

❖ 43rd ASEAN Summit begins in Jakarta

- The 43rd ASEAN Summit is scheduled to be held in Jakarta from September 5 to 7.
- This summit is taking place in the context of increased tension in the South China Sea. Some ASEAN member countries have expressed protest over China's recent release of a new map claiming disputed areas.
- Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong will lead a delegation to the summit.
- During the summit, ASEAN leaders will also discuss the crisis in Myanmar among other pressing regional issues.
- ASEAN leaders will focus on strategies to maintain the bloc's relevance and central role in the emerging regional landscape.
- The leaders will also discuss strengthening ASEAN integration and enhancing cooperation in key areas such as the digital and green economy.

❖ Max Verstappen's Italian Grand Prix title 2023

- Max Verstappen made history at the 2023 Italian Grand Prix, scoring his 10th consecutive Formula 1 victory and setting a remarkable new record.
- Max Verstappen achieved a remarkable feat in one season in Formula One, surpassing Sebastian Vettel's previous record of nine consecutive wins a decade ago.
- Verstappen currently leads the drivers' championship by a remarkable 145 points, with his teammate Perez, who has also won this season, in second.
- 25-year-old Max Verstappen has won 47 races so far, making him fifth on the all-time list of Formula One race winners.

❖ **President unveiled a 12-foot tall statue of Mahatma Gandhi and 'Gandhi Vatika' near Rajghat in New Delhi.**

- The President of India Smt.Draupadi Murmu unveiled a 12-foot statue of Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat in the country's national capital New Delhi.
- She also inaugurated a 'Gandhi Vatika' where statues of Mahatma Gandhi in different poses have been installed.
- Mahatma Gandhi's statues at Gandhi Vatika will inspire the visitors, especially the children.
- The statue is located at the entrance of the 45-acre Gandhi Darshan complex, and a selfie-point has also been created at the 'vatika' for visitors and it will also have multiple statues of Mahatma Gandhi.
- The statue and the Gandhi Vatika have been sculpted by artisans from Jaipur, and show him seated on a bench and in his meditative pose.
- The ideals and values of Bapu (Mahatma Gandhi) are eternal. The goal of world peace can be achieved even now by following the path shown by him.

❖ **Dr. Vasudha Gupta takes charge as Principal Director General of Akashvani and News Services Division**

- Dr. Vasudha Gupta, a senior officer of the Indian Information Service, assumed the post of Principal Director General in the Akashvani and News Services Division.
- She previously worked as Director General in All India Radio.
- With over 33 years of service in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, including as Director General of the Press Information Bureau (PIB), she brings wide-ranging experience to her new role.

- Dr. Vasudha Gupta holds a Ph.D. in Finance from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.
- Dr. Gupta's notable achievement during the COVID-19 pandemic was the creation of a feedback dashboard for the Government of India, facilitating citizen engagement and transparency.

❖ **Georgia officially declares October as 'Hindu Heritage Month'**

- Georgia (US state) Governor Brian Kemp officially declared October as 'Hindu Heritage Month'.
- It aims to celebrate Hindu heritage while emphasizing the rich cultural and spiritual traditions of India.
- It recognizes and appreciates the valuable contributions made by the Hindu-American community in the state of Georgia.
- Hinduism is accepted as the third largest religion globally, with one billion followers worldwide and about three million followers in the United States.
- Throughout October 2023, the Hindu community in Georgia will collectively celebrate its heritage by focusing on the culture and diverse spiritual traditions of India.

❖ **PM announces operation of nuclear power plant at Kakrapar, Gujarat**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the commencement of full-capacity operations at India's largest domestically built 700 MW nuclear power plant located at Kakrapar in Gujarat.
- The nuclear facility at Kakrapar is the largest nuclear facility of its kind to be built entirely within India.
- Initially, the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) started commercial operations on 30 June but was operating at 90% capacity.
- It reached its maximum operational capacity now.

❖ ASI unveiled 'Adopt a Heritage 2.0' program, Indian Heritage App and e-permission portal

- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) launched the "Adopt a Heritage 2.0 Programme," the Indian Heritage App and e-permission portal, to preserve India's cultural heritage.
- ASI protects 3696 monuments across India, which show case the country's rich cultural heritage and contribute to its economic development.
- ASI aims to enhance and maintain these heritage sites by launching the "Adopt a Heritage 2.0" program on at Samvet Auditorium, IGNCA, New Delhi.

❖ ISRO's Aditya L1 Solar Mission Successfully Completes Second Earth Orbit Maneuver

- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) announced the successful completion of the second Earth orbit-raising maneuver for the Aditya L1 solar mission.
- ISRO's Telemetry, Tracking, and Command Network (ISTRAC) carried out the operation.
- As a result of this maneuver, the Aditya L1 spacecraft moved from its previous orbit, which was 282 by 40,225 km around the Earth, to a new orbit of 245 by 22,459 km around the Earth.
- The Aditya L1 mission will undergo a total of four Earth-orbital maneuvers before being placed in a transfer orbit towards its destination, the Lagrange point L1. The process is expected to take 125 days.
- The primary objective of the Aditya L1 mission is to provide valuable information about the solar corona and to make in-situ observations of the solar

wind at the L1 point, which is located approximately 1.5 million kilometers from Earth.

➤ The mission was successfully launched on 2 September using the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) C57.

❖ **India wins the Men's Hockey 5s Asia Cup 2023**

➤ India's men's hockey team won the Men's Hockey 5s Asia Cup 2023 in Salalah, Oman by defeating Pakistan in the final.

➤ India also qualified for the FIH Men's Hockey 5s World Cup Oman 2024 with this win.

➤ In the semi-finals, India defeated Malaysia by a score of 10-4 and Pakistan reached the final after defeating Oman by a score of 7-3.

➤ Hockey India announced a reward of Rs 2 lakh to each player and Rs 1 lakh to the support staff for their outstanding performance.

❖ **Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers gets Navratna status**

➤ Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) was conferred 'Navratna status' by the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE).

➤ The 'Navratna Status' designation empowers RCF as one of the select groups of Public Sector Enterprises in India with significant financial autonomy.

➤ These companies can invest up to Rs 1000 crore in projects without approval from the central government.

➤ Before achieving 'Navratna status', RCF had earlier achieved 'Miniratna status' from the Department of Public Enterprises.

❖ **RGIA gets 4 star rating from Skytrax**

- GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL) has reached new heights of excellence by receiving the coveted 4-star rating from Skytrax, a renowned global benchmark for evaluating the quality of airports.
- The Skytrax World Airport Star Rating is a prestigious recognition in the aviation industry, serving as a barometer for measuring the quality of airports worldwide.
- The 4-star rating awarded to GHIAL reflects a thorough evaluation encompassing a wide range of factors, such as the overall ambience of the airport, the quality of passenger services, the level of cleanliness, and the operational efficiency.
- CEO of GHIAL: Pradeep Panicker

❖ **Lucknow to host Davis World Cup - 2**

- Lucknow, will play host for the Davis Cup World Group-2 tie against Morocco with the hard courts of the Mini Stadium in Gomti Nagar.
- The Indian team is scheduled to assemble soon at the venue for training. There is also a plan to use the opportunity to have a training camp for the Indian teams headed for the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China.
- The local organisers are making all arrangements in terms of having stands for the spectators and others as the sports complex does not have a stadium for the tennis facility.

❖ Apollo hospitals unveils 'enhanced connected care'

- Apollo launches India's first comprehensive connected care programme for enhanced patient monitoring.
- This ground breaking initiative is set to revolutionise patient care by offering clinical teams and nursing staff a comprehensive, real-time overview of patients throughout various stages of their healthcare journey, encompassing emergency care, in-patient care, post-surgery recovery, and home care.
- The program leads to substantial efficiencies, such as saving up to one hour of nursing time per shift and reducing ICU patient readmissions by 30 per cent.
- It will successfully detect 8-10 early critical alerts per 100 monitored beds, and also minimizing emergency "code blue" calls, ensuring that no critical events were overlooked and patient safety remained paramount.

❖ SBI allows CBDC users to link to UPI

- The State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced interoperability of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in Digital Rupee, also known as Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC).
- According to a statement from SBI, the new 'eRupee by SBI' application will allow SBI CBDC users to easily scan any merchant UPI QR code for quick and secure transactions.
- The seamless integration of CBDC with UPI marks a significant leap for the bank, enhancing the acceptance and utilisation of digital currencies in everyday transactions.

❖ **Paytm unveils 'Card Soundbox'**

- In a groundbreaking move, One97 Communications Limited (OCL), which owns brand Paytm, has introduced its latest innovation the 'Card Soundbox.'
- Paytm Card Soundbox is India's first Soundbox that will also accept contactless card payments and would further accelerate cashless transactions in the country.
- The device also provides instant audio payment alerts after payments.
- Users can also initiate one tap NFC payments from their NFC enabled smartphones.

❖ **Federal bank unveils WhatsApp lending feature**

- Federal Bank has launched a WhatsApp lending platform to enable its customers apply for pre-approved personal loan.
- Federal Bank is one of the leading private sector bank, which introduced the WhatsApp platform to mark a significant advancement in providing seamless financial solutions to customers.
- Federal Bank customers who are seeking to avail themselves pre-approved personal loans can send a 'Hi' to Federal Bank's WhatsApp Lending Number : 9633 600 800.

❖ **IAF begins Western Air Command's Annual Exercise 'Trishul'**

- The Indian Air Force started its annual mega training exercise 'Trishul' ,as part of its Western Air Command (WAC) which will activate all its combat assets from Leh in Kashmir to Nal in Rajasthan.
- The internal exercise is being held from September 4 to 14 and all frontline assets under the command such as fighter jets, transport aircraft and helicopters will be deployed.

➤ The exercise is aimed at testing the command's operational preparedness and given its scale and complexity, a high-level of coordination and preparedness involved.

➤ The IAF has airlifted nearly 70,000 Army troops and heavy platforms as part of efforts towards enhancing the overall operational preparedness in eastern Ladakh.

❖ **Navy brings out 'The Maritime Infrastructure Perspective Plan 2023-37'**

➤ The Maritime Infrastructure Perspective Plan 2023-37, which aims to create sustainable architecture in sync with the broader policy directive of the PM Gati Shakti project, was released at the Naval Commanders Conference by Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt.

➤ It aims to synchronize and enmesh the infrastructure requirements of the Navy over the next 15 years through a comprehensive perspective plan model.

➤ The Plan Document is aligned with the GoI vision on the creation of sustainable infrastructure and encompasses salient compliance with broader policy directives on the PM Gati Shakti Project, Disaster Resilience, and Transition to Net Zero.