approves Reappointment of Chandra Shekhar Ghosh as MD & CEO

- The Kolkata-based private sector lender has extended Ghosh's tenure for a period of three years.
- The current term is set to expire on July 09, 2024.

Anish Shah to Assume Presidency of FICCI

- The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), the country's oldest and largest industry body, is set to welcome Anish Shah as its President-Elect.

About FICCI:

Founded: 1927;

Headquarters: New Delhi;

Founder: Ghanshyam Das Birla.

India's CAG Girish Chandra Murmu elected vice-chair of UN external auditors' panel

- Girish Chandra Murmu, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, has been elected as the vice-chair of the UN Panel of External Auditors.
- Participated in the sixty-third session of the Panel of External Auditors, which took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on November 20-21, 2023.

Mamata Banerjee Names Sourav Ganguly as the 'Brand Ambassador of Bengal'

- Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee declared former cricketer and ex-president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Sourav Ganguly, as the "Brand Ambassador of Bengal."

About West Bengal:

Founded: 1947
Governor: C. V. Ananda Bose
Capital: Kolkata

Microsoft Names Aparna Gupta as Leader of Global Delivery Center

- Microsoft has recently announced the appointment of Aparna Gupta as the new Global Delivery Center (GDC) leader.
- Microsoft's Global Delivery Center (GDC) serves as the delivery arm of Industry Solutions Delivery, with its roots dating back to its establishment in Hyderabad in 2005.
- President of Microsoft India and South Asia: Puneet Chandok.

About Microsoft:

Founders: Bill Gates, Paul Allen
Headquarters: Redmond, Washington, United States
Founded: 4 April 1975, Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States
CEO: Satya Nadella (4 Feb 2014–)
CFO: Amy Hood

Colin Jackson Appointed Intl Ambassador for 2023 Tata Steel Kolkata 25KS

- The former 110m hurdles world record holder, Colin Jackson, has been announced as the International Event Ambassador for the upcoming edition of Tata Steel Kolkata 25K event.
- Instituted in 2014, the TSK 25K has been a catalyst for a running revolution in eastern India.
- The event, under the slogan 'Aamar Kolkata, Aamar Run,' has grown in stature and popularity over the years.

About West Bengal:

Founded: 1947
Chief Minister: Mamata Banerjee
Governor: C. V. Ananda Bose
Capital: Kolkata

Govt Appoints Vinay Tonse As MD Of SBI For 2 years

- GOI appointed Vinay M. Tonse as the Managing Director of the State Bank of India (SBI) until November 30, 2025.
- This appointment fills the vacancy left in June after the appointment of Swaminathan Janakiraman as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank.

About SBI:

Managing directors: Challa Setty
Founded: 1 July 1955
Headquarters: Mumbai
Key people: Dinesh Kumar Khara (Chairman); Kameshwar Rao Kodavanti (CFO)

Mira Murati Appointed As Interim Chief Executive Officer At OpenAI

- On November 18, OpenAI, the prominent artificial intelligence research and deployment company, made headlines by announcing the dismissal of its CEO and co-founder, Sam Altman.

- Founded in 2015, OpenAI has been at the forefront of AI research and deployment.

Kotak Mahindra Bank Appoints Ashok Vaswani as MD & CEO

About kotak mahindra bank:

- Founder: Uday Kotak
- Founded: 21 November 1985
- Headquarters: Mumbai

Biden Appoints Indian American Shakuntla Bhaya to the Administrative Conference of US

- Bhaya has been appointed as a member of the Council of the Administrative Conference of the United States.
- Shakuntla L Bhaya is a co-owner of the Law Offices of Doroshow, Pasquale, Krawitz & Bhaya

Former Indian defence secretary joins as advisor to USISPF Board

- Former Indian Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar has joined as an advisor to the Board at the US-India Strategic and Partnership Forum, a media announcement said.

Supreme Court Welcomes Three New Judges to Tackle Pending Cases

- The Supreme Court of India has expanded its judicial strength by welcoming three new judges.
- The recent induction of three judges has taken the Supreme Court's judicial strength to its sanctioned capacity of 34.
- The Three new Judges are Justice Satish Chandra Sharma, Justices Augustine George Masih & Justice Sandeep Mehta.

Rear Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar Assumes Command of the Eastern Fleet

- Rear Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar assumed command of the Eastern Fleet, a significant and prestigious position within the Eastern Naval Command.
- Took place at the Naval Dockyard in Visakhapatnam.

N. Srikant Appointed As Additional Secretary in MNRE

- He was previously serving as a joint secretary in the Union Cabinet.
- Serving as the first Commissioner of AP Capital Region Development Authority and as the Chairman and Managing Director of AP-Transco.

Santosh Kumar Jha set to be next CMD of Konkan Railway

- The Public Enterprises Selection Panel (PESB) has recommended Santosh Kumar Jha as the next Chairman & Managing Director of Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL).
- Currently serving as the Director (Operations & Commercial) at KRCL.

Hitesh Kumar S Makwana appointed Surveyor General of India

- Prior to this appointment, he served as an Additional Secretary in the Union Home Ministry.

Heeralal Samariya Appointed as the New Chief Information Commissioner

- He administered the oath of office to Information Commissioners Anandi Ramalingam and Vinod Tiwari.

Rohit Rishi Appointed As Executive Director at Bank of Maharashtra

- The appointment is for a tenure of three years, starting from November 1, 2023 in place of Shri A.B. Vijayakumar.

About Bank of Maharashtra:

CEO: A. S. Rajeev (2 Dec 2018–)

Founders: D. K. Sathe, V. G. Kale

Founded: 16 September 1935

Headquarters: Pune

RBI Appointed Manoranjan Mishra as new Executive Director

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday said it has appointed Manoranjan Mishra as Executive Director. As the Executive Director (ED), Mishra will look after the Enforcement Department, Risk Monitoring Department, and Department of External Investments & Operations.
- Prior to this, he was serving as the Chief General Manager in the Department of Regulation.

About Reserve Bank of India:

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

Surendra Kumar Adhana re-elected at UN advisory committee

- "Elected Again! India's candidate, Mr. Surendra Kumar Adhana, has been re-elected to serve on the Advisory Committee on Administrative & Budgetary Questions #ACABQ for the term 2024-26.

About United Nations:

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

Awards: Nobel Peace Prize, MORE

Secretary General: António Guterres

Headquarters: New York, United States

IPS officer Pravin madhukar pawar appointed as CBI joint director

- Senior IPS officer Pravin Madhukar Pawar has been appointed the joint director in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for five years, according to a personnel ministry order.

About CBI:

Founded: 1 April 1963

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founder: Government of India

Agency executives: Praveen Sood, Director; Praveen Sinha, Special Director

Rajendra Menon Re-elected as Chairman of Armed Forces Tribunal

- Former Chief Justice Rajendra Menon of the Delhi High Court has been re-elected as the Chairman of the Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) for a four-year term.

Saima Wazed Elected as WHO Regional Director for South-East Asia

- Bangladesh's Saima Wazed, daughter of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, emerged victorious in the election for the next World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director for South-East Asia.
- She secured a significant majority of votes, surpassing her opponent, Nepal's Shambhu Prasad Acharya.
- During the election, which took place at the 76th session of the Regional Committee for the WHO South-East Asia Region (SEARO) in New Delhi.

About Bangladesh:

Prime minister: Sheikh Hasina

Capital: Dhaka

Deepesh Nanda Appointed As CEO & MD Of Tata Power Renewable Energy

- Appointed Deepesh Nanda as the President-Renewables and the CEO & MD of its subsidiary, Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL). This move, effective from November 1, 2023.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare 2023: 30 November

- Every year on November 30, the world solemnly observes the Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare.
- In 2005, the United Nations officially declared November 30 as the Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare.
- This day, designated by the United Nations.

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People 2023: 29th November

- Since 1978, November 29th has held a significant place on the global calendar as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

Guru Nanak Jayanti 2023: November 27

- Guru Nanak Jayanti, also known as Gurmurb, holds immense significance in the Sikh community as it marks the birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, the revered founder of the Sikh religion.
- Guru Nanak Dev was born in 1469 in the village of Rai Bhoi di Talwandi, now known as Nankana Sahib, near Lahore, Pakistan.

National Cadet Corps celebrates 75th Anniversary day

- The National Cadet Corps (NCC), the youth wing of the Indian Armed Forces, is set to celebrate its 75th anniversary on November 27, 2023.

- Its headquarters in New Delhi, India.
- NCC Day is observed annually to commemorate the core values encapsulated in the NCC motto, "Unity and Discipline."

National Milk Day 2023: 26 November

- As it pays homage to the visionary Dr. Verghese Kurien, the driving force behind the White Revolution.
- In the early 1970s, the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) launched Operation Flood.
- Unlike many observances, National Milk Day 2023 does not adhere to a specific theme.

Indian Constitution Day 2023: 26 November

- On November 26, Indian observes Constitution Day, also known as 'Samvidhan Divas.'
- This day is dedicated to legacy of B.R. Ambedkar, the principal architect of the constitution.
- This day marks the historic adoption of the Indian Constitution by the Constituent Assembly in 1949, with its official implementation taking place on January 26, 1950.

World Sustainable Transport Day 2023: 26 November

- World Sustainable Transport Day 2023 focuses on the theme "Sustainable transport, sustainable development".
- World Sustainable Transport Day (WSTD) was established by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution A/RES/77/286, adopted on May 31, 2023.

Uttar Pradesh Declares November 25 as "no non-veg day"

- Uttar Pradesh government declared November 25 as "no non-veg day" in commemoration of the birth anniversary of Sadhu TL Vaswani.

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women 2023: 25th November

- November 25 marks the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, a pivotal day designated by the United Nations.
- This historic declaration paved the way for the official designation of November 25 as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on February 7, 2000.
- Theme for 2023: "UNITE! Invest to prevent violence against women and girls."

Shaheedi Diwas or Martyrdom Day of 'Guru Tegh Bahadur

- Guru Tegh Bahadur Singh, the 9th Guru of the Sikhs, whose martyrdom day is commemorated on November 24. Born on 21st April 1621, in Amritsar to Mata Nanaki and Guru Hargobind.

World Heritage Week 2023: November 19 to 25

- Recognized and championed by UNESCO.
- Founded in 1945, World Heritage Week was established to foster intellectual and moral solidarity in the aftermath of two devastating world wars.

About UNESCO:

Founders: India, United States, France, Brazil, China, Mexico, MORE

Headquarters: Paris, France

Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom

Head: Audrey Azoulay; (Director-General)

International Men's Day 2023: 19th November

- Originating from the conceptualization by Dr. Jerome Teelucksingh in 1999, the day has grown into a significant occasion observed in 1999.
- The day has grown into a significant occasion observed in nearly 80 countries.
- This year, the theme for International Men's Day 2023 is Zero Male Suicide.

Women's Entrepreneurship Day 2023: 19th November

- Founded by Wendy Diamond in 2014.

World Prematurity Day 2023: Date, Theme, Significance

- In 2008, European Parent organizations united to establish this international awareness day for preterm birth.
- The global theme for this year's World Prematurity Day is "Small actions, big impact: Immediate skin-to-skin care for every baby everywhere."

World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence 2023

- The United Nations has designated November 18 as the "World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence."

Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas 2023: 15th November

- PM Modi marked the celebration of 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas' at Birsa College, Khunti, Jharkhand, on 15th November 2023.
- Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, also known as Tribal Pride Day, is celebrated to honor the birth anniversary of the revered tribal freedom fighter, Birsa Munda.
- This occasion also witnessed the release of the 15th instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme.
- PM Modi launched the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' from Ulihatu Village in Jharkhand.

National Press Day 2023: 16 November

- National Press Day traces its roots to the establishment of the Press Council of India in 1966.

About Press Council of India:

Headquarters: New Delhi;

Founder: Parliament of India;

Founded: 4 July 1966, India.

Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai is chairman of the council.

International Day for Tolerance 2023 Observed on 16th November

- This day, instituted by UNESCO.
- In 2023, the theme is "Tolerance: A Path to Peace and Reconciliation,"

About UNESCO:

Headquarters: Paris, France;

Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom;

Head: Audrey Azoulay; (Director-General).

Jharkhand Foundation Day 2023

- Jharkhand is the 28th state of India. It was formed on November 15, 2000 after a long-standing tribal movement for statehood.
- Jharkhand was earlier a part of Bihar, more precisely it was then South Bihar.
- 15th November is the birth anniversary of tribal leader Birsa Munda who was a part of the tribal movement against the British in the 1870s.

India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI) Records Seventh Consecutive Month of Deflation in October

- India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI)-based inflation rate continued its downward trend, reaching a three-month low of -0.52% in October.

World Diabetes Day 2023: 14th November

- According to reports, 1 in 10 adults worldwide is grappling with diabetes, with over 90% diagnosed with type 2 diabetes.
- The theme for World Diabetes Day 2023, "Access to Diabetes Care,"
- The significance of November 14 lies in the celebration of the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting, the co-discoverer of insulin alongside Charles Herbert Best in 1922.
- Established in 1991 by the International Diabetes Foundation (IDF) and the World Health Organization (WHO), World Diabetes Day gained official recognition by the United Nations in 2006.

Children's Day 2023: 14th November

- Children's Day in India is a special occasion celebrated every year on November 14th.
- Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, a leader who deeply cherished children and believed in their potential to shape the nation's future.
- The theme of this year's Children's Day, 'For every child, every right'.
- The journey of Children's Day dates back to November 5, 1948, initially observed as "Flower Day."

World Kindness Day: "Be Kind Wherever Possible"

- World Kindness Day 2023 is observed on November 13, with this year's theme being "Be Kind Wherever Possible."
- In 2005, the UK initiated its Kindness Movement, followed by Singapore in 2009. The World Kindness Movement, which started in the UK in 2010

National Education Day 2023: 11th November

- Theme: Embracing Innovation
- November 11th to commemorate the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, India's first Education Minister.

International Week of Science and Peace 2023, 9-15 November

- Originating in 1986 as part of the International Year of Peace, the week was officially recognized by the United Nations General Assembly in 1988.

India Celebrates 135th Birth Anniversary of CV Raman: 7th November

- November 7, 2023, marks the 135th birth anniversary of the renowned Indian physicist, Sir Chandrasekhar Venkata Raman, who is celebrated for his groundbreaking discovery of the Raman Effect.
- He won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930

International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict 2023: 6 November

- On May 27, 2016, the United Nations Environment Assembly further reinforced its commitment to this cause by adopting resolution UNEP/EA.2/Res.15.
- The roots of this important day can be traced back to November 5, 2001, when the United Nations General Assembly took a momentous step by adopting resolution A/RES/56/4.

International Day for Biosphere Reserve 2023: 3rd November

- On November 3, the world celebrates the International Day for Biosphere Reserves, a day established by UNESCO during its 41st General Conference in 2022.
- UNESCO recognizes 738 biosphere reserves in 134 countries, including 22 transboundary sites.

About UNESCO:

Headquarters: Paris, France

Head: Audrey Azoulay; (Director-General)

Zojila Day commemorated at Zojila War Memorial 2023: 1st November

- Zojila Day, celebrated on November 1st at the Zojila War Memorial near Drass, is a tribute to the valorous actions of Indian troops during 'Operation Bison' in 1948.
- Zojila Pass connects the Kashmir Valley with the cold Indus Valley desert in the Ladakh region through the strategic Srinagar-Leh National Highway.

International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists 2023: 2nd November

- 2023 marks the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists.

Halloween Day 2023 Observed On 31 October

- The annual celebration (2003) known as Halloween or All Hallows' Eve offers something for everyone, from young children to adults.

SUMMITS AND MOU'S

Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari Inaugurates the 8th India Water Impact Summit (IWIS) in New Delhi

- Summit (IWIS) inaugurated on 22nd November 2023 in New Delhi.
- Organized by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and the Center for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies (cGanga), the three-day summit from November 22 to 24, 2023.

Modi skips BRICS-Plus meet on Israel-Hamas

- Jaishankar's remarks at the BRICS-Plus meeting come ahead of India hosting the virtual G20 Leaders' Summit.

About BRICS:

Founded: 16 June 2009

Founders: Russia, China, India, Brazil

International Conference on Plant Health Management 2023, in Hyderabad

- The International Conference on Plant Health Management (ICPHM) 2023 is set to take place in Hyderabad, India, from 15th to 18th November.
- The Plant Protection Association of India (PPAI), established in 1972.

42nd India International Trade Fair 2023 Inauguration at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

- The 42nd edition of the India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2023 kicks off at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. The esteemed event will be inaugurated by Anupriya Patel, the Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry.
- Running until the 27th of this month, the fourteen-day fair centers around the theme of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam."

India and ADB Ink \$400 Million Deal for Urban Infrastructure Development

- The agreement, aimed at improving service delivery and promoting efficient governance systems.
- The first sub-programme, approved in 2021 with a financing of \$350 million.

Islamic Arab Summit

- The Joint Arab-Islamic Extraordinary Summit, which took place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on Saturday, November 11, 2023.
- Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, opened the summit.

AM/NS India Signs MoU with Government of Odisha to Establish Kho Kho High Performance Centre

About Odisha:

- Founded: 1 April 1936

- Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik
- Governor: Raghubar Das
- Capital: Bhubaneswar

InterGlobe Enterprises Ties Up With US-Based Archer for Air Taxi Service

- The parties plan to finance the acquisition of up to 200 Archer Midnight aircraft for operations in India.
- Initial focus cities include Delhi, Mumbai, and Bengaluru.

IICA and FSR Global sign MoU to promote collaboration in academia and research on regulatory issues of the energy sector

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) and the FSR Global at IICA Campus in Manesar, Gurugram, yesterday.
- The MoU was signed by Prof. (Dr.) Naveen Sirohi, representing IICA, and Ms. Swetha Ravi Kumar, representing FSR Global.

Ministry of Tourism, GOI participates in WTM 2023, London from 6 – 8 November 2023

- Union Ministry of Tourism, is participating in the prestigious World Travel Market (WTM) in London from 6 to 8, 2023.
- Theme 'Incredible India! Visit India Year 2023.'

APEDA Partners With Lulu Hypermarket to Boost Indian Agri-Product Exports

- The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), under the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India, has inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the renowned global retail giant, Lulu Hypermarket LLC.
- It was officially signed at the World India Food (WIF) 2023 event on November 3, 2023, in New Delhi.
- Lulu group founded in 2000 by M. A. Yusuff Ali from Nattika in Kerala, India.

About APEDA:

Founded: 13 February 1986

Headquarters: New Delhi

NITI Aayog held Workshop on India-AU Collaboration

- NITI Aayog, in partnership with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF), organized a workshop in New Delhi.

About NITI Aayog:

Formed: 1 January 2015

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founder: National Democratic Alliance

India and UAE pen MoU to foster education connect between two countries

- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan expressed his gratitude for the UAE's support to Indian curriculum schools.

About UAE:

President: Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Capital: Abu Dhabi

India and Italy sign Mobility and Migration Partnership Agreement to facilitate movement of workers, students

- India's External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar, held a productive meeting with Italy's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Antonio Tajani, in Rome.

About Italy:

Prime Minister: Giorgia Meloni

Capital: Rome

Telecommunication engineering centre and ITI LTD signs MoU on AI

- Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC), technical arm of Department of Telecommunications (DOT), Ministry of Communications, Government of India, and the Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi (IIITD) united to drive innovation.
- Underlining their commitment to pioneering advancements in Responsible AI, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on November 3, 2023.

"Blinken and Austin's India Visit: Anticipated 2+2 Dialogue Next Week"

- US Secretary of State Antony J Blinken and Defence Secretary Lloyd J Austin are scheduled to visit India for the India-US 2+2 ministerial dialogue, amidst ongoing international crises and challenges.
- Indian hosts include External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- The meeting is scheduled for November 9-10, following Blinken's visits to Tel Aviv, Amman, Tokyo, and Seoul.

About USA:

President: Joe Biden

Capital: Washington, D.C.

UK to host the AI Safety Summit 2023 on November 1

- United Kingdom's Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, is set to host the AI Safety Summit 2023 on 1st and 2nd November at Bletchley Park, Buckinghamshire.

About UK:

Capital: London

Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak

Akhaura- Agartala rail link to be inaugurated virtually by PM Modi, Sheikh Hasina

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the Agartala-Akhaura rail link project virtually.

About Bangladesh:

Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina

Capital: Dhaka

Nokia Partners with TATA Play Fiber to Launch India's First WiFi6-Ready Broadband Network

About Nokia:

Headquarters: Espoo, Finland;
CEO: Pekka Lundmark (1 Aug 2020–);
Founders: Fredrik Idestam, Leo Mechelin, Eduard Polón;
Founded: 12 May 1865, Tampere, Finland;
President: Pekka Lundmark.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Abdullahi Mire Wins 2023 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award

- The UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award was established in 1954.
- Abdullahi Mire, a Somali refugee, has been named the 2023 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award Global Laureate.
- In addition to the Global Laureate, four regional winners have also been named for the 2023 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award:
 1. Americas: Elizabeth Moreno Barco from Colombia
 2. Middle East & North Africa: Asia Al-Mashreqi from Yemen
 3. Asia-Pacific: Abdullah Habib, Sahat Zia Hero, Salim Khan, and Shahida Win from Myanmar
 4. Europe: Lena Grochowska and Władysław Grochowski from Poland

IFFI 2023: 'Endless Borders' Wins Golden Peacock

- The 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa ended on November 28 with an award ceremony.
- The nine-day festival concluded at Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium in Panaji, Goa.
- For the prestigious Golden Peacock, a total of 15 films comprising 12 international and 3 Indian films competed.
- 'Endless Borders' took home the award. Iranian actor Pouria Rahimi Sam bagged the Best Actor award for his role in 'Endless Borders'.

About Goa:

Founded: 30 May 1987
Chief Minister: Pramod Sawant
Governor: P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

Ministry Of Power Honored With Medal for Excellence at IITF 2023

- The Ministry of Power, Government of India, has been recognized and honored with the Special Appreciation Medal for Excellence in Display at the India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2023.
- The prestigious award was bestowed upon the Ministry for its outstanding contribution to the 42nd edition of the IITF, held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, from November 14 to 27, 2023.

REC Receives 'Best Employer in Diversity & Inclusion' award by Assocham

- REC Limited, a Maharatna CPSE under the Ministry of Power, achieved a significant milestone by receiving the "Best Employer for Policies in Diversity & Inclusion" Award at the 4th Diversity & Inclusion Excellence Awards and Conclave organized by Assocham.
- Established in 1969, REC Limited, a Maharatna CPSE under the Ministry of Power, specializes in providing long-term loans.
- Chairman and Managing Director of REC is Vivek Kumar Dewagan.

Ishwak Singh Won Best Actor Award at Stars Asian International Film Festival

- Ishwak Singh won the Best Actor award at the Stars Asian International Film Festival (SAIFF) for his performance in the film Berlin.
- Film is produced by Zee Studios and Yippie Ki Yay Motion Pictures.

Four Indian Women Shine in BBC 100 Women 2023 List

- British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) recently unveiled its 11th edition of the BBC 100 Women list for 2023.
- Harmanpreet Kaur, the captain of the Indian Women's National Cricket Team in all three formats, was recognized in the Entertainment & Sport category.
- Dia Mirza, an award-winning actress, has been actively involved in social and environmental causes. Honored as UN Environment Goodwill Ambassador in 2017, she has also served as a brand ambassador for the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI).
- Tenzin Palmo, born in Hertfordshire, England, is a renowned author, teacher, and founder of the Dongyu Gatsal Ling Nunnery in Himachal Pradesh, India.
- Arati Kumar-Rao's debut book, "Marginlands: Indian Landscapes On The Brink," has been shortlisted at the TataLitLive! Awards 2023 for first book, non-fiction.

About British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC):

Chairman– Dame Elan Closs Stephens;
Headquarters– London, United Kingdom.

Uttar Pradesh bags First Prize for Best State in Inland Fisheries

- Uttar Pradesh has secured a notable 'Best State' award for inland fisheries (plain areas).
- The state is set to receive this prestigious accolade at the two-day Global Fisheries Conference-2023 in Delhi on November 21 and 22. Cabinet Minister for Fisheries, Sanjay Nishad.

Deepti Babuta becomes first woman to bag Dhahan Prize for Punjabi literature

- Dhahan Prize, the largest international literary award for fiction in the Punjabi language.
- Babuta was honored with a cash award of \$25,000 CAD.
- Two other finalists, Jameel Ahmad Paul from Lahore and Balijit from Mohali, were also acknowledged.
- Established in 2013 by the Canada India Education Society (CIES) and the University of British Columbia (UBC).

Indira Gandhi Peace Prize for 2022 Presented to COVID-19 Warriors

- The prestigious Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for the year 2022 was jointly awarded to the Indian Medical Association (IMA) and Trained Nurses Association of India.
Established: 1986

Nicaragua's Sheynnis Palcios Crowned 72nd Miss Universe 2023

- Nicaragua's Sheynnis Palcios, a 23-year-old TV host and model crowned Miss Universe 2023.
- At the Jose Adolfo Pineda Arena in San Salvador, El Salvador on 18th November 2023.

JSW Bags Award to Develop Greenfield Port in Karnataka for Rs 4,119 Crore

- Aurn Maheshwar, CEO and Joint MD of JSW Infrastructure, expressed the company's commitment to developing Keni Port as an integral part of Karnataka's maritime infrastructure and trade gateway.

Salman Rushdie Honored With First 'Lifetime Disturbing the Peace Award'

- World-renowned author Salman Rushdie, celebrated for groundbreaking works like 'The Satanic Verses,' received the inaugural 'Lifetime Disturbing the Peace Award' from the Vaclav Havel Center.

The Institution of Engineering and Technology Announces Winners of the 3rd Edition of the IET India Awards

- The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) successfully concludes the third edition of the IET India Awards and announces winners across seven categories.
- A key highlight of the event was the felicitation of Kris Gopalakrishnan, Co-Founder of Infosys with the IET India Lifetime Achievement Award.

Apolinaris D'Souza Honored With the 19th 'Kalakar Puraskar' Award

- The 19th edition of the prestigious 'Kalakar Puraskar,' organized by the Carvalho Household of Kundapura in association with Mandd Sobhann, Mangaluru, was awarded to Apolinaris D'Souza.
- The award ceremony took place on the 5th of November 2023, during a public event held at Kalaagann, Mangaluru.

New York City wins first US National Gatka Championship

- The 1st US National Gatka Championship recently concluded at The Sikh Center of New York Inc., drawing hundreds of spectators. Organized by the Gatka Federation USA.

About USA:

Continent: North America

President: Joe Biden

Eminent Writer T. Padmanabhan Receives Prestigious Kerala Jyothi Award

- Also Justice (Retired) M. Fathima Beevi has been chosen for the 'Kerala Prabha' award for her significant contributions to the field of social service.

India-Born Author Nandini Das Wins 2023 British Academy Book Prize

- The British Academy Book Prize for Global Cultural Understanding, a prestigious international non-fiction award has been claimed by India-born author Nandini Das for her debut book, 'Courting India: England, Mughal India, and the Origins of Empire.'
- This remarkable work, hailed as the "true origin story of Britain and India told through England's first diplomatic mission to the Mughal courts.

10-Year-Old Bangalore Kid Wins 'Wildlife Photographer of the Year' Award

- Vihaan Talya Vikas, a 10-year-old prodigy from Bengaluru, has captured the hearts of photography enthusiasts and conservationists alike by winning the top prize in the '10 years and under' category renowned Wildlife Photographer of the Year (WPY) competition.
- Social worker Deenanath Rajput from Bastar wins Rohini Nayyar Prize
- Deenanath Rajput, an engineer-turned-social worker, was awarded the Second Rohini Nayyar Prize for his outstanding contribution to rural development

RANKING

TCS Claims Top Spot in Customer Satisfaction among IT and Cloud Services Providers in Spain

- Indian IT giant Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has achieved remarkable success in Spain, securing the number one position in service delivery quality and commercial competitiveness, according to an independent survey conducted by Whitelane Research.

About TCS:

Founders: Faquir Chand Kohli, J. R. D. Tata

Headquarters: Mumbai

CEO: K. Krithivasan (1 Jun 2023–)

Founded: 1 April 1968

Delhi's Khan Market world's 22nd priciest high street retail location

- Delhi's upscale Khan Market has secured the 22nd spot, marking a slight drop from the 21st position last year. The annual rent per square foot stands at USD 217.

About Delhi:

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal

Lieutenant Governor : Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena

India Ranks Third In Global Unicorn Rankings with 72 Unicorns

- The cumulative valuation of these unicorns stands at a staggering \$195.75 billion.
- The first Indian company to make a mark on the global stage is BYJU's, securing the 36th position with a noteworthy valuation of \$11.50 billion.
- China holds the second-highest number of unicorn companies, boasting a total of 172 with a combined valuation of \$641.67 billion.

BofA Survey Japan and India as Preferred Markets in Asia Pacific

- In a recent fund manager survey (FMS) conducted by Bank of America (BofA), Japan and India emerged as the most favored markets in the Asia Pacific region.

- The survey revealed that Japan holds the top position with a net 45 percent overweight, followed by India at 25 percent.
- In contrast, Thailand, China, and Australia are perceived as less attractive.

SIDBI Introduces 'Sumpoorn' MSME Economic Activity Index in Collaboration with Jocata

- The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has partnered with Jocata, a digital lending transformation platform, to launch a groundbreaking initiative named 'Sumpoorn'—a unique MSME Economic Activity Index.

QS Asia University Rankings 2024: IIT Bombay and IIT Delhi within Top 50

- Two prestigious Indian institutions, IIT Bombay and IIT Delhi, showcased their academic strength by securing positions within the top 50.
- IIT Bombay, maintaining its status as India's leading institution, secured an impressive 40th position in the Asian rankings.

"India Leads in Workplace Burnout: 59% Report Burnout Symptoms, Reveals Survey"

- A recent survey conducted by the McKinsey Health Institute in 2023 shed light on the state of employees' well-being in workplaces.
- According to the survey, a staggering 59% of Indian respondents reported experiencing burnout symptoms.

Shiv Nadar Tops the Hurun India Philanthropy List 2023

- HCLTech founder Shiv Nadar and his family have retained the top spot on the EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2023.
- Wipro founding chairman Azim Premji and his family secured the second position.

About HCLTech:

Headquarters: Noida

CEO: C Vijayakumar (Oct 2016–)

Mumbai Ranks Fourth In Global Housing Price Rise

- In September 2023, Mumbai has achieved the fourth-highest year-on-year growth in prime residential prices among global cities.

About Maharashtra:

Chief Minister: Eknath Shinde

Governor: Ramesh Bais

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

A book Thread By Thread on the life of Shambhu Kumar Kasliwal

- A book, Thread by Thread, on the life of Shambhu Kumar or 'the' S Kumar released by Kapil Dev, at The Palace Halls, NSCI, Mumbai.
- Kapil Dev has been a brand ambassador for S.Kumars for their tv and print campaigns in the 80s and 2000s.

- The book has been written by noted journalist and author Sathya Saran and published by Penguin Random House.

NIF Book Prize for 2023 to Be Revealed On December 1st

- The Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIF) Book Prize has unveiled its shortlist, comprising five outstanding works.

ISRO Chief Withdraws Release of his Autobiography 'Nilavu Kudicha Simhangal'

- Chairman of ISRO, S Somanath, has decided to withdraw the publication of his forthcoming autobiography, titled 'Nilavu Kudicha Simhangal' (which roughly translates to 'Lions that drank the Moonlight').

About ISRO:

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 15 August 1969

BANKING AND ECONOMY

IndiGo Unveils AI-Powered Chat Assistant "6Eskai" After Air India

- IndiGo, India's largest airline, announced on Monday the launch of its Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered chat assistant named "6Eskai."
- Pieter Elbers currently serving as the CEO of IndiGo.

Warren Buffett's Exit from Paytm: A Rs 507 Crore Loss

- Warren Buffett-led Berkshire Hathaway has made headlines by completely divesting its 2.46% stake in One 97 Communications, the parent company of Paytm.

Mastercard and U GRO Capital Collaborate for MSME Financing

- Mastercard partnership with U GRO Capital, a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) specializing in Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) financing.

About Mastercard:

CEO: Michael Miebach (1 Jan 2021–)

CFO: Sachin Mehra

President: Michael Miebach

Headquarters: Purchase, Harrison, New York, United States

ADB's \$170 Million Boost Transforms Kochi's Water Landscape

- Kochi, often referred to as the commercial capital of Kerala.

About Asian Development Bank:

Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines

Founded: 19 December 1966

President: Masatsugu Asakawa (from 17 January 2020)

Nippon Life India AIF Set to Mobilize ₹1,000 crore for Private Credit Expansion

- Nippon Life India Aif Management Limited is a Public incorporated on 30 June 2000.

Acko partners with R Madhavan as their 'voice of the customer'

- ACKO, has partnered with renowned actor R Madhavan as its 'Voice of the Customer'.

About ACKO:

Founder: Varun Dua;

Headquarters: Bengaluru;

Founded: 3 November 2016.

India's GDP Surpasses \$4 Trillion Mark: A Historic Milestone

- In a significant economic achievement, India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has crossed the \$4 trillion mark in nominal terms.

Bengaluru Tops in Women-Led Startups, Followed by Mumbai and Delhi

- Third-largest hub in the world, following the United States and China. Bengaluru, the capital of Karnataka, topped the list of women-led startups, boasting 1,783 women-led startups.
- Karnataka became the first state in India to provide a grant-in-aid of Rs.50 lakh to encourage innovators.

About Karnataka:

Capital: Bengaluru (Executive Branch)

Chief Minister: Siddaramaiah

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

Global economy: Inflation eases in US, UK; India's trade gap widens in Oct

- United States and the United Kingdom have experienced a slowdown in inflation. This has led to growing speculation that central banks.

About USA:

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

India Set to Extend Rice Export Bans through 2024, Impacting Global Prices

- India has been a major player in global rice exports, constituting almost 40% of the total.

Rural Retail Inflation Outpaces Urban Counterpart for 18 Out of 22 Months

- National Statistical Office (NSO) reveals a concerning trend in India's inflation dynamics.
- Rural Inflation at 5.12%: In October 2023.
- Urban Inflation at 4.62%: In October 2023.

DGFT Forecasts Explosive Growth in Indian E-commerce Exports, Aiming for \$200 Billion in 6-7 Years

- India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) predicts a remarkable surge in the country's e-commerce exports, projecting a potential rise from the current \$1.2 billion to an impressive \$200 billion.

IndusInd Bank Launches 'IndusInd Bank Platinum RuPay Credit Card' on UPI

- This collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) marks a pivotal moment.
- IndusInd Bank Limited, established in 1994.

RBI Approves New Directors of Jio Financial Services

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given its approval for the appointment of key individuals as directors of Jio Financial Services.

GAIL Completes World's Inaugural Ship-To-Ship LNG Transfer

- Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), the country's leading gas firm, has successfully executed the world's first ship-to-ship liquefied natural gas (LNG) transfer.
- GAIL has secured contracts for 5.8 million tonnes per annum of LNG from the United States.

Morgan Stanley Forecasts Robust 6.5% Growth for India's Economy in FY24 and FY25

- In its recently released "2024 India Economics Outlook," Morgan Stanley Research predicts that India's economy will experience substantial growth, hovering around 6.5% for both FY2024 and FY2025.
- Moody's Investor Service maintains India's growth at 6.7% for 2023, applauding the country's resilience.

Jio and OneWeb Secure Licenses for Satellite Internet Services

- The Department of Telecom (DoT) has granted Internet Service Provider (ISP) licenses to Jio Satellite Communications and OneWeb.

Asia-Pacific Airlines Aim for 5% Green Fuel Usage By 2030

- The Association of Asia-Pacific Airlines (AAPA) has announced a groundbreaking target for its 14 member airlines, including newly inducted Air India, to achieve 5% sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) usage by 2030.
- India has witnessed SAF demonstration flights, including one by Spice Jet in 2018 and Air Asia India in May 2023.

Retail Inflation Drops to 4-Month Low of 4.87% in October

- India's retail inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), witnessed a 4-month low in October, settling at 4.87%.

Pablo Picasso's 'Woman with a Watch' Sells for Record \$139 Million

- Pablo Picasso's famous painting "Femme à la montre" ("Woman with a Watch") sold for a record-breaking \$139 million at a Sotheby's auction in New York on November 8, 2023.

RBI Allows NRIs to Buy Sovereign Green Bonds

- The RBI circular designates all Sovereign Green Bonds issued in 2023-24 as 'specified securities' under the Fully Accessible Route (FAR).

About RBI:

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata
Founder: British Raj
Governor: Shaktikanta Das
Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

PayGlocal Receives In-Principle Approval from RBI for Payment Aggregator License

- Founded in 2021 by Prachi Dharani, Rohit Sukhija, and Yogesh Lokhande.
- PayGlocal provides technology solutions for payment processing and transaction risk management.

About RBI:

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata
Founder: British Raj
Governor: Shaktikanta Das
Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

Axis Bank Partners With IRMA to Promote Financial Inclusion and Literacy in India

- Axis Bank and the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish the Axis Bank Chair for financial inclusion at IRMA.
- The Axis Bank Chair for Financial Inclusion has been established for a period of five years.
- Group Executive & Head – Bharat Banking, Axis Bank: Munish Sharda.
- Director of IRMA: Dr. Umakant Dash.

HSBC India Launches E-Bank Guarantees to Modernize Trade Finance

- HSBC India, in collaboration with the National E-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL), has introduced electronic bank guarantee services.

About HSBC India:

CEO: Hitendra Dave (7 Jun 2021–)
Headquarters: Mumbai
Founded: 1853

RBI Announces Phased Discontinuation of Incremental Cash Reserve Ratio (I-CRR)

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has unveiled a plan to gradually discontinue the Incremental Cash Reserve Ratio (I-CRR) in response to evolving liquidity conditions.
- The RBI Governor, Shaktikanta Das, introduced the I-CRR, mandating all scheduled banks to maintain a 10% reserve ratio on the increase in their net demand and time liabilities (NDTL).

About RBI:

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata
Founder: British Raj
Governor: Shaktikanta Das
Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

IndiaFirst Life Becomes the First Life Insurance Company to Obtain GIFT City IFSC Registration

- IndiaFirst Life, a Mumbai-based life insurance company, has achieved a significant milestone by becoming the first life insurance company to secure registration within the GIFT City International Financial Services Centre (IFSC).
- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) in August 2023 and subsequent registration from the International Financial Services Centre Authority (IFSCA).

About IRDAI:

Founded: 1999

Sector: Insurance

Headquarters: Hyderabad

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurates SBI branch in Sri Lanka

- Sri Lankan counterparts as part of the 12th round of the Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA).

About Sri Lanka:

Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

Prime Minister: Dinesh Gunawardena

About State Bank of India:

Chairperson: Dinesh Kumar Khara

Founded: 1 July 1955

Headquarters: Mumbai

NBA ropes in Bhaane to drive its e-commerce platform in India

- The National Basketball Association (NBA) and Bhaane, a leading contemporary clothing brand, have joined forces in a multi-year partnership to introduce NBASore.in.
- Anand Ahuja, founder & CEO of Bhaane, expressed excitement about partnering with the NBA, emphasizing the global significance of the league.

About National Basketball Association:

Founded: 6 June 1946, New York United States

Headquarters: New York, United States

Inaugural season: 1946–47

Most recent champion(s): Denver Nuggets; (1st title)

Most titles: Boston Celtics; Los Angeles Lakers; (17 each)

NPCI: UPI Records 1,140 Crore Transactions in October, Total Value Exceeds Rs 17.6 Lakh Crore

- UPI Crossed 11.4 billion transactions with a total transaction value surpassing Rs 17.6 lakh crore.

About National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

Founded: 2008

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founders: Reserve Bank of India, Indian Banks' Association

Owner: Reserve Bank of India, Ministry of Finance, Government of India

SBI Card Partners With Reliance Retail to Introduce 'Reliance SBI Card'

About SBI Card:

CEO: Abhijit Chakravorty (12 Aug 2023–)

Parent organization: State Bank of India

Founded: October 1998

Headquarters: Gurugram



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