

## Weekly Current Affairs PDF October 15 to October 21, 2023

### Current Affairs PDF- October 21, 2023

#### INTERNATIONAL

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

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

##### **About Japan:**

Prime minister: Fumio Kishida Trending

Capital: Tokyo

#### NATIONAL

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

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

##### Two day Anthurium festival begins in Mizoram

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

##### **About Mizoram:**

Chief Minister: Zoramthanga

Governor: Kambhampati Hari Babu

##### India Sri Lanka ferry service started after 40 years

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

##### **About Sri Lanka:**

Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

Prime Minister: Dinesh Chandra Rupasinghe Gunawardena

#### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

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

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

##### **About Hewlett-Packard (HP):**

Headquarters: Palo Alto, California, United States;

President: Enrique Lores.

### IMPORTANT DAYS

#### National Police Commemoration Day 2023 Celebrates on 21 October

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

### SUMMITS AND MOU'S

#### IRCTC Partners With Zomato For Delivery Of Pre-Booked Meals

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

##### **About Zomato:**

Owners: Info Edge, Ant Group

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

Founded: July 2008; 15 years ago

Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana, India

##### **About IRCTC:**

Founder: Ministry of Railways

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 27 September 1999

Owner: Government of India (67%)

### AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

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

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

##### **About Gujarat:**

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

### BANKING AND ECONOMY

#### RBI Approves Kotak Mahindra Bank To Acquire MFI Sonata Finance

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

##### **About Kotak Mahindra Bank:**

Founder: Uday Kotak

Founded: 21 November 1985

Headquarters: Mumbai

##### **About RBI:**

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

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

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

#### **About RBI:**

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Founder: British Raj

## **Current Affairs PDF- October 20, 2023**

### **INTERNATIONAL**

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

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

#### **About China:**

President: Xi Jinping

Capital: Beijing

#### **S Jaishankar Unveils Mahatma Gandhi's Bust In Vietnam**

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

#### **About Vietnam:**

Capital: Hanoi

President: Vo Van Thuong

### **NATIONAL**

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

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

## **About Assam:**

Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor: Gulab Chand Kataria

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

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

## **About Arunachal Pradesh:**

Chief Minister: Pema Khandu

Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik

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

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

## **APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**

### **Puma Ropes In Mohammed Shami as Its Brand Ambassador**

#### **About Puma:**

Founder: Rudolf Dassler

Founded: 1948, Herzogenaurach, Germany

Headquarters: Herzogenaurach, Germany

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **World Statistics Day 2023 Celebrates On 20 October**

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

### **World Osteoporosis Day 2023 Observed On 20th October**

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

### **International Chef's Day 2023 Celebrates On 20th October**

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

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

### **Shreya Ghoshal Won 5th National Awards 2023**

- Won Best Female Playback Singer award at the 69th National Film Awards.
- The award was presented to her by the Hon'ble President of India, Droupadi Murmu, in a grand ceremony held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

- Her fifth National Film Award. Her first National Award was in 2003 for the soul-stirring rendition of “Bairi Piya” in the iconic movie ‘Devdas.’

### **BANKING AND ECONOMY**

#### **India's Growing Contribution To Global Economic Growth**

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

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

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

##### **About Tata Motors:**

Founded: 1945, Mumbai

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founder: J. R. D. Tata

## **Current Affairs PDF- October 19, 2023**

### **INTERNATIONAL**

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

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

### **NATIONAL**

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

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

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

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

##### **About Tamil Nadu:**

Formation – 26 January 1950;

Capital – Chennai;

Chief Minister – M K Stalin;

Governor – R N Ravi.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS



Presidential Appointments: New Governors for Odisha and Tripura

Odisha's New Governor: Raghubar Das

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

Tripura's New Governor: Indra Sena Reddy Nallu

### Sanjay Kulshreshtha named as new Chairman and Managing Director of HUDCO

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

#### About HUDCO:

Founded: 25 April 1970;

Headquarters: New Delhi

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

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

## SUMMITS AND MOU'S

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

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

#### About Google:

Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin

Parent organization: Alphabet Inc.

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

Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States

CEO: Sundar Pichai (2 Oct 2015–)

#### About Qualcomm:

Headquarters: San Diego, California, United States

CEO: Cristiano Amon (30 Jun 2021–)

President: Cristiano Amon

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

## RANKING

### Global Pension Index 2023: Countries With The Best Pension System

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

### **BANKING AND ECONOMY**

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

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

##### **About Federal Bank:**

Headquarters: Aluva

CEO: Shyam Srinivasan (23 Sept 2010–)

Founded: 23 April 1931, Nedumpuram

Founder: K. P. Hormis

#### **Centre approves 4% hike in DA for central govt employees**

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

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### **INTERNATIONAL**

#### **India-Sri Lanka Ferry Service Reopens after Four Decades**

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

### **NATIONAL**

#### **Dharmendra Pradhan Launched IndiaSkills 2023-24 in New Delhi**

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

#### **Kati Bihu festival 2023:18th October**

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

##### **About Assam:**

Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor: Gulab Chand Kataria

#### **India to Invest ₹143 Lakh Crore in Infrastructure by 2030**

- The rating agency CRISIL shared this information in its Infrastructure Yearbook 2023.
- CRISIL Ltd.'s Managing Director and CEO is Amish Mehta.

- He predicts a significant increase in per capita income, rising from \$2,500 to \$4,500 by fiscal year 2031.

**About:**

CEO: Amish Mehta (1 Oct 2021)

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 1987

**SPORTS**

**India's represent his Contingent for the Asian Para Games**

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

**About China:**

President: Xi Jinping

Capital: Beijing

**IMPORTANT DAYS**

**World Trauma Day 2023: 17th October**

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

**RANKING**

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

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

**About Karnataka:**

Chief Minister: Siddaramaiah

Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot

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

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

**About NSSO:**

Director General: Shri Bivas Chaudhuri

**BANKING AND ECONOMY**

**Govt To Sell 7% Equity Stake In Hudco Through OFS**

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



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

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

#### **About Gujarat:**

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

### IDFC gets CCI nod for merger with IDFC First Bank

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

#### **About IDFC FIRST Bank:**

CEO: V. Vaidyanathan (19 Dec 2018)

Founded: October 2015

Headquarters: Mumbai

## Current Affairs PDF- October 17, 2023

### NATIONAL

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

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

#### **About Uttarakhand:**

Chief Minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami

Governor: Gurmit Singh

### SC refers electoral bond case to 5-judge Constitution Bench

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

#### **About Supreme Court:**

Founded: 28 January 1950, New Delhi

Established: 26 January 1950

Judge term length: Mandatory retirement at 65 years of age

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

### SPORTS

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

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

### OBITUARY

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

- Martti Ahtisaari, Finland's 10th president and renowned peace mediator, passed away at the age of 86.
- He was known for his exceptional work in brokering peace in conflict zones, including Kosovo, Indonesia and Northern Ireland.
- His lifelong commitment to resolving conflicts earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 2008.

### APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

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

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

##### About Manipur:

Chief Minister: N. Biren Singh

Governor: Anusuiya Uikey

### IMPORTANT DAYS

#### International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2023:17<sup>th</sup> October

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

### SUMMITS AND MOU'S

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

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

##### About UK:

Capital: London

Prime Minister: Rishi Sunak

#### PM Modi to Inaugurate Global Maritime India Summit 2023 in Mumbai

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will virtually inaugurate the third edition of the Global Maritime India Summit 2023 (GMIS 2023).
- Set to be held from 17th to 19th October at MMRDA Grounds in Mumbai.

- GMIS 2023 provides the ideal platform for unveiling 'Amrit Kaal Vision 2047,' a comprehensive 25-year roadmap for India's maritime blue economy.

**About Maharashtra:**

Chief Minister: Shri Eknath Shinde

Governor: Ramesh Bais

**BANKING AND ECONOMY**

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

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

**About World Bank:**

President: Ajay Banga

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

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

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

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

**About Gujarat:**

Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Governor: Acharya Devvrat

**Current Affairs PDF- October 16, 2023**

**NATIONAL**

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

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

**About Kerala:**

Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan

Governor: Arif Mohammed Khan

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

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

**About PMJDY:**

Launch year: 2014

Launched by (prime minister): Narendra Modi

Ministry: Ministry of Finance

### Jaishankar unveils Rabindranath Tagore's bust in Vietnam

- India's External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar, inaugurated a bust of Nobel Laureate writer and poet Rabindranath Tagore in Bac Ninh city.
- Links between India and Vietnam is the Bodhi tree, a gift from President Rajendra Prasad to President Ho Chi Minh in 1959.
- Rabindranath Tagore's famous work, "Gitanjali," was translated into Vietnamese and published in 2001.
- Rabindranath Tagore's "Gitanjali" earned him the Nobel Prize for Literature, making him the first non-European to receive this prestigious award in 1913.

#### **About Vietnam:**

Capital: Hanoi;

Currency: Vietnamese dong;

President: Vo Van Thuong;

Prime minister: Pham Minh Chinh;

National sport: Football.

### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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

- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA) have joined hands to create an exciting and educational initiative called the "Space on Wheels" program.
- This program is designed to take the wonders of space exploration to the East Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh.

#### **About ISRO:**

Headquarters: Bengaluru;

Founded: 15 August 1969;

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai;

Chairperson: S. Somanath.

### IMPORTANT DAYS

#### World Food Day 2023: 16 October

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

#### **About FAO:**

Director-General, QU Dongyu;

Headquarters: Rome, Italy;

Founded: 16 October 1945.

#### World Anaesthesia Day 2023: 16 October

- Also known in some countries as National Anaesthesia Day or Ether Day
- On 16 October to commemorate the first successful demonstration of diethyl ether anaesthesia by William T. G. Morton on 16 October 1846.

- The theme for World Anaesthesia Day in 2023 is 'Anaesthesia and Cancer Care.'

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

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

#### SUMMITS AND MOU'S

##### World bank and japan collaborate for developing countries

- A ground-breaking new partnership launched today between the World Bank and Japan—joined by Italy, the Republic of Korea, Canada, and the United Kingdom—addresses both.
- Japan, Canada, Italy, the Republic of Korea, and the United Kingdom have pledged an initial total contribution of more than \$40 million to RISE, and more donors are expected to contribute.
- Japanese Finance Minister Suzuki Shunichi and World Bank President Ajay Banga announced the partnership during a launch event they co-hosted at the 2023 World Bank-International Monetary Fund Annual Meetings in Marrakech.
- Italy will contribute to RISE and will support its implementation in 2024, under the Italian G7 Presidency."

##### **About World Bank:**

President: Ajay Banga

Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States

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

##### **About Japan:**

Prime minister: Fumio Kishida

Capital: Tokyo

#### AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

##### Nawanpind Sardaran Village In Punjab Receives Best Tourism Village Award

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

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#### INTERNATIONAL

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

- Sri Lanka's State Minister of Finance, Shehan Semasinghe, has announced the country's intentions to renegotiate its free trade agreements (FTAs) with key bilateral partners.
- Three pivotal partners are- India, China, and Thailand.



- This agreement involves 16 Asian countries and seeks to enhance trade and economic cooperation within the region.

### **Tallest BR Ambedkar Statue Outside India Unveiled In Washington**

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

## **NATIONAL**

### **Centre unveils tradeable Green Credit**

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

**The Green Credit program encompasses key activities are:**

Tree Plantation

Water Management

Sustainable Agriculture

Waste Management

Air Pollution Reduction

Mangrove Conservation and Restoration

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

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

## **OBITUARY**

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

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

## **APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**

### **B K Mohanty Assumes Charge As Director Of Finance At IREDA**

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

**About IREDA**

Founded: 1987

Headquarters: India Habitat Centre, East Court

**IMPORTANT DAYS**

**World Students Day 2023: 15 October**

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

**International Day of Rural Women 2023: 15 October**

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

**BANKING AND ECONOMY**

**RBI Imposes ₹1 Crore Penalty On Union Bank**

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