

IACE

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

14th November 2023

DESCRIPTIVE

❖ **World Diabetes Day - 14 November**

- World Diabetes Day is the primary global awareness campaign focusing on diabetes mellitus and is held on 14 November each year.
- World Diabetes Day was launched in 1991 by the International Diabetes Federation and the World Health Organization (WHO).
- The theme for world Diabetes Day 2021-23 is "**access to diabetes care**".
- World Diabetes Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness of diabetes as a global public health issue, its risk and what to do importantly to support prevention, early diagnosis and timely treatment.

❖ **Hitesh Kumar S Makwana is appointed as the Surveyor General of India**

- Hitesh Kumar S. Makwana, an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) official of the Tamil Nadu cadre, has been appointed as the Surveyor General of India.
- Makwana is currently an Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The Surveyor General of India is the Head of Department of Survey of India, a department under the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Government of India.
- Pallavi Jain Govil will be the Director General of Hydrocarbons, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- Akash Tripathi has been named as CEO, MyGov.

❖ **India finish Asian Archery Championships in Bangkok with seven medals**

- India ended campaign at 23rd Asian Archery Championships in Bangkok, Thailand with **seven medals** comprising three gold, a silver and three bronze.
- South Korea topped the medal tally with 11 medals including 3 gold. India ranked second.
- In the Women's team final, Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Parneet Kaur, and Aditi Gopichand Swami defeated Chinese Taipei in a thrilling contest to win the yellow metal.
- Kaur also won gold in the women's individual event after beating compatriot Vennam in the final.
- India won their second gold medal of the day after Swami and Priyansh beat Thailand in the final of the Mixed Team event.
- The Asian Archery Championships will be followed by the Asian individual Olympic qualifiers at the same venue.

❖ **Nepal celebrated the festival of lights called "Tihar".**

- Nepal celebrate the first day of the festival of lights called "Tihar".
- It is the second biggest festival of Hindus in Nepal after Dashain.
- The celebration starts by feeding crows which is observed as Kaag Tihar.
- The second day of Tihar is celebrated as Kukur Tihar where dogs are worshipped.

➤ Kukur Tihar is also called Narak Chaturdashi.

➤ Tihar celebration ends with Bhai Tika when sisters pray for the wellbeing of their brothers by offering them tika.

❖ **India, ADB sign \$400-million loan pact for urban reforms**

➤ The central government signed a USD 400 million policy-based loan with the Manila-based Asian Development Bank (ADB) to support its urban reform agenda to create high-quality urban infrastructure, improve service delivery, and promote efficient governance systems.

➤ The signatories to the loan agreement for sub-programme 2 of the Sustainable Urban Development and Service Delivery Programme were Juhi Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, department of economic affairs and Takeo Konishi, Country Director of ADB's India Resident Mission.

➤ Sub-programme 1 approved in 2021 with a financing of USD 350 million established national-level policies and guidelines to improve urban services, Sub-programme 2 supports investment planning and reform actions at the state and urban local body (ULB) levels.

❖ **Superb Leylah Fernandez secures Canada's first Billie Jean King Cup title**

➤ Canada beat Italy 2-0 to claim their maiden Billie Jean King Cup title, with two singles victories from Marina Stakusic and Leylah Fernandez, respectively.

➤ Finals debutante Canada, who had only made it to the semifinal round once before in 1988, had an impressive display run in what's considered the most important women's tennis team tournament this year.

- Stakusic, who is ranked No. 258 in the world, put Canada ahead by beating Martina Trevisan 7-5, 6-3 in the opening singles match.
- The 2021 US Open runner-up maintained her stunning form throughout the week as she beat Jasmine Paolini 6-2, 6-3 for the decisive point to help Canada seal a 2-0 win over four-time champions Italy in the final in Seville.
- ❖ **SIDBI launches 'Sumpoorn' MSME Economic Activity Index with Jocata**
- Jocata, a digital lending transformation platform, has collaborated with SIDBI to launch a one-of-its kind MSME Economic Activity Index "**Sumpoorn**".
- For the first time ever, this MSME specific high-frequency indicator will capture the state of India's growth engine, its MSMEs, that contribute more than a quarter of the country's overall Gross Value Added (GVA) and more than 40 per cent of its total exports.
- The currently available macro indices capture business expectations and rely on opinion or survey based data.
- GSTN returns of more than 50,000 credit-seeking MSMEs over time.
- The significance of the MSME sector for the Indian economy is a well acknowledged fact.
- However, data paucity on the MSME sector often becomes a challenge for industry members and policymakers.

❖ **Moody's retains India's 2023 growth forecast at 6.7%**

- New Delhi, Moody's Investors Service retained India's economic growth forecast for 2023 at 6.7 per cent and strong domestic demand will likely sustain the growth in the near term.
- With exports remaining weak against an unfavourable global economic backdrop, Moody's in its Global Macroeconomic Outlook 2024-25.
- India's real GDP to grow about 6.7 per cent in 2023, 6.1 per cent in 2024 and 6.3 per cent in 2025.
- India's real GDP rose 7.8 per cent year-over-year in June quarter, up from 6.1 per cent in March quarter and bolstered by a 6 percent increase in household consumption and solid capital expenditure and service sector activity.

❖ **IMF executive board has approved a 50% quota increase**

- The executive board has approved a proposal to make a 50% increase in the quota allocated to members in proportion to their current quotas.
- The proposal will be effective only after consideration and voting by the Board of Governors.
- The proposal has come after the guidance from the IMF Committee at the 2023 annual meetings.
- Presently, India has a quota of Special Drawing Rights (SDR) of 13,114.4 million. This means India has a share of 2.75%.

❖ **USDM and DASIP limited have signed a MoU for aviation training**

- The Union Skill Development Ministry is setting up the IIS to enhance the quality of skilling and to provide high-end skilling in new-age courses.
- The training will be given at the Indian Institute of Skills (IIS), Kanpur.
- The Ministry also signed a MoU with Hindustan Aeronautical Limited to provide training on computer numerical control machines.
- Minister signed one MoU with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur.

❖ **Asia-Pacific airlines aim for 5% green fuel usage by 2030**

- The Association of Asia-Pacific Airlines (AAPA) has set a target for its members to adopt 5% sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) usage by 2030 to reduce carbon emissions, signaling demand to fuel producers.
- The decision was announced at the association's 67th assembly of presidents, highlighting challenges such as limited SAF availability and cost.
- The 5% SAF usage goal is a collective target for AAPA's 14 member airlines, including newly inducted Air India.
- India's Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas disclosed intentions to mandate 1% SAF use by domestic carriers by 2025.
- Earlier, the civil aviation ministry had also stated its plans to increase the blending of sustainable aviation fuel to 2% by 2026, and 5% by 2030.

❖ **Jio Satcom, OneWeb get internet services licence**

- The Department of Telecom has granted internet service provider licence to Jio Satellite Communications and Bharti Group-backed OneWeb.
- Both companies were given permits to provide satellite communication services about a year ago.
- The companies were issued an ISP (Internet Service Provider) license recently.
- They can provide internet services connecting satellite service with terrestrial networks or through VSAT to end customers.
- Satellite companies have been demanding allocation of spectrum without auction, while Jio and Vodafone Idea have been pushing for spectrum allocation only through auction.
- Reliance Jio had demonstrated satellite-based giga fibre service to provide high speed broadband services to previously inaccessible geographies in the country.
- The service will be available across the length and breadth of the country at highly affordable prices.

❖ **India International Trade Fair 2023**

- The 42nd edition of the India International Trade Fair 2023 is set to be inaugurated at New Delhi's Pragati Maidan.
- The inaugural ceremony will be led by Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Anupriya Patel.

- The theme of the fourteen day fair is **Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam** which emphasizes on the significance of interconnectedness and cooperation in trade for achieving sustainable growth and well-being.
- Partner States for this event include Bihar and Kerala and the focus states will be Delhi, UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.
- Over three thousand exhibitors from both India and abroad will participate in the fair.

❖ **India to host 33rd Conference of WOAHA Regional Commission for Asia and Pacific in New Delhi**

- India will host the 33rd Conference of World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) Regional Commission for Asia and Pacific in New Delhi.
- The delegates from 36 member countries including India, senior officers from regional and international organizations and representatives from the private sector and private veterinary organizations will participate in the conference.
- Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Shri Parshottam Rupala will inaugurate the four-day conference.
- The decision to host this event was made during the 90th General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates of the WOAHA in Paris in May this year.

❖ UP government achieves 6th Guinness World Record by lighting 22.23 lakh diyas on Deepotsav

- The Uttar Pradesh government achieved the sixth Guinness World Record by lighting 22.23 lakh diyas on Deepotsav at 51 ghats of Ayodhya, including the Ram Ki Paidi.
- Governor Anandiben Patel, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, both the Deputy Chief Ministers, several other cabinet ministers and ambassadors of 52 countries graced the event.
- Deepotsav has not only become a big event for Ayodhya and Uttar Pradesh, but has also become a unique event for the country and the world, realizing the Prime Minister's vision of 'Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat'.
- 178 development projects worth rupees 30 thousand 500 crores are starting in Ayodhya.
- The Governor and the Chief Minister viewed the 18 tableaux of the Shobha Yatra at Ram Katha Park.
- A glimpse of India's folk culture will be seen in the Deepotsav.
- The Chief Minister also inaugurated a 3D holographic show, projection mapping and laser show based on Ramayana.