

THE HINDU REVIEW

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Monthly

Capsule

Current

Affairs



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The Most Important Current Affairs May 2023

Bihar Caste Census Reveals Demographic Insights

The Bihar government recently released the results of its caste survey, shedding light on the state's demographic composition. While it is important to note that no detailed analysis has been conducted yet, the survey provides valuable data on caste distribution in Bihar.

Bihar Caste Census: Key Demographic Breakdowns

Here are the key findings from the Bihar caste survey:

1. OBCs and EBCs Dominate:

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

2. Scheduled Castes and Tribes:

- Scheduled Caste (SC) population stands at 19.65%.
- Scheduled Tribe (ST) population is 1.68%.

3. General Caste and Yadavs:

- General Caste population is 15.52%.
- Yadavs represent 14% of the population.

4. Religious Composition:

- Hindus make up 82% of the population.
- Muslims account for 17.71%.

Additional Insights:

The survey also provides insights into specific caste groups:

6. Yadavs, Kushwahas, and Kurmis:

- Among OBCs, Yadavs constitute 14.26%.
- Kushwaha and Kurmi castes make up 4.27% and 2.87%, respectively.

Check Out the Nobel Prize 2023 Winners List

7. Large-Scale Data Collection:

- The caste survey encompassed 17 socio-economic indicators, including caste.
- It was conducted in three phases, involving approximately 2.64 lakh enumerators documenting data from 29 million registered households.
- A total of 214 castes were identified and assigned individual codes.

8. Implications for Reservations:

- The survey's findings may open the door to challenging the 50% ceiling on reservations in the state.

9. Government Initiatives:

- The Bihar government launched the two-phase caste survey in January, recording both economic status and caste data for around 12.70 crore people in the state.

10. Comparison with Previous Data:

- The Union Government had conducted a caste survey in 2011 (SECC-2011), but the data was never made public.

Nobel Prize 2023 Winners List

Nobel Prize 2023 Winners List

The **Nobel Prize 2023 Winners List** represents a diverse range of fields and disciplines, but they are all united by their extraordinary contributions to humanity. Their work has had a profound impact on our understanding of the world around us and on our ability to solve some of the most pressing challenges of our time.

The Nobel Prize is the world's most prestigious award, honoring individuals and organizations for outstanding achievements in physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, peace, and economics. The prizes are awarded annually by the Nobel Foundation, based on the will of Swedish industrialist and inventor Alfred Nobel. The Nobel Prize amount for 2023 is set at Swedish kronor (SEK) 11.0 million per full Nobel Prize.

Nobel Prize Category	Winners	Date	Achievements
Physiology or Medicine	Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman	2 October	For their pioneering work on mRNA vaccines
Physics	Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L'Huillier	3 October	For experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electron dynamics in matter
Chemistry	Moungi G. Bawendi, Louis E. Brus and Alexei I. Ekimov	4 October	For the discovery and synthesis of quantum dots
Literature	Jon Fosse	5 October	For his innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable
Peace	Narges Mohammadi	6 October	For her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all
The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences	Claudia Goldin	9 October	for having advanced our understanding of women's labour market outcomes

GST Council clears a few measures to boost foreign trade

The **52nd GST Council meeting** took place under the leadership of Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Smt. **Nirmala Sitharaman**. The meeting covered various important decisions and recommendations related to changes in GST tax rates, trade facilitation measures, and compliance streamlining.

Recommendations on GST Rates for Goods and Services

Changes in GST Rates for Goods

1. Food Preparation of Millet Flour:

- The GST rates for food preparations made from millet flour have been adjusted.
- If sold loose, it will have a **0% GST rate**, and if sold pre-packaged, it will have a **5% GST rate**.

2. Imitation Zari Thread:

- Imitation zari threads made from metallized polyester or plastic film will be taxed at a **5% GST rate**.
- However, there will be no refund on the polyester/plastic film used.

3. Foreign Going Vessels:

- Foreign going vessels converting to coastal runs will be subject to 5% IGST.
- Conditional IGST exemption is recommended for these vessels, provided they reconvert to foreign going vessels within six months.

II. Other Changes Related to Goods:

4. Extra Neutral Alcohol (ENA)

- ENA used for manufacturing alcoholic liquor for human consumption will be excluded from GST.

5. Molasses:

- The GST rate on molasses will be reduced from 28% to 5%.
- This will help mills have more liquidity for clearing cane dues to sugarcane farmers and reduce cattle feed manufacturing costs.

6. Rectified Spirit for Industrial Use:

- A new **8-digit HS code** will be created for rectified spirit used for industrial purposes, with an 18% GST rate.



III. Changes in GST Rates for Services:

7. Exemptions for Government Services:

- Services provided to Central/State/UT governments, local authorities, and services like water supply, public health, sanitation, conservancy, solid waste management, slum improvement, and upgradation supplied to Governmental Authorities will be exempt from GST.

8. Job Work Services for Barley Processing:

- Job work services for processing barley into malt will have a **5% GST rate**, similar to job work related to food and food products.

9. GST on Bus Transportation Services via ECOs:

- Bus operators organized as companies may be excluded from paying GST under section 9(5) of the CGST Act, 2017, for bus transportation services via **Electronic Commerce Operators (ECOs)**.

10. District Mineral Foundations Trusts (DMFT):

- **DMFTs** set up by State Governments will be considered Governmental Authorities and eligible for GST exemptions.

11. GST on Indian Railways:

- All goods and services supplied by **Indian Railways** will be taxed under Forward Charge Mechanism to allow them to avail **Input Tax Credit (ITC)**.

Trade Facilitation Measures

i) Amnesty Scheme for Filing Appeals:

- An amnesty scheme will be introduced for taxable persons who couldn't file appeals against demand orders within the allowable time frame.
- They can now file appeals against such orders until January 31, 2024, by paying 12.5% of the disputed tax, with at least 20% being debited from their Electronic Cash Ledger.

ii) Clarifications on Taxability of Personal Guarantees:

- Clarifications will be provided regarding the taxability of personal guarantees offered by directors to banks and corporate guarantees provided for related persons, including those by holding companies to subsidiaries.

iii) Automatic Restoration of Provisionally Attached Property:

- Properties provisionally attached will be automatically released after one year, eliminating the need for a separate order from the Commissioner.

iv) Clarifications on Place of Supply:

- A circular will be issued to clarify the place of supply for various services, including transportation of goods, advertising services, and co-location services.

v) Clarification on Export of Services:

- A circular will be issued to clarify the admissibility of export remittances received in Special INR Vostro accounts for the consideration of supply of services to qualify as export of services.

vi) **Supplies to SEZ Units/Developers:**

- Amendments will be made to allow suppliers to Special Economic Zone (SEZ) developers or units to supply goods or services to them on payment of integrated tax, with a refund route.

Other Measures Related to Law and Procedures:

i) **Alignment of CGST Act with Tribunal Reforms Act:**

- Amendments will be made to the CGST Act to align the provisions with the **Tribunal Reforms Act**, including eligibility criteria and age limits for the appointment of judicial members and Presidents.

ii) **Amendment in ISD Procedure:**

- The **Input Service Distributor (ISD)** procedure will be made mandatory for distributing **Input Tax Credit (ITC)** in certain cases. Rules will be amended accordingly.

iii) **Automatic Restoration of Provisionally Attached Property:**

- After one year, properties provisionally attached will be automatically released without the need for a separate order from the **Commissioner**.

Global Hunger Index 2023: India's Decline to 111th Place

In the latest **Global Hunger Index (GHI)** for 2023, India has been ranked 111 out of 125 countries, marking a decline from its 107th position in 2022. The GHI is an annual assessment of hunger levels globally, published by **Irish NGO** Concern Worldwide and **German NGO** Welt Hunger Hilfe.

Key Findings of Global Hunger Index 2023

- The GHI 2023 report highlights that India has the highest child wasting rate in the world, standing at 18.7 percent during 2018–22, which signifies acute undernutrition.
- The rate of undernourishment in India is reported at 16.6 percent, and the under-five mortality rate is 3.1 percent.
- The prevalence of anemia among women aged between 15 and 24 years in India is alarmingly high at 58.1 percent.
- India's overall GHI score is 28.7, categorizing the hunger situation in the country as "serious."

Comparison with Neighbors: A Comparative Lens

In comparison to neighboring countries, India's GHI ranking appears stark:

- **India: 111th**
- **Pakistan: 102nd**
- **Bangladesh: 81st**
- **Nepal: 69th**
- **Sri Lanka: 60th**

India's ranking pales in comparison to its neighbors, raising concerns about the nation's ability to tackle hunger effectively.

Top and Worst Performers in Global Hunger Index 2023:

- **Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Chile, China and Croatia** are the top five countries in GHI 2023.
- **Chad, Niger, Lesotho, Congo, Yemen, Madagascar, and Central African Republic** are the countries ranked at the bottom of the index.

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

The **PLFS** (Periodic Labour Force Survey), by the **NSO** (National Statistical Office), has released its results for the period of **April to June 2023**. The report indicates a notable decrease in the country's unemployment rate, a rise in the Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR), and an improvement in the Worker-Population Ratio (WPR).

This survey, which sampled data from 5,639 first-stage sampling units (FSUs) and 1,67,916 individuals across 44,190 urban households, provides valuable insights into the changing dynamics of India's labor market.

Positive Shift in Labor Force Participation

One of the key takeaways from the PLFS is the **increase in the Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR)** for individuals aged 15 years and above. In urban areas, the LFPR has risen from 47.5% in April-June 2022 to **48.8%** in the same period of 2023. This data reflects a promising trend, indicating growing participation in the labor force.

Gender Disparity in Labor Force Participation

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation noted that while the LFPR remained relatively steady at 73.5% for males during this period, there was a **notable increase for females**, with their LFPR going up from 20.9% to **23.2%**.

Worker-Population Ratio on the Rise

The **Worker-Population Ratio (WPR)** is another important indicator of the health of a nation's labor market. In urban areas, the WPR increased from 43.9% in April-June 2022 to **45.5%** in the same months of 2023 for individuals aged 15 years and above.

A Promising Shift in Employment

The rise in WPR signifies a positive trend in the proportion of the working-age population that is employed. The data shows that this **improvement was seen in both genders**, with the WPR for males increasing from 68.3% to 69.2%, and for females, it rose from 18.9% to 21.1%.

Decreasing Unemployment Rate

Perhaps the most encouraging finding from the PLFS is the decreasing trend in the Unemployment Rate (UR) for individuals aged 15 years and above. In urban areas, the UR decreased from 7.6% in April-June 2022 to **6.6%** in the same period of 2023.

Balanced Decline in Unemployment

The report highlights that this decline was observed in both male and female unemployment rates. For males, the UR dropped from 7.1% to **5.9%**, while for females, it decreased from 9.5% to **9.1%**. This decline in unemployment is a positive sign for the Indian labor market, indicating that more people are finding gainful employment.

Comparing to Pre-Pandemic Levels

The government claims that the improvements in these key labor market indicators in urban areas are not just positive but also **surpass pre-pandemic levels**. Comparing the data to the period between April-June 2018 and October-December 2019, the LFPR ranged from 46.2% to 47.8%, while in the latest report, it reached **48.8%**.

Pre-Pandemic Labor Market Recovery: Robust Gains

Similarly, the WPR was between 41.8% and 44.1% before the pandemic, but now it stands at **45.5%**. The Unemployment Rate ranged between 7.8% and 9.7% in the pre-pandemic period, while the latest survey indicates a lower rate of 6.6%. According to the government, this is notably lower than the unemployment rates observed in the quarters covered in the pre-pandemic period.

Indications of Recovery and Growth

The decrease in the unemployment rate, the rise in the Labor Force Participation Rate, and the increase in the Worker-Population Ratio are indicative of an improving job market. Moreover, the government's claim that these indicators have **surpassed pre-pandemic levels** suggests that India's labor market has not only recovered but is also on a growth trajectory. These trends can be seen as a positive sign for the country's economic stability and the well-being of its citizens.

Global Remote Work Index, India among world's worst countries

In a significant shift in the global remote work landscape, **India** has been ranked **64th out of 108 countries** in the **Global Remote Work Index (GRWI)**. This marks a substantial decline of 15 places from the previous year, raising concerns about the country's readiness for remote work.

Global Remote Work Index (GRWI) Criteria

The GRWI, developed and published by cybersecurity firm NordLayer, evaluates countries based on four fundamental criteria crucial for remote work success:

1. Cyber Safety
2. Economic Safety
3. Digital and Physical Infrastructure
4. Social Safety

India's Weaknesses in Digital and Physical Infrastructure

India's remote work challenges are largely rooted in subpar digital and physical infrastructure. The nation ranked 77th in this category, indicating that its e-infrastructure is among the least developed globally (95th position). India's internet services, although widely available, are plagued by issues of cost (**78th**) and quality (**70th**), **hampering remote work efficiency**.

Social Safety Concerns and Isolation

India's social safety indicators have raised concerns, with the nation appearing to be one of the most isolating countries worldwide. This is attributed to a low personal rights index (88) and an environment lacking inclusiveness (65), which can hinder the remote work experience.

Cyber and Economic Safety at Average Levels

In the domains of cyber safety and economic safety, India's performance remains middling, with rankings of 56 and 55, respectively. While the nation boasts a reasonably robust cyber infrastructure (13th position) and a decent response capacity (19th position), there is room for improvement.

India's Cost-Effective Advantage

Despite its remote work challenges, India remains one of the most cost-effective destinations, with the third-lowest cost of living. However, its healthcare system ranks poorly at 93, potentially impacting the well-being of remote workers.

Top 10 Countries Leading in Remote Work

Meanwhile, The top 10 countries which scored the highest on the Global Remote Work Index (GRWI) are

1. Denmark,
2. Netherlands,
3. Germany,
4. Spain,
5. Sweden,
6. Portugal,
7. Estonia,
8. Lithuania,
9. Ireland, and
10. Slovakia.

Gaganyaan TV-D1 Mission

In a historic moment for India's ambitious human space mission, the **Test Vehicle-D1 (TV-D1)**, designed for the **ISRO's Gaganyaan program**, successfully took flight from **Sriharikota, Island in Andhra Pradesh**. The launch, which marked a significant milestone in India's space endeavors, was not without its share of challenges.

Mission Objectives and Significance

The TV-D1 launch aimed to achieve several critical mission objectives, bringing India closer to realizing its dream of sending humans into space. These objectives included:

1. Flight Demonstration and Evaluation of Test Vehicle Subsystems

- The TV-D1 mission allowed for a comprehensive assessment of the various subsystems that make up the test vehicle. This evaluation is crucial in ensuring the safety and reliability of future human spaceflights.

2. Crew Escape System Evaluation

- One of the paramount concerns in human space missions is the safety of the crew in case of an emergency. TV-D1 provided a platform for the evaluation of the Crew Escape System (CES), which encompasses various separation systems to ensure a safe escape for astronauts.

3. Crew Module Characteristics Assessment

- Understanding the characteristics of the Crew Module (CM) is vital for the success of future missions. TV-D1 helped gather critical data about the CM's performance, improving our knowledge of its behavior during the flight.

4. Deceleration System Demonstration at Higher Altitudes

- As missions venture into deeper space, deceleration systems become increasingly important. TV-D1 demonstrated the deceleration system's capabilities at higher altitudes, adding to the knowledge base for future missions.

Technical Challenges and Resilience

The road to this historic launch was not without its share of challenges. Initially scheduled for 8 a.m., the liftoff was postponed due to adverse weather conditions and poor visibility. The delay, however, was not the end of the hurdles. Technical glitches further pushed the launch time, eventually taking place at 10 a.m. These challenges underscore the resilience and determination of India's space program in the face of adversity.

The Test Vehicle-D1 and Its Significance

The TV-D1, a single-stage liquid rocket developed for this critical abort mission, played a pivotal role in simulating an abort scenario during the ascent trajectory. It corresponded to a Mach number of 1.2, mirroring conditions anticipated in the Gaganyaan mission. The payloads onboard included the **Crew Module (CM)** and **Crew Escape Systems (CES)** with their fast-acting solid motors, alongside the CM fairing (CMF) and Interface Adapters.

In summary, the successful TV-D1 launch not only signifies a remarkable achievement for India's space program but also reaffirms the nation's commitment to exploring the possibilities of human space travel. As India moves closer to its goal of launching astronauts into space, this mission paves the way for a brighter future in space exploration.

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

The Indian government is working on a comprehensive national vision plan, known as 'Vision India@2047', aimed at transforming the country into a developed nation by 2047. The plan is designed to prevent India from falling into the middle-income trap and focuses on various aspects of **economic and social development**.



Vision India@2047: Key Objectives and Timeline

Growth path

What does the future hold? Scenario building for macroeconomic indicators

Indicator	Units	2030	2040	2047
GDP at current prices	₹ trillion	609.04	1,759.79	3,604.94
Per capita GDP at current prices	₹	4,02,008	10,93,037	21,84,812
Exports	\$ trillion	1.58	4.56	8.67
Imports	\$ trillion	1.88	5.92	12.12
Investment	₹ trillion	195.5	591.1	1,273.40
Savings	₹ trillion	207.8	649.4	1,339.70

- Objective:** The primary objective of the plan is to ensure India's development into a developed nation by 2047 and avoid the middle-income trap, which has affected several countries at similar stages of development.
- Leadership:** Niti Aayog, a government think tank, has been working on this plan for nearly two years. It was presented to Cabinet Secretary **Rajiv Gauba** in October.
- Consultation:** In November, consultations will be held with thought leaders, including prominent corporate figures such as **Tim Cook, Sundar Pichai, Gautam Adani, Mukesh Ambani, K.M. Birla, N. Chandrasekharan, and Indra Nooyi**, to gather their insights and expertise.
- Draft Plan:** The draft version of the plan is expected to be ready by December. Several Indian states are also in the process of preparing their own development roadmaps.

Economic Targets

- Economic Growth:** The plan envisions making India a **\$30 trillion economy by 2047**, a significant increase from its current economic size. This ambitious goal aims to position India as one of the world's leading economies.
- Per Capita Income:** To ensure prosperity for its citizens, the plan targets a per-capita income ranging from **\$18,000 to \$20,000**. This represents a substantial increase from the current income levels.

Addressing Middle-Income Trap

- Concern:** The plan acknowledges the risk of falling into the middle-income trap, where economic growth slows down significantly after reaching a certain income level. This issue is exemplified by countries like **Argentina** that have struggled to advance economically.
- Challenges Overcome:** India has made progress in addressing longstanding challenges such as **poverty, infrastructure development** (roads, electricity, and water), and these issues are expected to be resolved in the coming years.
- Next Level:** The plan's focus is on propelling India to the next level of development to avoid stagnation in economic growth.

Regional Development and Disparities

- Regional Cleavages:** The plan also aims to address regional disparities in economic development. While some parts of India are witnessing rapid growth, others, particularly in the **East and North**, are lagging behind.

- **Balanced Growth:** Achieving balanced and inclusive growth across all regions of India is considered crucial for the country's overall development.

Global Dominance in Business

- **Global Presence:** The plan emphasizes the need for Indian firms to dominate various sectors on the **global stage**. Despite India's economic growth, none of the world's largest banks, contractors, legal, consultancy, or accountancy firms are from India.
- **Promoting Sectors:** The plan explores ways to promote certain sectors and companies to become global champions, thereby enhancing India's presence in the global business landscape.

Skill Development and Global Demand

- **Skill Sets:** Developing the skill sets required by India's young population to meet global demands is a priority. The plan recognizes the need to align educational and training programs with global market requirements.
- **Nursing Sector:** India's potential to fulfill global demands, such as in the nursing sector, is noted. However, there is a need to ensure that educational institutions meet international standards to facilitate the export of skilled professionals.

Lionel Messi wins eighth Ballon d'Or 2023

Lionel Messi wins eighth Ballon d'Or 2023

Lionel Messi and Aitana Bonmati have been honored as the **2023 Ballon d'Or recipients**. Messi secures his eighth Ballon d'Or, setting a new record, thanks to his pivotal role in leading Argentina to their first World Cup victory since 1986. This

remarkable achievement places Messi three Ballons d'Or ahead of his rival Cristiano Ronaldo, who last won the award in 2017. Messi has now been a top-three finalist for this prestigious accolade a total of 14 times, with five instances as the runner-up.

Before this, Messi's teammate in the World Cup-winning Argentine squad, Emiliano Martinez, was recognized with the Lev Yashin Award for the world's best goalkeeper. Aitana Bonmati, a key player in Spain's Women's World Cup victory and a Barcelona midfielder, claimed the women's Ballon d'Or.

Messi, who secured his inaugural Ballon d'Or in 2009 and held a four-year consecutive streak until 2012, was the runner-up to Haaland at the UEFA awards back in August.

Ballon d'Or 2023: All award winners – Complete list

Award	Winner
Ballon d'Or	Lionel Messi (Inter Miami, Argentina)
Ballon d'Or Feminin	Aitana Bonmatí (FC Barcelona Femení, Spain)
Kopa Trophy for the best male U-21 player	Jude Bellingham (Real Madrid, England)
Yachine Trophy for the best male goalkeeper	Emiliano Martínez (Aston Villa, Argentina)
Gerd Müller Trophy for the highest-scoring male striker	Erling Haaland (Manchester City, Norway)
Sócrates Award to acknowledge humanitarian work	Vinicius Junior (Real Madrid, Brazil)
Club of the Year	Manchester City and FC Barcelona Femení

Banking and Financial Current Affairs

- In a recent announcement, the government has decided to keep the interest rate on **General Provident Fund (GPF) savings** unchanged at 7.1% for the October-December quarter. This marks the 15th successive quarter where the government has maintained the status quo, ensuring stability for government employees' retirement savings. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a groundbreaking move aimed at enhancing accessibility and convenience in availing banking services, the **State Bank of India (SBI)** has introduced the '**Mobile Handheld Device**' for its Financial Inclusion (FI) customers. This pioneering initiative, unveiled by the Chairman of SBI, Shri Dinesh Khara, seeks to empower financial inclusion and extend essential banking services to the masses. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has taken a significant step by forming an external working group (**WG**) to address the expected credit loss (**ECL**) framework for loan loss provisioning. This initiative aims to gather independent insights into the intricacies of this substantial shift in the banking sector. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant development, Centre has decided to extend the tenure of **Mr. Dinesh Khara** as the **Chairman of the State Bank of India (SBI)**, the nation's largest lender, until **August** of the following year. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a recent announcement, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** underscored the significance of addressing high inflation to maintain macroeconomic stability and sustainable growth. **RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das** emphasized the central bank's commitment to achieving a durable 4% inflation target while keeping benchmark interest rates unchanged for the fourth consecutive meeting. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has made an important announcement regarding **gold loans** offered by **urban cooperative banks (UCBs)**. They have decided to double the lending limits for gold loans under a specific repayment scheme. RBI has decided to increase the existing limit for gold loans under a scheme called "bullet repayment" from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 4 lakh for urban cooperative banks. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- To support the Indian government's **Digital India initiative**, the **State Bank of India (SBI)** introduced a new card called **NAV-eCash** on the **Indian Navy's** aircraft carrier, **INS Vikramaditya**. The launch took place on **October 1, 2021**, at **Karwar**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **YES Bank**, a prominent financial institution in India, has taken a significant leap forward in the digital commerce space by introducing the **ONDC Network Gift Card**. This move makes YES Bank the **first bank** in the country to issue such a card. In partnership with the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), this initiative aims to transform the shopping experience for Indian consumers. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **New Delhi, October 10, 2023** – The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has announced its ambitious plan to deploy '**Bima Vahaks**' in every **Gram Panchayat** across the country by **December 31, 2024**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Outlook Group** is excited to announce the launch of its highly anticipated retirement planning event, "**40After40**," in association with **IDFC FIRST Bank**. This two-day event and expo will take place at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai on January 23-24, 2024. "40After40" aims to be a comprehensive platform for all retirement-related discussions, offering panel discussions, expert chats, masterclasses, interactions with financial planners, and product presentations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has taken a significant step to address supervisory concerns by ordering **Bank of Baroda (BoB)** to immediately halt the onboarding of new customers onto their mobile app, '**bob World**'. This action comes in the wake of material deficiencies discovered by the RBI during the customer onboarding process. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has launched an investigation into the relationship between the **Adani Group**, a prominent Indian conglomerate, and the **Gulf Asia Trade & Investment** fund based in the **British Virgin Islands**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Bank of Baroda's** board approved a plan to raise up to **Rs 10,000 crore** through long-term bonds. These funds will be used to support infrastructure development and affordable housing. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Bharti Group** has announced its acquisition of **French insurer AXA's** 49% stake in **Bharti AXA Life Insurance Co**. This move marks the consolidation of a venture that was jointly run for nearly two decades. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** imposed a significant fine of **₹5.39 crore** on **Paytm Payments Bank**, highlighting various instances of non-compliance with the RBI's guidelines. The penalties were levied for failing to adhere to specific provisions concerning **Know Your Customer (KYC) protocols, cybersecurity measures**, and other regulatory requirements. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has recently taken a significant regulatory action by canceling the Certificate of Registration of **Chennai-based Ind Bank Housing Ltd**. This move has raised eyebrows in the financial sector, as Ind Bank Housing Ltd had major shareholders in the form of **Indian Bank** and **HUDCO** (Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd), who held a 51 percent and 25 percent stake in the housing finance company, respectively. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **ICICI Bank** has recently launched '**iFinance**,' a revolutionary feature that is set to change the way millions of customers, including retail clients and sole proprietors, manage their finances. This innovative service empowers customers to consolidate their **savings** and **current accounts** from **multiple banks** into one convenient location. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has taken a stern stance on non-compliance with its regulatory directives by imposing penalties on **Union Bank of India**, **RBL Bank**, and **Bajaj Finance**, all of which have faced penalties for various breaches of RBI's regulatory guidelines. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has given the green light for a **\$181 million** loan to enhance the quality of life in the peri-urban areas around **Ahmedabad**, a city in the state of **Gujarat, India**. The aim is to improve urban living conditions and mobility in these rapidly growing areas. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has given its approval for the merger of the **Infrastructure Development Finance Company (IDFC)** and **IDFC First Bank**. This approval was communicated through a regulatory filing on **October 17, 2023**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has taken strict measures against two prominent banking institutions, **Kotak Mahindra Bank** and **ICICI Bank**, by imposing significant penalties. The penalties were levied due to **non-compliance** with various regulatory norms, reflecting the RBI's commitment to maintaining the integrity and transparency of the Indian banking sector. Kotak Mahindra Bank, a well-known player in the Indian banking industry, faced a penalty of **Rs 3.95 crore** from the RBI. This action was taken primarily due to a series of serious violations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has recently made significant revisions to its **master direction on Know Your Customer (KYC)** for regulated entities. These changes incorporate amendments to the **Prevention of Money Laundering rules** and, importantly, deal with the requirement of beneficial owner (BO) identification for partnership firms. Under the revised norms, the definition of "**Principal Officer**" has been clarified. A Principal Officer is now defined as an **officer at the management level nominated by the regulated entity (RE)**. This change aims to provide greater clarity regarding the individuals responsible for furnishing information. It ensures that senior management is held accountable for compliance with KYC regulations. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- On the occasion of the **106th birth anniversary** of its visionary founder, **K.P Hormis** yesterday, the Federal Bank recently inaugurated the '**Mookkannoor Mission**,' a groundbreaking initiative designed to drive change and progress in the village of Mookkannoor, located in the **Ernakulam district of Kerala**. This initiative is a testament to the bank's commitment to community development, environmental sustainability, and digital transformation, aligning perfectly with the ideals of its illustrious founder. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- 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. He emphasized that India's rapid economic growth is a significant factor in this rise. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has established a sub-office in **Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh**, bolstering its commitment to financial inclusion and development in the region. Dr. Michael Debabrata Patra, Deputy Governor of RBI, inaugurated the sub-office on October 20, 2023, marking a milestone in the central bank's regional presence. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Kotak Mahindra Bank** has received the **Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval** to acquire **100% stake** in micro-lender **Sonata Finance**. This acquisition marks a crucial step for Kotak Mahindra Bank in expanding its footprint in the microfinance sector. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has taken a significant step in the digital transformation of the nation's financial landscape by initiating a pilot run **to test the E-Rupee, a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)**, for inter-bank borrowing. The E-Rupee pilot project is a remarkable endeavor that seeks to harness the potential of blockchain technology and digital currency to revolutionize the way inter-bank transactions are conducted in India. The pilot project is believed to have been introduced via **nine prominent banks**, which were already part of the G-Sec pilot. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- RBL Bank, a prominent player in the Indian banking sector, has announced the launch of its cutting-edge digital banking product, the **GO Savings Account**. This account introduces a novel subscription-based model, which combines simplicity and high-value benefits for customers seeking modern banking solutions. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- HDFC Bank, a leading financial institution, has introduced its cutting-edge digital platform, XpressWay, to streamline and expedite its banking products and services. This innovation empowers customers to enjoy a more rapid and hassle-free banking experience. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has recently taken regulatory action against **L&T Finance Limited** by imposing a monetary penalty of **₹2.50 crore** (Rupees Two crore Fifty lakh only) on the company. This decision comes in the wake of a statutory inspection of L&T Finance Limited, which covered its financial position as of March 31, 2021, and March 31, 2022. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Illegal instant loan apps** have become a significant problem in India, leading to financial scams and even driving some victims to suicide. These apps offer quick money but compromise users' **privacy and security**. To address this, the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** in India has proposed a solution. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has issued a crucial circular. This directive places the onus on private banks and wholly-owned subsidiaries of foreign banks to establish a robust senior management team. The primary objective is to effectively steer these institutions through the present and emerging obstacles. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Indian government recently announced changes in the subsidy rates for key fertilisers, **affecting nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), potassium (K), and sulphur (S)**. Despite global price increases, the government aims to maintain affordable fertiliser prices for Indian farmers. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has informed lenders, financial institutions, and credit bureaus that they must resolve complaints filed by customers **within 30 days** or **face a fine of ₹100 per day** to ensure that customers' complaints related to credit information are addressed promptly. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- On **October 26**, foreign institutional investors (FIIs) continued their selling spree in the **Indian stock market**, while **domestic institutional investors (DIIs)** emerged as net buyers. This trend occurred on the day of the monthly **Futures and Options (F&O)** expiry, with the domestic markets settling lower for the sixth day in a row. **FIIs:** According to data from the **National Stock Exchange (NSE)**, FIIs collectively bought **₹10,239.05 crore** worth of Indian equities, but they also sold **₹17,941.58 crore**. This resulted in a net outflow of **₹7,702.53 crore**. FIIs have been selling Indian equities due to factors like rising US bond yields and the strength of the dollar index, which have negatively impacted market sentiment. **DIIs:** In contrast, DIIs were net buyers on this day, infusing **₹13,600.71 crore** into **Indian stocks** and **offloading ₹7,042.26 crore**. This translated to a net inflow of **₹6,558.45 crore**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has granted in-principle authorization to **Zaakpay**, the secure payment gateway arm of **MobiKwik** to operate as a **payment aggregator**. This authorization paves the way for Zaakpay to onboard new merchants onto its platform, facilitating quick and easy processing of online payments. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has conducted a review of bulk deposit limits for financial institutions, specifically focusing on **Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)**. As a result, the bulk deposit limit for RRBs has been significantly increased from **Rs 15 lakh to Rs 1 crore**. This adjustment carries significant implications for the operational framework of RRBs and aims to create a more equitable banking landscape. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Fincare Small Finance Bank (Fincare SFB)** is set to merge with **AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB)** starting from **February 1, 2024**, pending necessary approvals and regulatory endorsements. This significant merger aims to create a robust financial institution with enhanced capabilities and a broader reach. Under the merger agreement, shareholders of Fincare SFB will receive 579 shares in AU SFB for every 2,000 shares they hold in Fincare SFB. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Economy Current Affairs

- In September 2023, India's Gross **Goods and Services Tax (GST)** revenues witnessed a significant slowdown, growing at the slowest pace in 27 months. The growth rate dropped to 10.2% from the previous months' approximately 10.8%. This decline, although notable, was coupled with some intriguing state-wise variations in GST collections. Despite the slowdown, GST collections improved by 2.3% over August, reaching ₹1,62,712 crore. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Despite substantial external challenges, **India's economy** remains robust, prompting the World Bank to maintain its growth forecast for the fiscal year **2023-24 at 6.3%**. This decision reflects India's remarkable resilience within a demanding global environment. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In September, **India's manufacturing sector** saw a notable slowdown, reaching a five-month low, as reported by the seasonally adjusted **S&P Global India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)**. This index slipped to **57.5 from 58.6** in August, indicating a deceleration in activity. A PMI reading of 50 represents no change in activity levels. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **World Bank**, in its latest India Development Update, has revised its retail inflation forecast for India for the fiscal year **2023-24**. The new projection stands at **5.9 percent**, up from the earlier estimate of **5.2 percent** made in April. This upward revision is attributed to certain factors which caused a sharp increase in food prices in July 2023. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In its latest trade and development report, the **UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)** has revised **India's economic growth** forecast for 2023 upward to 6.6% from the earlier projection of 6%. However, the report also anticipates a slowdown in India's growth to 6.2% in 2024. Furthermore, the UNCTAD highlights concerns about the global economic outlook, with a deceleration to 2.4% in 2023, followed by a marginal improvement to 2.5% in 2024. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In **September**, the services sector in India experienced a significant boost in both domestic and international demand, reaching a **13-year high**, according to a survey-based index by **S&P Global Market Intelligence**. This index, known as the **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)**, climbed to **61, up from 60.1** in August. Despite this growth, job creation was moderate. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** released its quarterly bulletin of the **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)**, shedding light on the urban unemployment situation in India during the first quarter of the fiscal year. In the April-June quarter of this fiscal year, the urban unemployment rate in India dropped to 6.6%. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- According to the data, released by the **Controller General of Accounts**, the fiscal deficit for the April-August period in FY24 stood at Rs 6.42 trillion. This accounts for **36 per cent** of the full-year target of Rs **17.87 trillion**. Comparatively, during the same period in FY23, the fiscal deficit was **32.6 per cent** of the full-year target. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India has witnessed a remarkable increase in its **net direct tax collections**, with a substantial growth rate of 21.8% amounting to ₹9.57 lakh crore by October 9. This surge has exceeded over half of the annual Budget estimates. The boost is primarily attributed to a **32.5% rise in personal income tax** revenues and a 12.4% increase in corporate taxes. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In its October 2023 **World Economic Outlook (WEO) report**, the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** raised India's economic growth forecast for the fiscal year 2023-24. The growth projection was increased from 6.1% to 6.3% due to stronger-than-expected consumption during April-June. The report also highlighted India's resilient domestic economic activity and the positive impact of robust domestic demand, contrasting global economic trends. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In **September**, **India** experienced a notable drop in retail inflation, marking a significant shift from the peak levels seen **15 months** earlier. This decline, attributed largely to softer vegetable prices, brought the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** to a three-month low. Despite this decrease, inflation remained above the 4% target set by the central bank, hindering potential rate adjustments. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **India** has shown remarkable resilience amidst global challenges, as per the latest **India Development Update (IDU)** by the **World Bank**. Despite a tough global environment, India's economy grew at **7.2% in FY22/23**, making it one of the fastest-growing major economies. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI)** remained in the negative zone for the sixth consecutive month in September, standing at **-0.26 percent**. This means that prices for goods at the wholesale level continued to decrease. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)** recently unveiled its latest Economic Outlook Survey, providing insights into the anticipated growth of India's economy in the upcoming fiscal year, FY24. The survey, conducted in September 2023, brings together eminent economists from the banking, financial services, and industry sectors to provide a comprehensive analysis of the economic landscape. The survey's central projection foresees a 6.3% growth in the Indian economy for FY24. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated a series of significant maritime projects, including the unveiling of a long-term vision document for the **blue economy**. These initiatives are aligned with the '**Amrit Kaal Vision 2047**' for the **Indian maritime blue economy**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India** has decided to extend its restrictions on sugar exports beyond **October** in an effort to stabilize domestic prices, particularly in the lead-up to key **state elections**. This decision could potentially affect global sugar prices and raise concerns about increased food price inflation worldwide. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **The Union Government** recently took a significant step to benefit 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**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India's economy is on the rise! **By 2030**, its **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** is predicted to reach a whopping **\$7.3 trillion**, making it the **second-largest economy** in the **Asia-Pacific region**, just after **China**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Euro Zone businesses** faced a significant setback this October, with a widespread drop in demand, raising concerns about a possible recession. **The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** for the region fell sharply, indicating economic challenges. The PMI for services hit a 32-month low, indicating a sharp decline in demand. Manufacturing also suffered, with a prolonged period below the growth threshold. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has recently unveiled its latest economic projections, revealing that global growth is expected to remain at **3 percent in 2023** and further decline to **2.9 percent in 2024**, marking one of the lowest growth rates in decades. In its "**Navigating Global Divergences**" report for October 2023, the IMF outlines the key factors contributing to this subdued outlook and highlights the significant challenges the global economy faces. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Business Current Affairs

- Beverage company **Coca-Cola India** made a significant announcement on Wednesday, unveiling its latest sustainability initiative with the launch of **fully recycled PET bottles** for its flagship Coca-Cola brand. This initiative is set to make a positive impact on both the environment and the Indian consumer market. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **REC Limited**, a prominent Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) specializing in Power Sector Financing and Development, announced the launch of its latest digital innovation, the '**SUGAM REC**' mobile application. This exclusive app has been specifically designed to cater to the needs of investors interested in **REC's 54EC Capital Gain Tax Exemption Bonds**. With '**SUGAM**,' REC aims to simplify the investment process and enhance the overall experience for both existing and prospective investors. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a meeting with the **Export Promotion Councils**, the Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles **Shri Piyush Goyal** unveiled a significant initiative to issue system-based automatic '**Status Holder**' certificates under the **Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023**. This transformative step not only reduces compliance burden and promotes ease of doing business but also underscores the importance of government collaboration. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The stock price of **Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ)**, an entity under the **Gautam Adani**-led group, experienced a significant decline of over **5 percent** on **NSE (National Stock Exchange)** amid certain events affecting the region. APSEZ operates the **Haifa port in Israel** and has emphasized its vigilance in ensuring business continuity despite the challenges faced. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **Microsoft** has successfully completed its acquisition of Activision Blizzard, the renowned developer behind popular video game franchises like **Call of Duty** and **World of Warcraft**. This monumental deal, valued at \$69 billion, signifies **Microsoft's largest-ever acquisition** in its history, surpassing the \$26 billion purchase of LinkedIn in 2016 and the \$7.5 billion acquisition of Bethesda in 2021. Notably, this acquisition also represents Microsoft's most significant foray into the gaming industry. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Indian Oil Corporation's board has given the green light for an equity investment of ₹1,660.15 crore, securing a 50% stake in the joint venture company Indian Oil NTPC Green Energy. This strategic move aligns with their commitment to renewable energy initiatives. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The prominent Indian food tech company, **Zomato**, has introduced a hyperlocal delivery service called 'Xtreme'. This service aims to leverage the extensive fleet of over 3 lakh two-wheeler delivery executives that Zomato has at its disposal. Xtreme is designed to cater to the needs of both **small and large businesses** for the intracity delivery of small packages. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant move to empower the retailer community in the states of **Odisha and Uttar Pradesh**, the **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)**, operating under the **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE)**, has joined forces with **Coca-Cola India**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Indian government 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 generate approximately ₹1,100 crore in revenue. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** has given the green light to the **Green Energy Corridor (GEC) Phase-II – Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS)** for a massive 13-gigawatt (GW) Renewable Energy (RE) project in **Ladakh**. This ambitious project is poised to reshape the renewable energy landscape in India. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Tata Motors**, a prominent name in the Indian automotive sector, announced a significant move that would reshape the country's logistics landscape. The company revealed its plan to acquire a **27% stake** in **Freight Tiger**, a software-as-a-service (SaaS) platform specializing in end-to-end logistics solutions. This strategic partnership represents a crucial step in advancing efficiency within the truck and freight ecosystem in India. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **NLC India**, a **Navratna** public sector company, has unveiled its latest venture into the renewable energy sector. On a mission to bolster India's green energy capacity, the company has established a wholly-owned subsidiary known as **NLC India Green Energy Limited (NIGEL)**. The subsidiary is set to play a pivotal role in the country's sustainable energy journey, focusing on the expansion of renewable energy projects and technological innovations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a strategic move to expand its renewable energy portfolio and reduce its reliance on fossil fuels, the state-owned **Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)** has successfully secured a bid to acquire **PTC India Ltd's** wind power unit for **Rs 925 crore**. This acquisition marks ONGC's continued effort to diversify its business interests beyond its core hydrocarbon operations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Zomato** has taken a big step to support its women delivery partners by introducing a **maternity insurance plan**. The goal is to make the Zomato community more welcoming and helpful for these women and their families during pregnancy. This initiative is the first of its kind in the industry. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Swan Energy**, a Mumbai-based conglomerate, recently acquired **Reliance Naval and Engineering** through its special purpose vehicle, **Hazel Infra**, solidifying its position in the commercial and naval defence vessel manufacturing and ship repairing segments. The move aligns with the government's **Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative**, emphasizing self-reliance in shipbuilding. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Tata Motors** has secured a significant **₹766 crore** arbitration award from the **West Bengal Industrial Development Corp. Ltd (WBIDC)**, concluding a prolonged dispute stemming from the closure of its Singur plant in 2008. This plant was intended for manufacturing the Nano, the world's most affordable car. ([Click to read complete article](#))



International Current Affairs

- Indonesian President **Joko Widodo** officially inaugurated Southeast Asia's first high-speed railway on Monday, marking a significant milestone for the nation's infrastructure development. The ambitious project, known as the **"Whoosh"** high-speed railway, is a key component of **China's Belt and Road Initiative** and is poised to dramatically reduce travel times between two vital Indonesian cities. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Pakistan's inflation rate** surged to 31.4% year-on-year in September, driven by soaring fuel and energy prices. This alarming increase followed a high of 27.4% in August, highlighting the severe economic challenges faced by the nation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The tallest statue of the 'Architect of the Indian Constitution,' **B.R. Ambedkar**, known as the '**Statue of Equality**,' is set to be unveiled in Maryland on October 14. This statue of Ambedkar is an integral component of the Ambedkar International Center (AIC), currently under construction on a 13-acre plot in Accokeek city, Maryland. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Uganda Airlines** announced a significant milestone in its operations by commencing direct flight services between **Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport** and **Entebbe International Airport** in Uganda. This development marks a historic moment as it reconnects India and Uganda with a non-stop air service after more than 50 years of hiatus. The maiden flight for this route, **UR 430**, is scheduled to take off from Entebbe on 7 October, with the return flight, **UR 431**, departing from Mumbai on 8 October. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **eurozone economy** likely contracted in the third quarter of the year. Demand in the region saw a significant decline in September, marking the fastest pace of decrease in nearly three years. The final Composite **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)**, compiled by S&P Global and considered a reliable indicator of overall economic health, inched up to 47.2 in September, compared to August's 46.7. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Bangladesh** recently received its first shipment of **uranium from Russia**, which will be used to fuel the country's **Rooppur nuclear power plant**. The plant, financed and constructed by **Russia's Rosatom**, is a significant project aimed at enhancing Bangladesh's electrical grid and supporting its growing economy. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Russian President **Vladimir Putin** recently announced the successful testing of a new nuclear-powered missile called **"Burevestnik"** during a speech that covered various topics, including nuclear weapons and international relations. This missile, known as **"Storm Petrel,"** has raised concerns and questions about its capabilities and reliability. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham**, the largest Hindu temple in the United States, celebrated its grand opening on Sunday, October 8, in Robbinsville, New Jersey. This architectural marvel is not only a testament to the vibrant Hindu community in the US but also a symbol of the enduring spirit of artistry, spirituality, and human dedication. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India and Tanzania** are set to boost their bilateral cooperation as Tanzanian President **Samia Suluhu Hassan** visits India after an **eight-year** gap. The visit aims to elevate their relations to a strategic partnership and enhance trade and investment ties. Tanzanian Foreign Minister **January Yusuf Makamba** anticipates the signing of **15 agreements** covering various areas of cooperation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India and Switzerland** recently celebrated **75 years** of their enduring friendship and fruitful collaboration in a beautiful Kumaon village nestled in the **Uttarakhand** region of India. The three-day event, aptly named '**Swiss Himalayan Bounty**,' unfolded last week at a charming homestay in Satoli village, positioned at an altitude of 6,000 feet near Mukteshwar in the **Nainital district**. This celebration saw the convergence of participants representing various NGOs, stakeholders, and beneficiaries of the longstanding partnership between these two nations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Bangladesh Prime Minister **Sheikh Hasina** marked a historic moment in the country's infrastructure development by inaugurating the **82-km Padma Bridge Rail Link**. This significant project, executed under **China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)**, is poised to transform Bangladesh's connectivity and economic landscape. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India and China** held their **20th corps commander-level meeting** at the Chushul-Moldo border in Ladakh. Both countries engaged in a series of diplomatic discussions to address the persisting issues along the **Line of Actual Control (LAC)** in eastern Ladakh. These talks, held at the Corps Commander level, aimed to foster an open and constructive atmosphere, fostering an early and mutually acceptable resolution. While these discussions did not yield a clear breakthrough, they emphasized the commitment of both nations to peaceful dialogue and negotiation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Russian President **Vladimir Putin** embarked on his first foreign trip since the **International Criminal Court (ICC)** issued an arrest warrant for him in March, raising international attention and scrutiny. The visit took place in **Kyrgyzstan**, a **Central Asian nation** historically tied to **Moscow**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **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. This move is part of Sri Lanka's strategy to boost its economic growth and reduce external debt by promoting market access, foreign direct investment, and export-oriented initiatives. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- 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**. This statue is being considered as the tallest of its kind outside of India and holds significant importance for both Indian-Americans and the Indian diaspora around the world. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)** recently convened its Council of Ministers meeting in **Colombo on October 11**, drawing interest from countries worldwide. With **23 member** nations and **11 dialogue** partners, IORA plays a crucial role in fostering regional cooperation around the **Indian Ocean**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India and Vietnam**, two countries with deep-rooted historical connections dating back almost two millennia, have been forging an enduring bond rooted in Buddhism. This relationship has been further solidified by literary exchanges and cultural influences. In a recent diplomatic gesture, India's External Affairs Minister, **S. Jaishankar**, inaugurated a bust of Nobel Laureate writer and poet **Rabindranath Tagore in Bac Ninh city**, symbolizing the historical and cultural ties between the two nations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Poland's** recent parliamentary elections marked a significant turning point, ending eight years of populist rule by the **Law and Justice (PiS) party**. The liberal opposition, led by former **EU chief Donald Tusk**, emerged victorious, promising a fresh era for the nation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- An age-old 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. This initiative aims to bolster bilateral ties, boost tourism, and increase people-to-people relations while benefiting local traders on both shores. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- United States President **Joe Biden** is set to visit **Israel** amid an ongoing conflict with **Hamas fighters**. The trip was confirmed by US Secretary of State **Anthony Blinken**, and the **White House** released an official statement emphasizing strong support for Israel. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Israel** tested its new laser-based '**Iron Beam**' missile defence system. The system is designed to destroy short-range rockets, artillery, and mortar bombs. The system could also intercept unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). It has a range of up to **7 km**. Iron Beam constitutes the sixth element of Israel's integrated missile defense system, in addition to **Arrow 2, Arrow 3, David's Sling, and Iron Dome**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **U.S. Pentagon** has released a report on China's military power, indicating that **China** is expanding its nuclear weapons arsenal at a faster rate than previously estimated. This report also suggests that China may be drawing lessons from Russia's conflict in Ukraine for potential scenarios related to Taiwan. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Recently, External Affairs Minister **S Jaishankar** embarked on a significant official visit to **Vietnam**. This visit marked not only the strengthening of bilateral relations but also a celebration of the enduring principles and values adopted by **Mahatma Gandhi** and **Rabindranath Tagore**. The visit underscored the deep-rooted connections between India and Vietnam and the shared commitment to addressing global issues. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Japan** has recently achieved a significant milestone in the realm of defense technology. 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. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant development, the **United States** has imposed sanctions on **three Chinese companies** for their alleged involvement in supplying missile components to Pakistan. These sanctions were issued under Executive Order 13382, which focuses on entities involved in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Sri Lanka**, in a bid to revitalize its tourism sector, has taken a significant step by waiving **visa fees** for tourists from **seven countries**, including **India**. This move aims to attract more visitors and help the country recover from recent economic challenges. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **China and Bhutan** are working towards resolving their longstanding border disputes. Bhutan's foreign minister visited **Beijing** for talks with his Chinese counterpart, indicating progress in the negotiation process. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **The India-Canada** relationship faced difficulties due to a dispute over the killing of a **Sikh separatist in British Columbia**. Canadian Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** alleged that Indian agents were involved in the incident, causing tension. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- Republican Congressman **Mike Johnson** from **Louisiana** has been elected as the **Speaker of the House of Representatives**, marking the end of three weeks of political uncertainty in the **United States**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- China's Defense Minister, **Li Shangfu**, was recently removed from his position in a surprising turn of events. His disappearance from public view two months earlier had sparked rumors about his fate. Li's removal follows a series of unexplained personnel changes in China's government, raising questions about how power is concentrated and party discipline is enforced under **Chinese leader Xi Jinping**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- China is embarking on a groundbreaking endeavor by constructing an immense telescope in the **western Pacific Ocean**. The primary mission of this massive facility is to detect elusive particles known as "ghost particles" or neutrinos. This ambitious undertaking will result in the **world's largest neutrino-detecting telescope**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Slovakia's** newly appointed **Prime Minister, Robert Fico**, has taken office for the fourth time amidst promises to prioritize **Slovakian interests**, reduce military aid to **Ukraine**, and curb immigration. His nationalist stance raises concerns among **EU leaders** regarding potential obstructionist policies. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Italy** is experiencing a severe **demographic crisis**, with the number of births hitting a new low this year. Preliminary data from the national statistics bureau **ISTAT** reveals a concerning trend, indicating a continuation of the country's longstanding population decline. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Mike Johnson**, a relatively lesser-known Republican from Louisiana, has taken the elected as the new speaker of the **US House of Representatives**. He has earned the nickname "MAGA Mike" among his hard-right colleagues, a reference to Trump's campaign slogan "Make America Great Again", which continues to be associated with Trumpian ideals. Addressing the House after his election, Johnson promised to quickly move forward on conservative priorities, such as support for Israel and border security. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- As the conflict between Israel and Hamas escalates, Israeli forces are planning to employ a unique array of tactics. Among these tactics is the use of an innovative type of bomb referred to as "**sponge bombs**." These sponge bombs have the capability to **seal off the intricate network of tunnels** beneath Gaza without causing explosions. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a historic move, **Malaysia's** royal families have elected **Sultan Ibrahim Iskandar of Johor state** as the country's new king. This decision, made within Malaysia's distinctive

rotating monarchy system, marks a significant transition for the nation. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **The United Nations**, under the leadership of Secretary-General **Antonio Guterres**, has taken a significant step toward managing the opportunities and challenges posed by **artificial intelligence (AI)**. Guterres emphasized the vast potential of AI for positive transformation, yet acknowledged the pressing need to address associated risks. To facilitate international cooperation and consensus on AI governance, a **39-member** advisory body has been established, comprising tech industry leaders, government officials, and academics from diverse backgrounds. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- FATF announced the removal of several countries from its 'grey list.' These countries include the **Cayman Islands**, Panama, Jordan, and Albania. This development is a testament to the significant progress these nations have made in enhancing their AML/CFT systems, ultimately addressing the strategic deficiencies identified by FATF. While several countries celebrated their removal from the 'grey list,' FATF added **Bulgaria** to the list. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Norway** has embarked on a significant initiative to support India's '**Hunger Project**' in **Uttarakhand**. This project aims to empower women leaders, enhance food security, and protect the environment, particularly in the ecologically sensitive region of Uttarakhand. With a budget of **₹44.7 million** and a **three-year duration until September 2026**, this endeavor holds great promise for the marginalized households in the state. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant event of remembrance and gratitude, a memorial dedicated to the Indian soldiers who sacrificed their lives during the **Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971** is nearly completion in **Ashunganj, Bangladesh**. This monument serves as a symbol of solidarity and shared history between the two nations. ([Click to read complete article](#))

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National Current Affairs

- In a bid to bridge the generational gap and ignite a renewed interest in the age-old fabric, the **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)** inaugurated a revamped **Khadi India outlet** at the prestigious **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Campus in Delhi** on October 2. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Union government of India** has notified the constitution of the **national turmeric board**, which will focus on the development and growth of turmeric and turmeric products in the country. Turmeric is majorly cultivated in **Tamil Nadu, Telangana state, Karnataka, MP, Odisha, Bengal and Gujarat**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Ministry of Tourism**, India, took center stage as it organized the inaugural ceremony for the **Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Travel Mart 2023** in the vibrant city of New Delhi. The **46th edition** of this prestigious event is being held at the magnificent **International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC)** within Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- On **October 4th**, the Union Cabinet approved the establishment of a tribal university in **Telangana**, named **The Sarakka Central Tribal University**. This university, with a budget of **Rs 889 crore**, will be located in **Mulugu district**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated the country's first high-tech sports training centre for Divyangjan, named after former **Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh**. This initiative aims to provide equal opportunities in sports, enhance talent, and encourage participation in various sports disciplines. Divyangjan from all over the country can practice and train in the **Atal Bihari Training Center for Divyang Sports**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The recent introduction of the **Digital India Act 2023 (DIA)** is a noteworthy stride towards creating a forward-looking legal framework capable of accommodating the growing digital landscape within the country. This initiative, led by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY)**, demonstrates a proactive stance in governing and molding India's digital future. The **Digital India Act 2023** aims to harmonize and consolidate digital laws in India, working alongside other key legislation like the **Digital Personal Data Protection Act, National Data Governance Policy and Indian Penal Code amendments for cybercrime**. Together, these laws create a framework to govern India's digital realm. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In the esteemed presence of notable dignitaries, **Shri Hardeep Singh Puri**, the Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Housing and Urban Affairs inaugurated the **26th Energy Technology Meet at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi**. **Shri Hardeep Singh Puri** spoke about the country's achievements in the green and clean energy sector during the 26th Energy Technology Meet, shedding light on the nation's accomplishments and its future goals. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India** has launched **Operation Ajay**, a dedicated initiative to facilitate the safe return of its citizens from **Israel** amidst the ongoing developments in the region. External Affairs Minister **Dr S Jaishankar** announced this operation, emphasizing the government's commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of Indian nationals abroad. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Union Minister of Ayush and Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, **Shri Sarbananda Sonowal**, inaugurated a **month-long celebration drive** in a curtain raiser press conference at the media center, emphasizing the significance of Ayurveda and its role in promoting holistic well-being across India. This celebration marks the **8th National Ayurveda Day**, observed as a tribute to **Lord Dhanvantari**, the God of Ayurveda, and coincides with **Dhanteras**, a day dedicated to seeking blessings for good health. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Union Cabinet**, under the leadership of Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi**, has approved the establishment of an autonomous body named **"Mera Yuva Bharat" (MY Bharat)**. This body is designed to serve as a pivotal mechanism for youth development, with a strong emphasis on technology-driven solutions. **MY Bharat** aims to enable equitable access for young individuals to realize their aspirations and contribute to the holistic development of the nation across various government sectors. This initiative aligns with the **National Youth Policy** and targets individuals between the **ages of 15-29**, with a subset of programs catering to those **aged 10-19**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Ministry of Education and Government of India has initiated the **APAAR ID**, known as the **"One Nation One Student ID Card."** This groundbreaking program aims to digitally centralize academic data, including degrees, scholarships, rewards, and other credits for students. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- 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**, received an urgent application requesting a conclusive judgment. The matter is set to be heard on October 30. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- The **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship** unveiled the **IndiaSkills 2023-24 program** and celebrated the remarkable achievements of the WorldSkills 2022 winners. India, securing the **11th position** in the global competition last year, is now poised to make giant strides in skill development. This event witnessed the announcement of ambitious goals by Union Minister for Skill Development, **Dharmendra Pradhan**, emphasizing the need for a quantum leap in skill acquisition. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India's expanding transportation infrastructure is set to reach new heights with the **country's first** semi-high-speed regional rail service, **Namo Bharat**. Previously known as **RapidX**, this innovative project is on the cusp of revolutionizing regional connectivity. This also marks the introduction of the Regional Rapid Train Service (RRTS) in India. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI)** has officially announced its **Indian Panorama selection for 2023**, featuring a diverse array of **25 feature films** and **20 non-feature films**. These cinematic gems will be showcased during the festival, scheduled to run from November 20 to November 28 in Goa. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Shri Ram Janambhoomi Trust** extended a significant invitation to **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, asking him to attend the installation of **Lord Ram's idol** in the '**Garbhagriha**' of the Ram Mandir at the Ayodhya temple, which Prime Minister Modi politely accepted. The date set for this auspicious occasion is **January 22, 2024**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Shri Ram Janambhoomi Trust** has extended an invitation to Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** to participate in the installation of **Lord Ram's idol** in the **Garbhagriha** of the **Ram Mandir** in **Ayodhya temple** on **January 22nd, 2024**. PM Modi gladly accepted the invitation, expressing his excitement to be part of this historic event. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India marked a significant milestone in its quest for **self-reliance in the automotive sector** by introducing the production of '**reference**' **petrol and diesel**. This development places India among a select group of nations capable of producing these highly specialized fuels, which are crucial for calibrating and testing vehicles. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **7th Edition** of the **India Mobile Congress** at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. This prestigious event brought together leading figures from the **telecommunications industry** to showcase cutting-edge technologies, discuss vital issues, and promote innovation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** recently inaugurated the **logo, website, and brochure** of the **National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL)** during a grand event in New Delhi. This momentous occasion marked the formal establishment of NCEL, a significant step towards enhancing the cooperative sector's role in India's export ecosystem. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **37th National Games** were officially inaugurated by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** in a ceremony held in **Panaji, Goa**. The event witnessed a massive gathering of sports enthusiasts and supporters, who eagerly awaited the commencement of this sporting spectacle. As a symbol of Goa's culture and identity, Goa Chief Minister **Pramod Sawant** felicitated the Prime Minister with a traditional **Kunbi shawl**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- As the nation celebrates the **birth anniversary** of the revered 'adivasi' icon, **Birsa Munda** on November 15, the ruling **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)** government is gearing up to launch its ambitious "**Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra**." This 72-day nationwide outreach and awareness campaign is aimed at **promoting government schemes** and reaching the vulnerable sections of society. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Turkish Republic celebrated its **100th anniversary**, marking a century since its establishment as a modern, secular state following the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. The celebration was relatively subdued, featuring a firework and drone show in Istanbul and a procession of 100 naval ships. Notably, there was no grand gala reception. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate and launch various developmental projects in **Gujarat's Mehsana** district, **valued at ₹5,950 crore**. The two-day visit includes paying homage to India's first deputy prime minister, **Sardar Patel**, at the **Statue of Unity** in Ektanagar. ([Click to read complete article](#))



States Current Affairs

- All 6,650 villages of **Jammu and Kashmir** have been declared **Open Defecation-Free (ODF) Plus Model** under the Swachh Bharat Mission. Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Jammu and Kashmir has achieved a status that extends beyond constructing toilets; it encompasses the management of **greywater** and **solid waste** in each village. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin** recently celebrated the achievements of **nine eminent space scientists from the state**, including renowned figures like **K Sivan** and **Mylswamy Annadurai**, for their remarkable contributions to India's space program. In a special event held in **Chennai** on **2nd October 2023**, **Chief Minister Stalin** announced **cash awards of Rs.25 lakh** for each of the scientists and unveiled plans for a scholarship program to encourage scientific innovation among postgraduate engineering students. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Union Minister for Tribal Affairs, **Shri Arjun Munda**, inaugurated the **4th Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) National Cultural & Literary Fest** and **Kala Utsav-2023** in the picturesque city of **Dehradun** on the 3rd of October, 2023. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Slightly sour and salty churpi, a naturally fermented cheese prepared from the milk of Arunachali yak, nurtured in the high-altitude areas of **Arunachal Pradesh**, has recently received the prestigious **Geographical Indication (GI)** tag. This recognition not only celebrates the culinary heritage of the region but also plays a vital role in the conservation of the yak population in the Himalayan region. Churpi, rich in protein, has been a lifeline for tribal yak herders in the harsh, vegetation-starved, cold, and hilly mountainous regions of the state. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In an important development towards gender equality and women's empowerment, the **Madhya Pradesh government** has announced a groundbreaking policy to **reserve 35% of all state government job positions for women**, excluding the Forest Department. This progressive amendment to the **Madhya Pradesh Civil Services (Special Provision for Appointment of Women) Rules, 1997**, comes just ahead of the upcoming state assembly elections. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **49th All India Police Science Congress (AIPSC)** organized by the **Uttarakhand Police** commenced today, October 7th at the **Forest Research Institute in Dehradun**. With the theme of "**Policing in Amrit Kaal**," this annual event, held under the auspices of the **Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D)**, promises to be a platform for insightful discussions on various aspects of modern policing. The event will be graced by **Union Home Minister Amit Shah** as the Chief Guest and **Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami** as the Guest of Honor. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **inaugural edition** of the **Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP)** – NITI Aayog State Workshop Series on Enabling Women-led Development through Entrepreneurship was organized at CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) Auditorium, **Goa**. The workshop was held in collaboration with the Government of Goa with a focus on the western region of the country. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a remarkable stride towards promoting eco-friendly and active mobility, **Hyderabad, India**, proudly inaugurated its **first solar roof cycling track**, **Healthway**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **NLC India Ltd. (NLCIL)**, a Navaratna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the **Ministry of Coal**, has recently achieved a remarkable feat in the renewable energy sector by securing an **810 MW solar photovoltaic power project**. This project is awarded by **Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RRVUNL)** and marks a significant step forward in NLCIL's commitment to clean and sustainable energy solutions. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant move, the **Bihar government** has unveiled a **10% reservation quota** for people falling under the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) category in the state's judicial services, as well as in government-run law colleges and universities. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The state government of **Uttarakhand** took a significant step towards empowering its youth by launching the '**Yuva Uttarakhand mobile application**.' The primary objective of this innovative app is to provide valuable information about self-employment opportunities to the state's unemployed youth. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Assam cabinet** has unveiled an ambitious plan to establish a **1000-km long economic corridor**, backed by a significant investment of **Rs 3000 crore**. The cabinet's decision marks a substantial step forward in regional development. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying**, Government of India, recently unveiled the '**A-HELP**' (Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production) **programme** in the state of **Jharkhand**. The launch event, graced by dignitaries, shed light on the vital role that women play in the state's livestock sector and the potential of this new initiative to transform the landscape of animal husbandry. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **Uttar Pradesh** Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** has made a significant announcement regarding the **Gangetic Dolphin**, designating it as the state's aquatic animal. This move highlights the importance of conserving these unique creatures and preserving the purity of the rivers and ponds they inhabit. Uttar Pradesh's decision to declare the Gangetic Dolphin as the state aquatic animal and the launch of the **"Meri Ganga Meri Dolphin 2023"** campaign demonstrate the government's commitment to wildlife conservation, environmental preservation, and raising awareness about the importance of maintaining the purity of rivers and ponds. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Eastern Ghats**, known for their captivating landscapes and diverse ecosystems, have long captured the fascination of nature enthusiasts. Now, an exciting development is on the horizon for those eager to delve into this unique environment. **'Miniature Eastern Ghats'** (MEG) forest arena, scheduled to become a prominent tourist destination in Visakhapatnam from **November 2023**, will offer visitors the opportunity to immerse themselves in the stunning mountain landscape. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Rajasthan government**, in collaboration with the **Environment and Forest Department**, is making concerted efforts to elevate **Udaipur**, also known as the **'City of Lakes'**, to international prominence by aiming to become **India's first wetland city**. According to recent reports, the city has been chosen as a potential Ramsar Convention site of International Importance, a recognition coveted by wetland-rich regions around the globe. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **54th** edition of **International Film Festival of India** (IFFI), known for its celebration of cinema from around the world, is scheduled to take place from **November 20 to 28** in the beautiful coastal state of Goa. This iconic event promises to be a cinematic extravaganza, showcasing the best of contemporary and classic films from India and across the globe. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a vibrant ceremony at Project Bhawan in Dhurva, Ranchi, Jharkhand, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Jharkhand, **Hemant Soren**, unveiled the mascot for the upcoming **Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2023**. **'Juhi'**, the mascot, takes inspiration from the beloved elephant at Betla National Park. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Kerala** has marked a significant milestone in the world of construction with the inauguration of **Amaze-28**, the state's **first building constructed using 3D printing technology**. This innovative architectural wonder, with its 380-square-foot, one-room summer house, was unveiled in the Kerala State Nirmithi Kendra (Kesnik) campus at PTP Nagar, Thiruvananthapuram. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Bharat Rashtra Samithi** (BRS) recently unveiled its manifesto, promising a host of transformative initiatives aimed at improving the lives of underprivileged citizens. In a press conference on October 15th, party president and Telangana Chief Minister **K. Chandrashekar Rao** outlined these pledges, highlighting their commitment to uplift the marginalized sections of society. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi recently marked a historic day in **Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand**, as he laid the foundation stone and dedicated several development projects worth approximately **Rs 4200 crore**. These initiatives spanned various sectors, including rural development, road infrastructure, power generation, irrigation, drinking water supply, horticulture, education, healthcare, and disaster management, among others. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Jharkhand** is making history by becoming the first state in India to take steps towards including gig workers, such as **Swiggy, Zomato, Ola, Uber, and Rapido employees**, under the ambit of minimum wages. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Yogi Adityanath government** in **Uttar Pradesh** has launched a special cleanliness campaign, **'Swachh Tyohar, Swasth Tyohar'** (Clean Festival, Healthy Festival), with a focus on maintaining cleanliness in and around temples during Navratri, Dussehra, and Diwali festivals. This initiative aims to promote the idea that 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness' and calls for active participation from municipal bodies and citizens. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** announced a special gift for the beneficiaries of the Ujjwala scheme. The Ujjwala scheme, a central government initiative aimed at providing free LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) connections to economically disadvantaged households, is set to bring joy to approximately 1.75 crore families in the state. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is all set to mark a historic moment in India's transportation landscape as he inaugurates the priority section of the **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. The event will take place at the Sahibabad RapidX Station in **Uttar Pradesh** on October 20, 2023. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Tamil Nadu** is nearing the completion of its pioneering artificial intelligence (AI)-based early warning system designed to **safeguard wild elephants from train collisions**. This innovative project is being implemented along the **Ettimadai-Walayar railway section**, serving as an additional layer of protection for these majestic pachyderms. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- The **Arunachal Pradesh State Cabinet** gave the green light to a host of transformative measures aimed at safeguarding the state's biodiversity and promoting the preservation of indigenous languages. Among the notable decisions were the establishment of a **Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)** for **three tiger reserves**, the **allocation of honorariums to third language teachers**, the amendment of the state's industrial and investment policy, and the formulation of the **Arunachal Pradesh Home Guard Rules for 2023**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Assam Chief Minister **Himanta Biswa Sarma** inaugurated the newly constructed '**Shraddhanjali**' flyover in **Guwahati** on October 19, 2023, marking a significant milestone in the state's infrastructure development as it was completed in just **60 days**. This achievement stands out, considering that it was completed 300 days ahead of the original schedule. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The beautiful village of **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)**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Tamil Nadu's** Chief Minister **M.K. Stalin** has launched "**Project Nilgiri Tahr**," an initiative aimed at conserving and protecting the endangered Nilgiri Tahr species. The project, with a budget of ₹25 crore, seeks to better understand the Nilgiri Tahr's population, distribution, and ecology, as well as address immediate threats to their survival. The launch of this project took place at the Secretariat in Chennai, where Chief Minister Stalin also distributed books to school students to raise awareness about this unique species. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, **Shri Amit Shah**, inaugurated the Nano DAP (Liquid) Plant of the **Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative (IFFCO)** at Kalol in **Gandhinagar**, Gujarat. The event, attended by several dignitaries, witnessed Shri Amit Shah addressing the audience on the significance of the day and the critical role played by innovative agricultural solutions in India's progress. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **12th edition** of the **Bengaluru Literature Festival**, a two-day event, is set to take place at The Lalit Ashok, Bengaluru starting on **December 2**. The festival will feature around **250 authors**, including renowned names such as Jnanpith awardee, **Chandrashekhara Kambara**, Chetan Bhagat, Ramachandra Guha, and Perumal Murugan, among others. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- A **Green Tourism Conclave** took place in **Shillong** with the primary objective of nurturing environmentally conscious and responsible tourism in India, with a special emphasis on the **Northeastern region and Odisha**. The event featured engaging discussions, informative presentations, and captivating cultural performances, emphasizing the importance of sustainable tourism practices. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Kerala** government has announced a pioneering project to establish a **graphene production facility**, marking a significant leap in material technology. Graphene, often referred to as a "**wonder material**" for its extraordinary electrical and electronic properties, is set to become a cornerstone of Kerala's innovation landscape. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Rajasthan government** unveiled the '**iStart Talent Connect Portal**' at **Jaipur's Techno Hub**. This new portal is a significant addition to the state's flagship initiative, iStart Rajasthan, and is a collaborative effort with the Jaipur-based startup, HyreFox. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Hornbill Festival 2023** will start on **December 1** and conclude on December 10, promising ten days of cultural immersion and spectacle. The Hornbill Festival stands out as one of the most anticipated and celebrated events of the year. This colorful festival not only showcases the rich cultural heritage of **Nagaland** but also draws thousands of curious travelers from around the world to partake in its festivities. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Indian central government has given the green light to include the **Jamrani Dam Multipurpose Project** in **Uttarakhand** under the **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana-Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (PMKSY-AIBP)**. This decision was made during a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Kerala**, the southern state of India, has achieved a remarkable milestone by inaugurating a hallmarking centre in **Idukki**. This achievement has solidified Kerala's position as the **first state** in India to establish **hallmarking centres** in all of its **14 districts**. The inauguration of these hallmarking centres is a significant step in ensuring the quality and reliability of gold ornaments for consumers. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh** sent a powerful message of unity and harmony as he participated in this year's **Mera Houchongba celebrations in Imphal on 28th October 2023**. The event, which brought together the diverse communities of the state, emphasized the strong bond between the people of the hills and the valley. In this article, we will have the closer look at the significance and celebrations of Mera Houchongba 2023. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Schemes and Committees

- The **Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) campaign**, which kicked off on September 15, reached its culmination on the eve of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary. This nationwide initiative, also known as the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign, was led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and garnered widespread participation from citizens across India. The campaign was not just a standalone effort but a precursor to the grand celebration of 'Swachh Bharat Diwas' or 'Swachhta Diwas,' observed on October 2 each year. The theme for SHS-2023 was '**Garbage Free India**,' with a particular focus on visual cleanliness and the welfare of SafaiMitras (sanitation workers). ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi, or **PM SVANidhi scheme**, has achieved a significant milestone by providing assistance to **over 50 lakh street vendors** across the country. Street vendors have long been essential contributors to the urban informal economy, offering vital goods and services to urban residents. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a groundbreaking initiative to empower women, the **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)** kick-started an all-female bikers' expedition rally named '**Yashasvini**' from **Srinagar to Gujarat** on Tuesday. The rally, an ode to women empowerment, was flagged off from the iconic Ghanta Ghar near the city center of **Lal Chowk in Srinagar**. The esteemed guest who inaugurated this remarkable journey was the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, **Manoj Sinha**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a remarkable move towards enhancing education and bolstering the socio-economic advancement of **Scheduled Caste (SC)** students, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has unveiled the '**Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas**' (SHRESHTA). The primary objective of this initiative is to extend the influence of government development programs and address service gaps in regions predominantly inhabited by SC communities within the education sector. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, the Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions, inaugurated the Special Campaign 3.0 in the **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)**. This campaign, themed "**Digital DARPG**," aimed at enhancing service delivery, utilizing emerging technologies, and ensuring efficient management within government offices.
- The Union Road Transport & Highways Minister, Nitin Gadkari, recently announced the approval of **seven bridge projects in Arunachal Pradesh**. These projects, with a cumulative cost of **Rs 118.5 crore**, are part of the **Setu Bandhan scheme** and are aimed at enhancing connectivity and fostering economic development in the state. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India's Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 5.0**, a flagship immunization campaign launched by the Health Ministry, is nearing its conclusion today. This campaign, which strives to reach **children** who have missed vaccine doses or fallen behind their vaccination schedule, along with **pregnant women** across the country, has undergone some remarkable transformations this year. As of September 30, the campaign had already made impressive strides, with over **34,69,705 children** and **6,55,480 pregnant women** receiving vaccine doses during the first two rounds. A significant achievement given the challenges posed by the ongoing global pandemic. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)** has achieved remarkable success, with over **50 crore** beneficiaries and a significant increase in total balance. The scheme's growth, especially **post-Covid-19**, reflects its effectiveness in promoting financial inclusion. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs**, led by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**, has approved an increase in the **Minimum Support Prices (MSP)** for **Rabi Crops** for the **Marketing Season 2024-25**. This decision aims to ensure fair prices for farmers and encourage crop diversification. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India Semiconductor R&D Committee** recently handed over a **comprehensive report** on the **India Semiconductor Research Center (ISRC)** to Union Minister of State for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Electronics & IT, **Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar**. This report outlines a **strategic roadmap** that aims to place India at the forefront of global semiconductor research and innovation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- A recent data analysis by **LibTech India**, a consortium of academics and activists, has revealed significant changes in the **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)** for the period from April to September 2023. The data, sourced from the **Union Rural Development Ministry**, shows a **7.5%** reduction in the number of active **MGNREGS** workers compared to the previous fiscal year. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

- In a groundbreaking development, Indian fintech unicorn **Slice** has officially confirmed its merger with **North East Small Finance Bank** (NESFB). This announcement comes following the approval from the **Reserve Bank of India** (RBI), marking a rare feat in the financial technology sector. The collaboration between Slice and NESFB aims to **revolutionize banking services** and expand financial inclusion in India. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India** and **Saudi Arabia** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on securing a **green hydrogen supply chain** and collaborating on power grid interconnection. This significant agreement was formalized in Riyadh during the **MENA Climate Week 2023**, with Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, **RK Singh**, representing India and Saudi Minister of Energy, **Abdulaziz bin Salman Al-Saud**, representing **Saudi Arabia**. This MoU sets the stage for multifaceted collaboration in the energy sector between the two nations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Tyre manufacturer **Bridgestone India** has announced a significant collaboration with **Tata Power** to promote electric mobility in the country. Under this partnership, Tata Power will install **high-capacity DC fast chargers** at Bridgestone dealerships across India, making it easier for electric vehicle (EV) owners to recharge their vehicles quickly and conveniently. This initiative represents a major step toward supporting the growing EV ecosystem in India. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** with the **Olympic Museum** has aligned with **Reliance Foundation** to build on the success of the **Olympic Values Education Programme (OVEP) in India** and signed a new cooperation agreement. This agreement underscores the organisations' shared priority to promote Olympic values through sport among young people. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India** and **Italy** have cemented their **defense cooperation** with the signing of a significant agreement. The agreement, signed during the official visit of India's Defense Minister, **Rajnath Singh**, to **Italy**, encompasses various aspects of security and defense collaboration. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Shri Rajnath Singh**, the Indian Defence Minister, concluded his two-nation European tour with a significant meeting in **Paris** with the French Minister of Armed Forces, **Mr. Sebastien Lecornu**. The **5th Annual Defence Dialogue** between the two ministers was marked by discussions spanning various aspects of defense cooperation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** (MeitY) has taken a significant step towards fostering innovation and technological growth in India by signing **three** memorandum of understanding (MoUs) with tech giant **IBM**. These agreements aim to accelerate developments in the fields of **artificial intelligence (AI)**, **semiconductor technology**, and **quantum computing**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd** (IRCTC) has joined forces with the popular food delivery platform, **Zomato**. This strategic alliance aims to enhance the dining experience of railway passengers by offering a wider array of food options through **IRCTC's E-Catering segment**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- State-owned **QatarEnergy** recently announced a significant development in its efforts to expand its presence in the **European gas market**. The company has entered into a long-term agreement with **Italy's Eni** to supply **liquefied natural gas (LNG)** for a period of **27 years**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK)** and **Airbus** have formalized their partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This landmark agreement, signed, aims to significantly enhance the aerospace sector's talent pool in India through research and education initiatives. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Reliance Jio**, India's leading telecom operator, has entered into a strategic partnership with **Plume**, a California-based company specializing in cloud-based AI-powered services to enhance the digital lives of its nearly 200 million subscribers. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** and **Safran Aircraft Engines**, a leading **French aero engine design**, development, and manufacturing company, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at fostering industrial cooperation and collaboration. This strategic partnership encompasses various key areas within the aviation sector and marks a pivotal moment in India's aerospace landscape. ([Click to read complete article](#))



New Appointments: International

1.	28th Director General (DG) of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO)	Raghu Srinivasan
2.	Afghanistan Cricket team Mentor	Ajay Jadeja
3.	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of PayU India	Anirban Mukherjee
4.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Executive Director (ED)	Muneesh Kapur
5.	Deloitte Touche Senior Adviser	Aditya Puri
6.	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re)	Ramaswamy N.
7.	New police commissioner of Hyderabad	Sandeep Shandilya
8.	Director (Finance) at the IREDA	Dr. Bijay Kumar Mohanty
9.	Chief justice of Manipur High Court	Siddharth Mridul
10.	India's next Ambassador/Permanent Representative to the United Nations	Arindam Bagchi
11.	Board of the International Dairy Federation (IDF)	Dr. Meenesh Shah
12.	Governors of Odisha	Raghubar Das
13.	Governors of Tripura	Indra Sena Reddy Nallu
14.	Chairman & Managing Director of the HUDCO	Sanjay Kulshrestha
15.	Puma Brand Ambassador	Mohammed Shami
16.	Hewlett-Packard (HP) Senior Vice President & Managing Director	Ipsita Dasgupta
17.	Chair as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Kotak Mahindra Bank	Ashok Vaswani
18.	Henry Harvin Education (HHE) appoints as its Brand Ambassador	Chetan Bhagat
19.	Lay's appoints as its Brand Ambassador	Mahendra Singh Dhoni
20.	National Icon by the Election Commission (EC)	Rajkumar Rao
21.	Appointed as a member of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group (STAG)	Professor Sarang Deo
22.	Head coach of the India women's national team.	Amol Muzumdar
23.	Global Brand Ambassador of Luxury Swiss watch brand, Rado	Katrina Kaif
24.	IRCTC new Chairman and MD	Sanjay Kumar Jain
25.	State Bank of India (SBI)	Mahendra Singh Dhoni as its official Brand Ambassador

Ranks and Reports Current Affairs

- The **Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)** has released a biennial report highlighting the alarming annual losses in global infrastructure due to the worsening impacts of climate change and disasters. This report underscores the critical challenges faced by low-and-middle-income countries (LMICs) in maintaining resilient infrastructure systems. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- According to the **360 ONE Wealth Hurun India Rich List for 2023** released recently, Reliance Industries chairman **Mukesh Ambani** has surged ahead of Adani Group's **Gautam Adani** to claim the title of the **richest Indian**.

Mukesh Ambani, the chairman of Reliance Industries, saw his wealth grow by a modest 2 percent, reaching a staggering **Rs 8.08 lakh crore**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- The **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation** recently unveiled data indicating a remarkable surge in India's industrial output in August. The **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** reported a staggering growth of **10.3 percent**, marking the highest growth in **14 months**. This figure surpassed the consensus estimate of **9.1 percent**, demonstrating the sector's robust performance. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- The Periodic Labour Force Survey Report for 2022-23, released on **October 9, 2023**, by the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**, brings encouraging news. It reveals that more women in India are actively participating in the workforce. The Female Labor Force Participation Rate, a measure of women engaged in work or actively seeking employment, has risen by 4.2 percentage points, reaching 37.0% in 2023. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India is gearing up for a substantial infrastructure spending spree, with a plan to invest nearly **₹143 lakh crore** between fiscal years 2024 and 2030. This represents more than double the **₹67 lakh crore** spent on infrastructure over the past seven financial years starting from 2017. The rating agency CRISIL shared this information in its Infrastructure Yearbook 2023, underlining the significance of this ambitious undertaking. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru**, also known as the Bengaluru International Airport, has earned a remarkable distinction. It has been recognized as the **“world’s most punctual airport”** for the past three consecutive months. This accolade underscores the airport’s exceptional commitment to on-time departures and an impressive travel experience for passengers. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In April 2017, the **National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)** launched the **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)** with the primary objective of providing more frequent and detailed labor force data for policymakers, researchers, and the general public. This survey is a significant initiative that aims to estimate key employment and unemployment indicators in both rural and urban areas across India. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- 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. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The European Union Tax Observatory has published the **‘Global Tax Evasion Report 2024,’** calling for a **2% global wealth tax** on billionaires. The report emphasizes the urgent need to combat tax evasion, which enables some billionaires to effectively pay between 0% to 0.5% of their wealth in taxes. The report advocates for the implementation of a global minimum tax on billionaires, set at 2% of their wealth. This measure is expected to address tax evasion and generate approximately **\$250 billion from fewer than 3,000 individuals**. The report justifies this proposal by highlighting the modest nature of the tax rate in light of billionaires’ wealth growth, which has averaged 7% annually since 1995, adjusted for inflation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India is grappling with severe air pollution issues, with **Mumbai** ranking as the second most polluted city according to **IQAir**, a leading air quality measurement company. **Delhi**, the capital, also faces significant air quality challenges, ranking sixth globally. The **air quality index (AQI)** measures pollution levels, indicating the health risks associated with breathing the air. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- According to global research firm **Statista**, **India** has secured the **third position** worldwide in the number of financial technology (fintech) unicorns. The **United States** and the **United Kingdom** continue to dominate the field, holding the first and second positions, respectively, both in terms of quantity and overall value. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Fairwork India Team**, led by the **Centre for IT and Public Policy (CITAPP)** at the **International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore (IIIT-B)**, assessed 12 digital platforms in India to gauge their adherence to fair work principles for **gig workers**. The report revealed significant disparities in fair pay, conditions, contracts, management, and representation among these platforms. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Sports Current Affairs

- At the Hangzhou Asian Games, **Tajinderpal Singh Toor** of India secured a **gold medal** in men’s shot put, making him the **fourth Indian shot putter** in history to successfully retain his Asian Games gold. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou, China, witnessed a historic moment as **Avinash Sable**, the Indian steeplechase sensation, secured a **gold medal** in the **3000m steeplechase event**. This remarkable achievement not only made Avinash Sable the **first Indian man to clinch gold in this event** but also marked a breaking of the previous Asian Games record. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Master training program for capacity-building within the **F4S program** was launched in **Sambalpur, Odisha**. This event saw the participation of 95 Physical Education Teachers/Trainees from various States/UTs, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), and AIFF. The primary goal of this training was to equip these educators with the skills and knowledge needed to promote football as an integral part of physical education. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **India** won the **South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-19 Championship** after defeating **Pakistan 3-0** in a dominating display in the finals at the Dashrath Rangasala Stadium in **Kathmandu, Nepal**. It was India's eighth youth title in the SAFF championships, a clear testimony of their regional supremacy. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India's **Annu Rani** won the gold medal in the women's javelin throw with a 69.92m throw at the **Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou**. She became the first Indian woman to win a javelin gold in Asian Games history. Sri Lanka's **Nadeesha Dilhan** Lekamge Hatarabage, with 61.57 metres throw, and China's **Huihui Lyu**, with 61.29 metres throw, won silver and bronze, respectively. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Indian players **Jyothi Surekha Vennam** and **Pravin Ojas Deotale** won gold in the **Compound Archery Mixed Team**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has made an exciting announcement on Tuesday, designating the legendary cricketer **Sachin Tendulkar** as the '**Global Ambassador**' for the highly anticipated **Cricket World Cup 2023**. This prestigious event is scheduled to kick off tomorrow in the vibrant city of Ahmedabad, India. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India** celebrated a remarkable 1-2 finish in the **Men's Javelin Throw competition at the Asian Games 2023**, held at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Park Main Stadium in the People's Republic of China. **Neeraj Chopra** secured the gold medal, while **Kishore Kumar Jena** clinched the silver, showcasing their exceptional talent on the grand continental stage. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Indian quartet won gold medal in the men's 4x400m relay at the **Asian Games 2023** in Hangzhou, China. The team comprising of **Amoj Jacob, Muhammed Anas Yahiya, Rajesh Ramesh** and **Muhammad Ajmal Variyathodi** finished with a time of 3:01.58. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India's men's compound team of **Abhishek Verma, Ojas Deotale** and **Prathamesh Jawkar** secured another archery **gold medal** after its 235-230 win against South Korea in the Asian Games. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India's **Dipika Pallikal** and **Harinder Pal Sandhu** won the gold medal in the mixed doubles squash tournament at the **Asian Games 2023** in Hangzhou, the People's Republic of China. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India made history on **October 7, 2023**, by winning its **100th medal at the Asian Games for the first time ever**. This is a remarkable achievement, and it is a testament to the hard work and dedication of Indian athletes and coaches. India's 100th medal was won by the women's kabaddi team, who defeated Chinese Taipei 26-25 in a thrilling final. This medal was fittingly won by a team that has been so dominant in kabaddi over the years. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a historic moment at the **Gongshu Canal Sports Park Stadium in Hangzhou**, the **Indian men's hockey team** secured a remarkable victory over **Japan**, winning the gold medal and earning a coveted spot at the **Paris 2024 Olympics**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a heart-pounding final showdown at the **Xiaoshan Guali Sports Centre in Hangzhou**, the **Indian women's kabaddi team** emerged victorious against a determined Chinese Taipei, securing the gold medal in the **Asian Games 2023**. This article unravels the thrilling journey of the Indian women's kabaddi team, their remarkable performance, and their significant achievement in Asian Games history. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India's Jyothi Surekha Vennam** won **gold medal** in the women's individual compound archery event at the **19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, on Saturday**. Jyothi defeated **So Chaewon of South Korea 149-145** in the final to complete a hattrick of gold medals, having already won titles in the women's and mixed team events. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In the final of **19th Asian Games 2023**, on Saturday at the **Fuyang Yinhu Sports Centre**, **Indian archer Ojas Deotale from Nagpur** won gold medal in the men's individual compound archery event. This victory marks Ojas Deotale third gold medal in the Asian Games 2023, solidifying his position as one of India's most successful athlete in the tournament. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Australia opener **David Warner** became the fastest batter to complete **1000 runs in ODI World Cup** during his side's match against India in Chennai. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **The 19th Asian Games 2023** concluded with a spectacular **closing ceremony held at the Hangzhou Olympics Stadium in China**. The event celebrated the love and unity between the participating countries, showcasing the cultural diversity and sporting excellence of the Asian nations. Renowned hockey player **P. R. Sreejesh** had the honor of being India's flag bearer during the closing ceremony, representing his country with pride on the international stage. **India's contingent shone at the 19th Asian Games, securing a total of 107 medals, including 28 gold, 38 silver, and 41 bronze**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Kenya's **Kelvin Kiptum** left the running world in awe as he shattered the men's world record, clocking a time of just **two hours and 35 seconds**, to claim victory at the Chicago Marathon on Sunday. He broke the previous record set by **Eliud Kipchoge** in the 2022 Berlin Marathon. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Iranian **Mohammadreza Shadlou** Chiyaneh became the most expensive overseas player at the auction and was brought by **Puneri Paltan** for **Rs 2.35 crore**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- The **37th edition of the National Games, scheduled for 2023**, is set to take place in the picturesque **state of Goa**. After multiple delays and changes in hosting rights, the event is finally slated to run from October 26 to November 9, marking the first time Goa has hosted this prestigious competition. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- After completing 100 runs in World Cups, **Rohit Sharma** rewrote another record, edging past **West Indies legend Chris Gayle** hitting most sixes in International Cricket Matches. The Indian skipper hit six off Naveen-ul-Haq's bowling in the 8th over to go past Gayle's tally of 553 sixes in international cricket. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India captain **Rohit Sharma** smashed his **31st ODI century** and put India on course for a mammoth win against **Afghanistan in their World Cup 2023** tie at Delhi's Arun Jaitley Stadium. Rohit Sharma completed his hundred off **63 balls**, fetching him the record for the fastest century ever by an Indian in the history of World Cup. Before Rohit, the milestone belonged to **Kapil Dev off 72 balls** against Zimbabwe in 1983, the India captain bested the former all-rounder's accomplishment by nine balls as India dominated Afghanistan in their chase of 273 and won by 8 wickets. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **62nd National Open Athletics Championships 2023** kicked off with a bang in **Bengaluru**, as **Manikanta Hoblidhar** from **Services** etched his name in the record books by smashing a new national record in the **men's 100m category**. He powered his way to victory, crossing the finish line in first place with a remarkable timing of **10.23 seconds**. Manikanta Hoblidhar surpassed the previous national record of **10.26 seconds** held by **Amiya Kumar Mallick** since **April 2016**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **11th edition** of the Sultan of Johor Cup in 2023 is scheduled to be held in **Johor, Malaysia**. Hockey India has announced the 20-member Indian junior men's hockey team that will participate in the 11th Sultan of Johor Cup. This prestigious tournament is set to take place from **October 27 to November 4**. Notably, this year's edition will feature **eight teams**, expanding from the customary six. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has once again acknowledged outstanding cricketing performances by awarding the 'Player of the Month' titles for September 2023. This prestigious recognition highlights the exceptional skills and contributions of cricketers on the global stage. In this edition, India's **Shubman Gill** clinches the **ICC Men's 'Player of the Month'**, while Sri Lanka's **Chamari Athapaththu** emerges as the **ICC Women's 'Player of the Month'**. Let's dive into their remarkable achievements. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- World Athletics, the global governing body for athletics, has officially nominated **Neeraj Chopra** for the prestigious **Men's Athlete of the Year award for 2023**. This honor underscores Neeraj's remarkable achievements in the field of javelin throwing and his impressive gold medal victories at the Olympics and World Championships. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** recently took a significant step towards embracing the world's most popular sport, **Cricket**, by accepting the **recommendation** to include T20 cricket for both men and women at the **2028 Los Angeles Summer Olympics**. This decision was made during the IOC's executive board meeting in **Mumbai**, heralding a new era for the sport on the global stage. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** addressed the **141st International Olympic Committee (IOC) Session** at the **Jio World Centre in Mumbai**. The event marked a significant moment in India's sporting history, with PM Modi expressing India's eagerness to host the **Olympics** and **Youth Olympics** in the coming years. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Grandmaster **Raunak Sadhwani** won the **FIDE World Junior Rapid Chess Championship** in Sardinia, Italy. Raunak scored 8.5 over 11 rounds to win the Championship ahead of Arseniy Nesterov of Russia, who scored 8. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Ashutosh Sharma**, a middle-order batter for the Railways cricket team, broke **Yuvraj Singh's** record for the fastest fifty by an Indian. Ashutosh achieved this milestone during a **Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy Group C** clash in Ranchi against **Arunachal Pradesh**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- 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. The nation is sending a robust contingent of **446 members, including 303 athletes**, demonstrating a commitment to para sports. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a remarkable turn of events at the ongoing **Qatar Masters**, 24-year-old Indian chess grandmaster **Karthikeyan Murali** achieved a stunning feat by defeating the world's number one player, **Magnus Carlsen**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Mohammad Shami** became the first Indian bowler to pick two five-wicket hauls in **ICC ODI World Cups**. Shami picked the wickets of Will Young, Rachin Ravindra, Daryll Mitchell, Mitchell Santner and Matt Henry in India's ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 clash against New Zealand. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **Shubman Gill**, the dynamic Indian opener, has created a significant mark in the world of **One Day International (ODI)** cricket by becoming the fastest player to reach 2000 runs in this format. His achievement, which surpasses a previous record held by South African great Hashim Amla, adds to his growing reputation as a rising star in the world of cricket. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a thrilling showdown at the **Abu Dhabi Masters 2023**, young Indian badminton talent **Unnati Hooda** emerged as the champion in the women's singles event. This remarkable win marks her second BWF Super 100 World Tour title, further solidifying her reputation as a rising star in the sport. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Reigning **Paralympics champion Sumit Antil** on Wednesday bettered his own javelin throw **F64 world record** with a stunning **73.29m effort** on the way to winning gold as he led India's whopping **30-medal haul** on the third day of competitions at the Hangzhou Asian Para Games. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Indian para-athletes excelled in the javelin throw events at the **Asian Para Games** in Hangzhou, China, with **Sundar Singh Gurjar** breaking a world record and Sumit Antil successfully defending his gold medal. In the men's javelin throw-F46 final, India's **Sundar Singh Gurjar** delivered an outstanding performance, breaking the world record with a throw of **68.60 meters**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **37th edition** of the **National Games** kicked off in style as **Paytm**, India's renowned fintech giant, emerged as the **official sponsor**. The tournament was inaugurated with great fervor by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Fatorda, South Goa. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Max Verstappen**, the Red Bull racing sensation, showcased his exceptional skills at the **Formula One Mexico City Grand Prix**. He snatched the lead by the first corner after splitting the Ferrari front row occupied by Charles Leclerc and Carlos Sainz. Verstappen's incredible start marked his record-breaking 16th victory of the season, surpassing his own previous season's record. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- At the **37th National Games**, Hangzhou Asian Games silver medallist **Jyothi Yarraji**, and **Tejas Shirse** displayed their athletic prowess, smashing National Games records in the 100m and 110m hurdles events. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Hailing from the beautiful town of Anantnag, Kashmir, **Zahid Hussain** achieved a remarkable feat by securing the **silver medal** at the prestigious **Asian Shooting Championship** held in **South Korea**. His remarkable performance not only brought joy to his hometown but also marked a significant step towards representing his nation at the Paris 2024 Olympics. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Summits And Conferences

- **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)** took a significant step towards realizing the vision of a "Garbage Free India." Aligning with the national initiative championed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, a unique event titled 'Shramdaan' was organized by the Ministry. The event aimed to foster a spirit of collective responsibility and action, bringing together participants from various MSME offices nationwide. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant diplomatic gathering held in the **Russian City of Kazan**, representatives from various countries convened for the **fifth meeting of the Moscow Format Consultation on Afghanistan**. The meeting, which took place on **September 29, 2023**, featured special representatives and senior officials from **India, Russia, China, Pakistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan**, among others. Notably, the acting minister for Foreign Affairs appointed by the Taliban in Afghanistan was also in attendance, alongside representatives from **Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Turkey**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** is set to inaugurate the 10th edition of the **Vibrant Gujarat Summit** on January 10, 2024. Gujarat's Chief Minister, Bhupendra Patel, has emphasized the state's status as an attractive investment destination and has extended an invitation to global businesses to participate in the Summit. The summit is scheduled to take place from January 10 to 12, 2024, at the Mahatma Mandir in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)** is an intergovernmental organisation of **23 member states and 11 dialogue partners** from **Africa, West Asia, South Asia, South-East Asia, and Oceania**. It was established in **1997** to promote regional cooperation and development. Sri Lanka to take over as Chair of IORA for the next two years. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL)** has once again clinched the prestigious '**Best Innovation in Refinery**' award for the year **2022-23**, bestowed by the **Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas** at the **26th Energy Technology Meet 2023**. This significant achievement comes after a stiff competition with prominent players in the industry, including IOCL, BPCL, and HPCL, marking the **second consecutive year** that MRPL has received this accolade. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- The **Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)** has recently renewed and restructured its Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)**. This renewed partnership aims to **enhance academic collaboration** between these two esteemed institutions, ushering in a new era of educational opportunities for students in the field of Chartered Accountancy. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Ninth P20 Summit**, in collaboration with the **International Parliamentary Union (IPU)**, is hosted by the **Parliament of India**. This significant event will take place in New Delhi on **13-14 October 2023**, with a Pre-Summit Parliamentary Forum scheduled for **12 October 2023**. The summit's theme, "**Parliaments for One Earth, One Family, One Future**," derives its essence from the ancient **Indian philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**, emphasizing the interconnectedness of the world as one family. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** is set to inaugurate the 141st International Olympic Committee (IOC) session at the **Jio World Centre** in Mumbai on October 14. This marks India's second time hosting the IOC session, following a gap of nearly four decades since the **86th IOC session** was held in New Delhi in 1983. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **tourism sector** has become a vital force in driving economic growth and development. In 2022, India witnessed a remarkable surge in **Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) and Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEEs)**, reflecting its increasing significance. As India prioritizes sustainability during its **G20 Presidency**, responsible and sustainable tourism emerges as a critical focus to leverage the country's strengths and ensure long-term growth. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The inaugural India-UK '**2+2**' foreign and defence dialogue, held on Monday, marked a significant milestone in the bilateral relations between India and the United Kingdom. The dialogue saw both sides focusing on ways to enhance cooperation in **various critical areas** such as trade and investment, defense, critical technologies, civil aviation, health, and energy. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- 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**. This prestigious maritime event is organized by the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways** and promises to be a significant gathering for the global maritime community. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **2023 World Health Summit** took place from October 15 to October 17 under the theme "**A Defining Year for Global Health Action**" in Berlin, Germany, and online. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Indian External Affairs Minister **S. Jaishankar** recently visited **Kyrgyzstan** for a two-day trip. During his visit, he discussed various areas of cooperation with **Kyrgyz President Sadyr Zhaparov**. This visit also includes Jaishankar's participation in a meeting of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant event held in New Delhi, Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister, Hardeep Singh Puri, inaugurated the 16th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition 2023, with the theme, "**Integrated and Resilient Urban Transport**". The event, organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in collaboration with the **Institute of Urban Transport (India)** and the **Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.**, aims to address critical aspects of urban transportation in the country. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a pioneering move, the **Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA)** in India, in partnership with **IIT-BHU**, has launched the '**Dark Patterns Buster Hackathon 2023**.' This initiative aims to harness the collective power of hackers to develop cutting-edge solutions that protect consumers from the deceptive practices of dark patterns in e-commerce platforms. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi)** Scheme, launched on **June 1, 2020**, has been a game-changer for India's urban street vendors. This micro-credit scheme aims to provide collateral-free working capital loans to street vendors, with a focus on empowering this marginalized community. A recent report by the **State Bank of India's** economic research department (ERD) sheds light on the remarkable impact of the scheme, particularly in terms of gender equality and socio-economic transformation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **RCS-UDAN**, launched in **2016**, has significantly improved air connectivity in India, focusing on remote areas and underserved regions. It completed six successful years in **2023**, marking a milestone in the country's aviation sector. ([Click to read complete article](#))



- The **43rd edition of PRAGATI**, chaired by the Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**, involved a review of eight projects that are crucial for various states in India. PRAGATI, which stands for **“Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation,”** is an ICT-based platform that serves as a tool for intergovernmental coordination and project monitoring. The platform was launched by the Government of India in 2015, and its primary purpose is to streamline governance and expedite the implementation of critical projects. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi** is inviting applications from eligible students belonging to SC/ST/OBC/EWS categories for free coaching under the **“Jai Bhim Mukhyamatri Pratibha Vikas Yojna.”** This initiative aims to provide coaching for various competitive examinations and entrance tests. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Important Days

Date	Day & Theme
October 2nd	Gandhi Jayanti Theme: “Ek Tareekh Ek Ghanta Ek Saath Birth anniversary Lal Bahadur Shastri
October 3	World Nature Day
October 4 to 10	World Space Week (WSW)
October 4	World Animal Welfare Day Theme: Great or Small, Love Them All
October 5th	World Teachers’ Day
October 2 to October 8	69th Wildlife Week Theme: Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation
October 7	World Cotton Day
October 9th	World Post Day Theme: Together for Trust: Collaborating for a safe and connected future Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day
10th October	National Current Good Manufacturing Practice Day World Mental Health Day Theme: Mental health is a universal human right
October 11	International Day of the Girl Theme: Invest in Girls’ Rights: Our Leadership, Our Well-being
12th October	World Sight Day Theme: Love Your Eyes at Work
13th October	International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction Theme: Fighting inequality for a resilient future
October 14	World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) 2023 Theme: Water: Sustaining Bird Life
October 16	World Food Day Theme: “Water is life, water is food. Leave no one behind.” World Anaesthesia Day Theme: ‘Anaesthesia and Cancer Care.’
October 17th	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty Theme: “Decent Work and Social Protection: Putting dignity in practice for all.” World Trauma Day
October 20th	World Osteoporosis Day Theme: Step Up for Bone Health – Build Better Bones World Statistics Day International Chefs Day
October 21	Police Commemoration Day
October 24th	United Nations Day
October 24 to 31	Global Media and Information Literacy Week Theme: “Media and Information Literacy in Digital Spaces: A Collective Global Agenda.”
October 24 to 30, 2023	UN Disarmament Week
October 24th	World Development Information Day
October 24	World Polio Day Theme: A healthier future for mothers and children
October 27	World Day for Audiovisual Heritage Theme: “Your Window to the World.” 76th ‘Shaurya Diwas’ in Jammu and Kashmir
29 October	International Day for Care and Support World Stroke Day Theme: ‘Together we are #Greater Than Stroke.’

Date	Day & Theme
October 30	Dr. Homi Jehangir Bhabha 114th birth anniversary
October 30 to November 5, 2023	Vigilance Awareness Week 2023 Theme: "Say no to corruption; commit to the Nation," or "भ्रष्टाचार का विरोध करें; राष्ट्र के प्रति समर्पित रहें"
October 31	World Cities Day Theme: Financing sustainable urban future for all National Unity Day or Rashtriya Ekta Diwas

Defence Current Affairs

- The **Indian Navy** is preparing to host the **second edition** of the Naval Innovation and Indigenization Seminar, known as **Swavlamban**, scheduled to take place on October 4th and 5th in the vibrant city of New Delhi. This eagerly anticipated event promises to be a milestone moment, showcasing groundbreaking developments in naval technology. In particular, the Indian Navy is set to unveil two remarkable platforms at this event: the **Autonomous Weaponized Boat Swarms** and the **Autonomous Vessel Underwater (AUV)**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** is making significant strides towards enhancing its air defense capabilities with the impending induction of indigenous **Astra Beyond Visual Range (BVR)** Air-to-Air Missiles. The IAF has entered into contracts with **Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)** for these advanced missiles, marking a crucial step towards reducing import dependency and bolstering national security. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti**, AVSM, VSM, took over as the **Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff**, marking a significant transition in the leadership of the Indian Navy. With a distinguished career spanning over 35 years, Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti brings a wealth of experience and expertise to his new role. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Air Chief Marshal **VR Chaudhari** announced that the Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to procure a range of weapon systems, including aircraft, helicopters, and missiles, with an estimated cost ranging from **Rs 2.5 lakh crore to Rs 3 lakh crore** over the next six to seven years. This move aligns with the government's push for self-reliance in defense production. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India and Bangladesh** commenced the **11th edition** of their annual joint military exercise, **SAMPRITI**, in **Umroi, Meghalaya**. This collaborative endeavor, organized alternately by both countries, highlights their robust bilateral defence cooperation initiatives. Since its inception in Jorhat, Assam, in 2009, SAMPRITI has successfully conducted ten editions until 2022. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Amidst its ongoing efforts to modernize and replace its aging **Russian-origin aircraft**, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has announced plans to retire its iconic **MiG-21 fighter jets** and replace them with the indigenous **Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mark 1A**. Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari made this significant revelation during a press conference held in Delhi ahead of the **Air Force Day celebrations** scheduled for **October 8th** in Prayagraj. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India and Bangladesh** commenced the **11th edition** of their annual joint military exercise, **SAMPRITI**, in **Umroi, Meghalaya**. This collaborative endeavor, organized alternately by both countries, highlights their robust bilateral defence cooperation initiatives. Since its inception in Jorhat, Assam, in 2009, SAMPRITI has successfully conducted ten editions until 2022. SAMPRITI-XI, spanning 14 days, engages approximately 350 personnel from both sides, emphasizing the significance of enhancing interoperability, sharing tactical drills, and promoting best practices. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- State-run aircraft manufacturer **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** recently delivered the **first trainer version of the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas** to the **Indian Air Force (IAF)**. This milestone is significant, as the **twin-seater Tejas trainer** will play a crucial role in training IAF pilots and can also serve as a fighter aircraft when needed. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Emergency Procurement Power (EP)** was granted to India's armed forces as an interim measure following the **2016 Uri attacks**. This power allowed them to bypass the lengthy procurement process and quickly acquire essential equipment and technology. The EP was extended to all three branches of the military – the Army, Navy, and Air Force. In EP-IV, all schemes, amounting to nearly Rs 11,000 crore, were contracted with Indian vendors. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** celebrated its **91st anniversary** at the **Bamrauli Air Force Station** in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh. The occasion was marked by the unveiling of the **new IAF ensign** by Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari. This significant event witnessed several historic firsts, including the inclusion of the Air Force crest and the first-ever woman officer to command the Air Force Day Parade, Group Captain **Shaliza Dhami** among others. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- The **Indian Navy**, known for its commitment to excellence and continuous improvement, has embarked on a transformative initiative known as the **'360 Degree Appraisal Mechanism.'** This initiative recognizes the invaluable contributions of both women and men in whites and aims to enhance their professional and personal development. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **United Service Institution of India (USI)**, the nation's oldest think tank, is set to host the **first-ever Indian Military Heritage Festival (IMHF)**, scheduled for October 21 and 22. This groundbreaking event aims to fill a void in the national discourse and cultural calendar by shedding light on India's rich military history, contemporary security concerns, and the pursuit of self-reliance in military capabilities through the **Atmanirbhar Bharat** programs. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise (AJHE)** is a significant initiative that has evolved since its inception in 2015. It is a direct outcome of the directive issued during the Combined Commanders' Conference of 2015 by India's Honorable Prime Minister. Since then, AJHE, known as **CHAKRAVAT**, has grown into a multi-agency endeavor that includes the active participation of India's armed forces, paramilitary forces, disaster response organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academic institutions, and international organizations. The 2023 edition of AJHE promises to further synergize national efforts and expand its scope by involving eight countries from the Indian Ocean Region. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Siachen Glacier**, known as the **world's highest battlefield**, has witnessed a groundbreaking development with the installation of a mobile tower. The **Fire and Fury Corps** of the Indian Army, in collaboration with **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)**, achieved this remarkable feat, bringing enhanced mobile communication to soldiers deployed at elevations exceeding **15,500 feet**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **India** is in the process of finalizing a significant defense deal with the **United States**. According to reliable sources, the agreement involves the purchase of **31 MQ-9B Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)** from **General Atomics (GA)**. This deal is expected to enhance India's military capabilities significantly. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Indian Army** showcased its exceptional military prowess on the international stage by securing a **gold medal** at the prestigious **Cambrian Patrol Competition in 2023**. The event, held in **Wales, UK**, witnessed the participation of an elite team from the **3/5 Gorkha Rifles (Frontier Force)**, marking a significant achievement for the Indian Army. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant development for the **Indian Navy**, the state-of-the-art stealth guided missile destroyer, **Yard 12706 (Imphal)**, has been officially transferred to Indian Navy on **October 20, 2023**. This momentous occasion marks a major milestone in India's indigenous shipbuilding capabilities, enhancing its maritime strength in the Indian Ocean region. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Indian Naval** is all set to host **Mid-Planning Conference For Multilateral Naval Exercise (MILAN-24)**, a significant multilateral naval exercise exercise, at **Visakhapatnam from 19th February to 27th February 2024**. This event follows a long-standing tradition of hosting the MILAN exercise, showcasing India's commitment to fostering international maritime cooperation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Indian Army recently launched **'Project Udbhav'** with the aim of rediscovering the profound **Indian heritage** of statecraft and strategic thoughts derived from ancient Indian texts. "Project Udbhav, initiated by the military, aims to tap into ancient Indian treatises such as Chanakya's **Arthashastra**, Kamandaka's **Nitisara**, and the **Thirukkural** by the Tamil poet-saint Thiruvalluvar to glean insights on statecraft, strategy, diplomacy, and warfare. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Indian Military Heritage Festival** took center stage at the **Manekshaw Centre** in New Delhi. The event was inaugurated by Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh**, who was joined by Chief of Army Staff General **Manoj Pande**. The **United Service Institution of India (USI)**, the oldest tri-service think tank of India working since 1870 conducted the annual 'Indian Military Heritage Festival'. This grand occasion served as a tribute to India's rich military history and aimed to inspire the youth of the nation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Israeli forces** have introduced the cutting-edge **"Iron Sting" system**, designed to neutralize rocket launchers with remarkable accuracy, marking the first-ever use of this technology. The Magellan unit, in collaboration with the Air Force, has successfully thwarted dozens of terrorists using various weapons, including the innovative and highly precise mortar bomb known as **"Steel Sting."** ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a testament to their ongoing defense cooperation, the **Indian and Malaysian** armies have initiated **"Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023."** This joint bilateral training exercise, held at Umroi Cantonment in India, aims to strengthen military capabilities and enhance the synergy between the two nations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a groundbreaking development, Air Marshal **Sadhna S Nair** has taken on the distinguished role of **Director General Hospital Services (Armed Forces)**, marking a significant milestone in the Indian military. Notably, she is the first woman to hold this esteemed position upon her promotion to the rank of Air Marshal. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- In a significant display of international cooperation, **India and the European Union (EU)** recently carried out their first joint naval exercise in the **Gulf of Guinea**, aimed at strengthening maritime security in the region. This exercise marked a milestone in their maritime security partnership and came following the EU-India Maritime Security Dialogue in Brussels. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **The Indian Army** inaugurated its first **Vertical Wind Tunnel (VWT)** at the **Special Forces Training School (SFTS)** in **Himachal Pradesh**. This cutting-edge facility provides military trainees with a controlled environment to enhance their **Combat Free Fall (CFF)** skills by simulating real-life free fall conditions. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Commodore **Sunil Kaushik**, launched the remarkable vessel, the 25T Bollard Pull Tug named '**Mahabali**,' on the 28th of October 2023 at M/s Shoft Shipyard Pvt Ltd in Bharuch, **Gujarat**. This launch not only represented a new addition to India's naval fleet but also a significant milestone in the 'Make in India' initiative of the Ministry of Defence. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant development, a contingent from the Indian Army and Indian Air Force, comprising 120 personnel,

embarked on a mission to Kazakhstan today. Their objective is to participate in the **7th edition** of the Joint Military '**Exercise KAZIND-2023**.' This collaborative endeavor will take place in Otar, Kazakhstan, spanning from **30th October to 11th November 2023**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **India** has taken a decisive step in enhancing its naval capabilities by submitting a **Letter of Request (LoR)** to the **French government**. This formal communication signifies India's intent to **acquire 26 Rafale Marine fighter aircraft** for the Indian Navy. The procurement will be carried out through a government-to-government deal, reinforcing the strategic cooperation between India and France. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has taken significant steps to bolster its air defense capabilities along the borders with China and Pakistan by deploying **three** out of the five agreed-upon **S-400 air defense missile squadrons**. However, the remaining two squadrons' delivery schedule has been affected by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, and officials from both countries are set to meet soon to finalize the timeline. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Awards Current Affairs

- **Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman** "for their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective **mRNA vaccines against COVID-19**". The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet has today decided to award the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L'Huillier** "for experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electron dynamics in matter". This year Nobel Laureates in Physics 2023 are being recognised for their experiments, which have given humanity new tools for exploring the world of **electrons inside atoms and molecules**. Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L'Huillier have demonstrated a way to create extremely short pulses of light that can be used to measure the rapid processes in which electrons move or change energy. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Renowned author, philanthropist and the wife of Infosys co-founder **N.R. Narayana Murthy, Sudha Murthy**, was honored with the prestigious Global Indian Award by the **Canada India Foundation (CIF)** at a grand **Indo-Canadian gala in Toronto**. The award, which carries a **value of \$50,000**, is presented annually to an outstanding Indian personality who has left an indelible mark in their respective field. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **Moungi G. Bawendi, Louis E. Brus and Alexei I. Ekimov** "for the discovery and synthesis of **quantum dots**". The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2023 rewards the discovery and development of quantum dots, nanoparticles so tiny that their size determines their properties. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Tamil writer **Ambai**, born **C.S. Lakshmi** in Coimbatore, has been awarded the prestigious **Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **The Nobel Prize in Literature 2023** was awarded to **Norwegian author Jon Fosse or Jon Olav Fosse**, "for his innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable". The Nobel Prize in Literature is awarded by the Swedish Academy, Stockholm, Sweden. The Nobel Prize amount for 2023 is set at Swedish kronor (SEK) 11.0 million per full Nobel Prize. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Sahitya Akademi**, India's premier literary institution, has once again recognized and celebrated outstanding literary contributions with the prestigious '**Bal Sahitya Puraskar**' for the year 2023. This time, the honor has been conferred upon **Dilip Nongmaithem**, an accomplished author in the **Manipuri language**, for his remarkable work titled "**Ibemma Amasung Ngabemma**." This award is a testament to his profound storytelling and significant impact on children's literature. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **Narges Mohammadi** “for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all”. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Dr. Joyeeta Gupta**, an Indian-origin professor at the University of Amsterdam, has been awarded the prestigious **Dutch Spinoza Prize** for her groundbreaking work in the field of climate change. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2023 was awarded to Claudia Goldin “for having advanced our understanding of women’s labour market outcomes”. This year’s Laureate in the Economic Sciences, Claudia Goldin, provided the first comprehensive account of women’s earnings and labour market participation through the centuries. Her research reveals the causes of change, as well as the main sources of the remaining gender gap. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Uttar Pradesh** was awarded the third prize for its outstanding efforts in operationalizing **Telemanas**, a tele-technology-based mental health and counseling service. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Tamil writer **Sivasankari** was honored with the prestigious ‘**Saraswati Samman**’ in 2022 for her memoirs, “**Surya Vamsam**.” The award, presented by the K.K. Birla Foundation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Asian Games gold medalist and reigning Olympic and World Champion in men’s javelin, **Neeraj Chopra**, has been honored as a **Laureus Ambassador**, pledging his support to the Laureus Sport for Good initiative. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Renowned Hollywood actor **Michael Douglas** is set to receive the prestigious **Satyajit Ray Excellence in Film Lifetime Award** at the 54th International Film Festival to be held in Goa. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India’s largest integrated energy conglomerate, **NTPC Limited**, has achieved a remarkable distinction by being named one of the “**World’s Best Employers 2023**” in the **Forbes World’s Best Employers list**, which was officially unveiled on October 10, 2023. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The beautiful **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**, who have passionately dedicated themselves to preserving their ancestral homes, Kothi and Pipal Haveli, and promoting sustainable tourism in their village. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) received a prestigious **UN award** for its top-ranked sustainability initiatives, including the **Sustainability Reporting Standards Board**. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) honored ICAI during the **8th World Investment Forum** for its contributions to sustainability reporting. ICAI’s efforts aim to promote sustainable practices in India and align with international standards. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The European Parliament President, **Roberta Metsola**, announced the laureate of the **2023 Sakharov Prize** in the Strasbourg plenary chamber. Jina Mahsa Amini and the Iranian “**Woman, Life, Freedom**” movement were awarded this prestigious prize, joining the ranks of remarkable past recipients like Malala Yousafzai and Nelson Mandela. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Hindustani classical vocalist and composer **Pandit Ajoy Chakrabarty** has been conferred with the prestigious ‘**Durga Bharat Samman**’ by the Governor of West Bengal, **C V Ananda Bose**. The award, a testament to his remarkable contributions to the world of music, is a recognition of his invaluable role in preserving and promoting the rich heritage of Indian classical music. Bose also conferred the award, in its first edition, on the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for its recent successful ‘Chandrayaan’ mission, besides the Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE). ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Chief Justice of India (CJI) **DY Chandrachud**, an distinguished alumnus of Harvard Law School, was bestowed with the prestigious ‘**Award for Global Leadership**’ by his institution. This recognition stands as a testament to his exceptional contributions to the field of law and justice. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a momentous event at the White House, **US President Joe Biden** recently awarded the prestigious **White House National Medal for Technology and Innovation** and the **National Medal of Science** to **Ashok Gadgil** and **Subra Suresh**, respectively, in recognition of their groundbreaking work that has not only advanced scientific knowledge but also improved the quality of life for countless individuals. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Deep Narayan Nayak**, a dedicated teacher from **West Bengal**, has achieved recognition as one of the **top 10 finalists for the prestigious Global Teacher Prize 2023**. This esteemed award, organized annually by the UK-based Varkey Foundation in collaboration with UNESCO and Dubai Cares, a UAE-based philanthropic organization, celebrates exceptional educators from across the globe. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Nita Ambani**, Founder and Chair of Reliance Foundation, was honored with the **2023 USISPF Global Leadership Award for Philanthropy and Corporate Social Responsibility**. The award was presented by **John Chambers**, Chairman of USISPF, at a reception in **New Delhi** attended by prominent figures from the USISPF, Indian business leaders, and Government of India officials. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Science and Technology

- In a significant boost to the agri-tech sector, experts have recommended **24 start-ups** for technical and financial support from a dedicated fund of **Rs 20 crore**. This transformative initiative was announced during the **ATMAN (Agri sTartup deMo And funding) 2023 program**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Telecom giant **Nokia** has made a significant stride towards the future of wireless technology with the establishment of its state-of-the-art **6G lab** at the company's global R&D center in **Bengaluru, India**. This "**first-of-its-kind**" project is set to revolutionize the way we perceive and interact with the digital and physical worlds. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Jitendra Singh**, Minister of State for Space, Science, and Technology, officially announced that, on October 21, The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** is poised to make history as it prepares to conduct the **first** in a series of critical test flights in anticipation of the much-anticipated **Gaganyaan mission**, which marks India's maiden charge into manned space exploration. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- 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, making it accessible to students and space enthusiasts in the region. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India's Prime Minister, **Narendra Modi**, has announced ambitious plans to expand the country's space activities, including sending its **first astronaut to the moon by 2040** and establishing a native **space station by 2035**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The partnership between **Qualcomm** and **Google** to produce wearable devices based on **RISC-V technology** marks a significant step in the development of open-source hardware and its application in consumer electronics. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Tech giant **Google** has taken a proactive step to address the growing concern of online financial frauds in India. Through its new program, **DigiKavach**, Google aims to combat these fraudulent activities by understanding the strategies employed by scammers and implementing countermeasures. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a momentous event for India's space industry, Dr. Jitendra Singh, the Union Minister of Science and Technology, unveiled **Skyroot's Vikram-1 orbital rocket** in **Hyderabad** on Tuesday, October 24th. With the hope of achieving a fully commercial launch in the later months of 2024, Skyroot's co-founder and CEO, **Pawan Kumar Chandana**, has emphasized the partly commercial nature of Vikram-1's inaugural launch. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **China's** space endeavors are reaching new heights, evident in the recent launch of **Shenzhou 17** from the **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center**. This mission highlights China's determination to explore outer space, fueled by a competitive spirit with the **United States**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd**, India's leading telecommunications provider has introduced '**JioSpaceFiber**' satellite broadband service. This groundbreaking initiative was officially unveiled at the **India Mobile Congress** and represents the nation's **first** satellite-driven giga fiber service. The primary goal of this satellite broadband service is to **extend high-speed internet access** to previously underserved and remote regions in India. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Researchers at the **Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI)** in Kerala, India, have identified a new species of mushroom, named **Candolleomyces albosquamosus**, found on the **JNTBGRI campus** in the **Western Ghats**. This discovery sheds light on the region's remarkable biodiversity and encourages further exploration of fungal diversity in the area. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Aligarh Muslim University (AMU)** has embarked on a groundbreaking space initiative, the '**SS AMU SAT**' project, approved by the **Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe)**. Led by AMU's **Robo Club**, this initiative aims to develop a **3U CubeSat**, marking the first satellite named after AMU's founder, **Sir Syed Ahmad Khan**. ([Click to read complete article](#))



Books & Authors

- Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas of India, **Hardeep Singh Puri** has launched a book titled **'The Reverse Swing: Colonialism to Cooperation'** authored by Ashok Tandon. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Vivek Agnihotri**, director of The Kashmir Files, has launched his latest book, **"The Book of Life: My Dance with Buddha for Success"** in Lucknow. He also directed a medical drama film 'The Vaccine War' in 2023. **Balram Bhargava** is the

writer of the book on which the movie is based. Bhargava's book, 'Going Viral – Making of Covaxin: The Inside Story', documents his experiences. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- Prime Minister Modi released three books during this visit, each offering unique insights into Hinduism and its rich traditions. The books unveiled were **'Ashtadhyayi Bhashya,' 'Ramanandacharya Charitam,'** and **'Bhagwan Shri Krishna ki Rashtraleela.'** ([Click to read complete article](#))

Miscellaneous Current Affairs

- On October 2nd, **Google Doodle** pays tribute to the **Appalachian Trail**, the longest hiking-only footpath in the world. This iconic trail has captivated the hearts of adventurers, nature enthusiasts, and explorers for nearly a century. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Basohli Pashmina**, an age-old traditional craft originating from the picturesque district of **Kathua** in **Jammu and Kashmir**, has recently earned the prestigious **Geographical Indication (GI) tag**. This recognition not only celebrates the exceptional craftsmanship of the artisans but also protects the authenticity and uniqueness of this artisanal heritage. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month** is observed throughout the entire month of **October each year**. During this time, individuals, healthcare organizations, and nonprofits collaborate to raise awareness and promote breast cancer prevention and treatment. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Neev Literature Festival 2023** is scheduled to take place on October 7th and 8th, 2023, at the Neev Academy in **Yemalur, Bengaluru**. This year, the theme of the event is **'What is childhood without stories?'**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Union Minister Shri **Anurag Thakur** has launched the trailer of **"Krish, Trish, and Baltiboy – Bharat Hain Hum"**, an animated series consisting of two seasons, produced by **Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Graphiti Studios**. The series consists of 52 episodes, 11 minutes each, featuring stories from Indian Freedom struggle from 1500s to 1947. The series is hosted by the iconic animated characters **Krish, Trish and Balti boy**. The series has been created by the creator duo of Munjal Shroff and Tilakraj Shetty from Graphiti Studios. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- BITES Ltd**, a prominent **Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE)** under the Ministry of Railways, has achieved the prestigious **'Navratna' status**, becoming the 16th CPSE in India to be granted this distinction. This article explores why BITES Ltd earned this coveted status and the potential benefits it offers. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has penned down a Garba song, titled **'Maadi'**, composed by Meet brothers, **Manmeet Singh and Harmeet Singh**. The song, which celebrates the splendour of the Navratri festival and the vibrant traditions of Gujarat, was penned by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- A biographical film about **Nitin Gadkari**, who serves as the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, is scheduled for release on **October 27th**. Titled **'Gadkari'**, the movie will explore different facets of his life. Actor **Rahul Chopda** has been cast to portray the role of Nitin Gadkari in this biopic. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Tata Group-owned **Air India Express** has unveiled a dynamic new brand identity, characterized by a striking color scheme dominated by shades of orange and turquoise. The unveiling of this fresh visual identity took place at the Mumbai airport, marking a significant milestone in the airline's evolution. The airline's new visual identity features an energetic and premium color palette of **Express Orange** and **Express Turquoise** with **Express Tangerine** and **Express Ice Blue** as secondary colors. The airline's new branding also extends to its aircraft livery, with the first of the modern Boeing 737-8 aircraft taking inspiration from **traditional Bandhani textile designs**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)** has issued a cautionary notice regarding a potential cyclonic storm forming in the Arabian Sea. This impending weather event, likely to be named **'Cyclone Tej'**, has the potential to impact **Mumbai, Pune**, and other regions of Maharashtra and the **Konkan area**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India's tourism industry is experiencing an unprecedented boom, especially in the wake of the global pandemic and the country is poised to become the **fourth-largest global spender** in the travel sector by **2030**, with total expenditures estimated to soar to a staggering **\$410 billion**. This represents a massive 173 percent increase compared to pre-Covid times in 2019 when Indian travellers spent a total of \$150 billion, ranking India as the **sixth-largest global spender**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **Cyclone Hamoon**, a severe weather phenomenon, struck the **southeastern coast of Bangladesh on the 25th October 2023**, causing widespread concern and necessitating the evacuation of thousands of people. The storm, originating from the **Bay of Bengal**, has further raised questions about the increasing frequency and intensity of such weather events in the region, driven by the impacts of climate change. This meteorological event is being closely monitored by the **India Meteorological Department (IMD)**

and is expected to weaken in the hours to come. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- The **Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival** made a return after a four-year interval with a grand ceremony at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre (NMACC) in **Mumbai** on October 27. The festival once again brought a diverse selection of Indian, South Asian, and world cinema to the city. The festival opened with a spectacular master ceremony, led by **Priyanka Chopra Jonas**, the chairperson of Jio MAMI. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Obituaries Current Affairs

- Veteran **CPI(M) leader** and former legislator **Anathalavattom Anandan**, who played a key role in building the trade union base for the party in the state, passed away at a hospital on Thursday. He was 86 years old. Anandan's demise occurred while he was undergoing treatment at the Government Medical College hospital in Kerala for a prolonged illness. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- British filmmaker **Terence Davies**, known for his thought-provoking and introspective films, has sadly passed away at the age of 77 at home after a short illness. He is recognized for his internationally acclaimed films, including 'Distant Voices, Still Lives' and 'The Long Day Closes'. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Chef Michael Chiarello**, a culinary expert known for his extraordinary talent and passion for food, passed away at Queen of the Valley Medical Center in Napa, **California**. He succumbed to an acute allergic reaction that led to **anaphylactic shock**, as announced by his company Gruppo Chiarello in a statement. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Former Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) **Manohar Singh Gill** passed away at a South Delhi hospital on Sunday, leaving behind a legacy of public service and dedication. He served as a significant figure in both the Indian bureaucracy and politics. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Noted Malayalam film producer and director of Mathrubhumi group of publications **P.V. Gangadharan** passed away in Kozhikode on October 13 morning. He was 80. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Richard Roundtree**, the iconic actor who redefined African American masculinity in the movies with his groundbreaking portrayal of the title role in "Shaft," passed away on Tuesday at his Los Angeles home at the age of 81 due to pancreatic cancer. He was also recognized as the "first black action hero." ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Li Keqiang**, the former premier of China, passed away due to a sudden heart attack on October 27, 2023. Aged 68, he concluded his career in March, 2023 after completing two terms in office alongside Chinese President Xi Jinping. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **Baijnath Agarwal**, the dedicated trustee of Gita Press Gorakhpur, passed away at the age of 90, leaving behind a legacy of unwavering commitment to social welfare. As a trustee for 40 years, Agarwal's life was marked by his relentless efforts to create positive social change. He had been associated with Gita Press for an astounding 73 years, having joined in 1950. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- "Friends" star **Matthew Perry** was found dead in a hot tub at his Los Angeles home. He was 54. Matthew Perry's unexpected passing has left the world in shock and mourning. The iconic actor, known for his portrayal of Chandler Bing in the legendary TV series "Friends," was not just a beloved entertainer but a true comedy genius. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Saleemul Huq**, a **Bangladeshi-British scientist** who gained renown as a "climate revolutionary" for his efforts to make high-polluting countries help the world's poorest and most vulnerable states deal with the devastating impacts of climate change has passed away in the Bangladeshi capital, Dhaka. He was 71. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **state of Assam** is in mourning as it bids farewell to a prominent political figure, **Sarat Barkotoky**, a former MLA, and minister who passed away in the early hours of October 30. ([Click to read complete article](#))



Static Current Affairs

- United Nations Industrial Development Organization Director General: Gerd Müller;
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization Headquarters: Vienna, Austria;
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization Founded: 17 November 1966.
- CEO of JioMart: Sandeep Varaganti
- Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change: Bhupender Yadav
- Chief of the Air Staff of India: Vivek Ram Chaudhari
- Chief Minister of Assam: Himanta Biswa Sarma
- President of Badminton World Federation: Poul-Erik Hoyer Larsen
- Headquarters of Badminton World Federation: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Chairman & MD of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers (RCF): S. C. Mudgerikar
- Adobe CEO: Shantanu Narayen (1 Dec 2007–);
- Adobe Headquarters: San Jose, California, United States;
- Adobe Founders: Charles Geschke, John Warnock;
- Adobe Founded: December 1982, Mountain View, California, United States.
- Assam's Industries & Commerce Minister: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- The Chairman and Managing Director of VA Tech Wabag: Rajiv Mittal
- Singapore's Minister for Education: Mr Chan Chun Sing
- State Bank of India (SBI) Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- State Bank of India (SBI) Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- State Bank of India (SBI) Established in – 1955
- State Bank of India (SBI) Tagline – The Banker to Every Indian
- Managing Director & CEO of YES BANK: Mr. Prashant Kumar
- Chief executive officer (CEO) of Jio Financial Services: Hitesh Sethia
- Official currency of Thailand: Thai baht
- Khelo India Programme was launched in the year: 2018
- Chief Marketing and Communications Officer at Mastercard: Raja Rajamannar
- Chief Executive Officer of ICC: Geoff Allardice
- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL): Shri Mihir Kanti Mishra
- Wrestling Federation of India President: Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh;
- Wrestling Federation of India Founded: 27 January 1967;
- Wrestling Federation of India Headquartered in New Delhi, India.
- Minister of Assam for Environment and Forest: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) was formed on: October 14, 2003.
- Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI): Ravneet Kaur.
- Minister of Assam for Environment and Forest: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) was formed on: October 14, 2003.
- Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI): Ravneet Kaur.
- Chairman of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE): T G Sitharam
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Founded: 1 October 2003;
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Headquarters: Chōfu, Tokyo, Japan.
- Universal Postal Union Headquarters: Bern, Switzerland;
- Universal Postal Union Founded: 9 October 1874;
- Universal Postal Union Founder: Heinrich von Stephan;
- Universal Postal Union Head: Director-General; Masahiko Metoki;
- Universal Postal Union Parent organization: United Nations Economic and Social Council.
- President of the World Federation for Mental Health: Dr. Nasser Loza;
- World Federation for Mental Health Founded: 1948.
- IDFC FIRST Bank CEO: V. Vaidyanathan (19 Dec 2018–);
- IDFC FIRST Bank Ltd: Mumbai.
- CEO & Managing Director of The Tata Power Company Limited: Praveer Sinha
- MD of Bridgestone India: Stefano Sanchini
- International Olympic Committee President: Thomas Bach;
- International Olympic Committee Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland;
- International Olympic Committee Founded: 23 June 1894, Paris, France;
- International Olympic Committee Director General: Christophe De Kepper;
- International Olympic Committee Founders: Pierre de Coubertin, D. Bikélas;
- International Olympic Committee Official language: French.
- Association of Mutual Funds in India Founded: 22 August 1995;

- Association of Mutual Funds in India Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.
- World Health Organization (WHO) Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- World Health Organization (WHO) Founded: 7 April 1948;
- World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus;
- International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness Founded: 1975;
- International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness Chief Executive: Peter Holland;
- International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness Headquarters: London.
- Founder and Chairman of Bharti Enterprises: Sunil Bharti Mittal
- Jharkhand Capital: Ranchi;
- National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) Founded: 31 July 2008;
- National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) Headquarters: New Delhi;
- National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) CEO: Mr. Ved Mani Tiwari.
- International Dairy Federation Brussels, Belgium;
- International Dairy Federation President Piercristiano Brazzale;
- International Dairy Federation as we know it was founded 1903.
- HUDCO Founded: 25 April 1970;
- HUDCO Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Google Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin
- Google Parent organization: Alphabet Inc.
- Google Founded: 4 September 1998, Menlo Park, California, United States
- Google Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States
- Google CEO: Sundar Pichai (2 Oct 2015–)
- Qualcomm Headquarters: San Diego, California, United States
- Qualcomm CEO: Cristiano Amon (30 Jun 2021–)
- Qualcomm President: Cristiano Amon
- Qualcomm Founded: July 1985, San Diego, California, United States
- Hewlett-Packard (HP) Headquarters: Palo Alto, California, United States;
- Hewlett-Packard (HP) President: Enrique Lores.
- RBI Governor: Shaktikanta Das;
- RBI Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata;
- RBI Founder: British Raj;
- RBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.
- ISRO Headquarters: Bengaluru
- ISRO Founded: 15 August 1969
- ISRO Founder: Vikram Sarabhai
- ISRO Officeholder: S. Somanath (Chairperson)
- IRCTC Founded: 27 September 1999;
- IRCTC Headquarters: New Delhi.
- United Nations Founded: 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States;
- United Nations Headquarters: New York, New York, United States;
- United Nations Founders: United States, Brazil, United Kingdom, India, France, Iran;
- United Nations Secretary general: António Guterres.
- UNESCO Headquarters: Paris, France
- UNESCO Founders: India, United States, France, Mexico, China, Brazil, MORE
- UNESCO Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom
- UNESCO Head: Audrey Azoulay; (Director-General)
- UNESCO Parent organization: United Nations Economic and Social Council
- WHO Head: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus;
- WHO Founded: 7 April 1948;
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- Indian School of Business Founded: 2001
- Indian School of Business Chairperson: Harish Manwani
- Indian School of Business Dean: Madan Pillutla
- Indian School of Business Campus: Urban, 260 acres (105.2 ha)
- Indian School of Business Founders: Rajat Gupta, anil kumar
- European Union Founded: 1 November 1993, Maastricht, Netherlands;
- European Union Founders: Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg.
- Chairperson, Co-founder & COO of MobiKwik: Upasana Taku



Top 25 Famous Temples In India Names

Temple Name	State Name
Lord Venkateswara Temple	Andhra Pradesh
Mahabodhi Temple	Bihar
Somnath Temple	Gujarat
Dwarkadhish Temple	Gujarat
Vaishno Devi Temple	Jammu & Kashmir
Amarnath Temple	Jammu & Kashmir
Virupaksha Temple	Karnataka
Gomateshwara Temple	Karnataka
Padmanabhaswamy Temple	Kerala
Khajuraho Temple	Madhya Pradesh
Siddhivinayak Temple	Maharashtra
Konark Sun Temple	Odisha
Golden Temple	Punjab
Ramanathaswamy Temple	Tamil Nadu
Meenakshi Temple	Tamil Nadu
Ranganathaswamy Temple	Tamil Nadu
Brihadeeswara Temple	Tamil Nadu
Rajagopalaswamy Temple	Tamil Nadu
Nataraja Temple	Tamil Nadu
Kashi Vishwanath Temple	Uttar Pradesh
Badrinath Temple	Uttarakhand
Yamunotri Temple	Uttarakhand
Gangotri Temple	Uttarakhand
Shri Jagnatha Temple	Odisha
Kamakhya Temple	Assam

TEST SERIES
BILINGUAL



ESIC UDC
Prelims + Mains

50+ TOTAL TESTS

TEST SERIES
BILINGUAL



ESIC MTS
Prelims + Mains

45+ TOTAL TESTS