

**IACE**

# DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

**18<sup>th</sup> October 2023 | DESCRIPTIVE**

## ❖ World Menopause Day - October 18th

- World Menopause Day is celebrated every year on the 18th of October.
- **Theme:** "Cardiovascular Disease"
- The purpose of the day is to raise awareness about an important issue like menopause among people irrespective of their gender.
- This event also aims to educate women about the support options available for improving health and well-being.
- Professionals and women are encouraged to participate in the global awareness-raising campaign and raise awareness.
- World Menopause Day was established in 1984 by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Menopause Society (IMS).

## ❖ Arindam Bagchi is India's next envoy to UN in Geneva

- Arindam Bagchi would succeed Indra Mani Pandey who is set to return to New Delhi.
- External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi has been appointed India's permanent representative to the United Nations (UN) and other international organisations in Geneva.
- Bagchi is currently additional secretary in the external affairs ministry.

➤ Bagchi, from the 1995 batch of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS), took over as spokesperson in March 2021 and had an eventful stint that spanned the country's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, India's standoff with China on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and the country's G20 presidency.

➤ **About United Nations (UN):**

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

➤ **Headquarters:** New York, United States

➤ **Secretary General:** António Guterres

❖ **NRAI felicitates Asian Games 2023 medallists**

➤ The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) felicitated the medal winners of the Asian Games with mementos at the Dr. Karni Singh Range, Tughlakabad.

➤ The Indian contingent of men, women and juniors are training in the Capital for the Asian Championship to be staged in Changwon, Korea, from October 22.

➤ Commending the shooters on their best ever performance in the Asian Games, accounting for 22 of the 107 medals the country won in Hangzhou, China. This is a stepping stone, and greater achievements await our talented shooters.

➤ The Asian championship will offer 24 Olympic quota places for the Paris Games.

➤ India has won seven Olympic quota so far in the World Championships.

➤ India will field a 36-member squad for the Asian championship along with 17 coaches and support staff. The first batch will leave for Korea on Wednesday.

➤ **About National Rifle Association of India (NRAI):**

➤ **Headquarters:** New Delhi

➤ **President:** Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo

➤ **Founded:** 1951

### ❖ **Modi unveils long-term blueprint for India's maritime economy**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched maritime projects worth Rs 23,000 crore and unveiled the long-term vision document for the blue economy.
- The blueprint outlines strategic initiatives aimed at enhancing port facilities, promoting sustainable practices, and facilitating international collaboration.
- He also inaugurated, dedicated to the nation and laid the foundation stone of projects worth more than Rs 23,000 crore that are aligned with the 'Amrit Kaal Vision 2047' for the Indian maritime blue economy, during the third edition of the Global Maritime India Summit.
- The summit will discuss and deliberate key issues of the maritime sector including ports of the future, decarbonisation, coastal shipping and inland water transportation, shipbuilding, repair and recycling, finance, maritime clusters and maritime tourism, among others.
- In the last decade, the capacity of major ports in India has doubled, and the turnaround time for big vessels has come down to less 24 hours compared with 42 hours.

### ❖ **Union Minister launches dashboard for Data on Adoption and Forecasts**

- Power and New and Renewable Energy Minister RK Singh launched the EV-Ready India Dashboard in New Delhi.
- The Minister asserted that the future is going to be electric.
- He expressed confidence that the price of storage will come down, and soon the diesel and petrol vehicles will be history.
- It is imperative for India to switch to electric mobility as the country has aimed to become the third-largest economy in the coming years.

- This aim will require self-reliance in the energy sector.
- According to the Power and New and Renewable Energy Ministry, the dashboard is a free digital platform focusing on near real-time electric vehicle adoption and forecasts, associated battery demand, charging density, and market growth trends.
- The dashboard is expected to facilitate greater inclusion across audiences, for the industry, policymakers and end users of electric vehicles.
- The dashboard has forecast a 45 per cent growth in electric vehicles by 2030.
- ❖ **Indian Railways' PSUs, RITES Ltd and IRCON granted Navratna status**
- Ircan International Limited (IRCON) and RITES Ltd both Central Public Sector Enterprise have been announced as 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Navratna respectively among CPSEs.
- The Ministry of Finance conferred 'Navratna' status on RITES and IRCON.
- Entering its 50<sup>th</sup> year of incorporation, RITES Ltd is a leading transport infrastructure consultancy and engineering firm in India.
- It provides services in the diverse sectors of transportation, railways, export of rolling stock, highways, airports, metros, urban engineering & sustainability, ports & water ways, and energy management.
- The company has posted a consolidated annual turnover of Rs.10,750 crore and Profit after Tax of Rs.765 crore in the Financial Year 2022-23.
- The companies should benefit in enhancing the market credibility and in undertaking larger size PPP projects.

### ❖ **Army establishes first-ever BSNL BTS on Siachen Glacier**

- The Indian Army has established the world's first mobile tower and base transceiver station (BTS) on the Siachen Glacier.
- A base transceiver station is a radio transceiver that connects mobile devices to a cellular network.
- It sends and receives radio signals to mobile devices and converts them to digital signals that are then routed to other devices in the network or to the Internet.
- It is the highest battlefield on Earth, with the help of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).
- Aim: To provide mobile communication services to soldiers at an altitude of over 15,500 feet.
- A base transceiver station is a radio transceiver that connects mobile devices to a cellular network.

### ❖ **Odisha CM launches LAccMI scheme to link Malkangiri villages**

- Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the Location Accessible Multimodal Initiative (LAccMI) scheme from Malkangiri to connect panchayat and block headquarters with district headquarters by bus.
- Addressing a massive gathering at the stadium here while launching the scheme.
- The chief minister said he had launched schemes like rice at Rs 1 per kg and Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) from Malkangiri.
- **Aim:** To enhance health insurance for women to Rs 10 lakh had been received from Malkangiri.
- The scheme will connect children with schools and colleges, farmers with markets and also enable patients to hospitals easily.

- It will also help in the process of women's empowerment.
- More than 1,000 buses will ply across the state under the scheme. bus services have started in all 111 panchayats of the district.

➤ **About Odisha:**

- **Capital:** Bhubaneswar
- **Chief Minister:** Naveen Patnaik
- **Governor:** Ganeshi Lal

❖ **Female Labour Force Participation Rate Jumps to 37.0%**

- According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey Report 2022-23, the Female Labour Force Participation Rate in the country has improved significantly by 4.2 percentage points to 37.0% in 2023.
- It is an outcome of the decisive agenda set by the Government for ensuring women's empowerment through policy initiatives aimed at their long-term socio-economic and political development.
- Government's initiatives have spanned across women's lifecycle including large scale initiatives for girls' education, skill development, entrepreneurship facilitation and safety in the workplace.
- Policies and legislations in these areas have been driving Government's 'women-led development' agenda.

❖ **Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2023 to be held in Ranchi, Jharkhand**

- Chief Minister Hemant Soren conducted a high-level review of the preparations for the Women's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy-2023 to be hosted by Jharkhand (Ranchi) from October 27 to November 5 along with officials of the Jharkhand Ministry.

- Chief Minister of Jharkhand unveiled the mascot for 7th edition of Hockey Women's Asian Championship Trophy 2023 at Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- The mascot, named 'Juhi' is inspired by the popular elephant at Betla National Park.
- The grand organization of Women's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy-2023 is among the priorities of the state government.
- This event will showcase the work being done by the state government towards the development of sports.
- He directed the officials to ensure that there is no flaw of any kind in organizing the Women's Asian Hockey Championship 2023.
- Savita will lead the Indian Women's Hockey Team as Captain.
- ❖ **Bridgestone ties up with Tata Power to install EV charges**
- 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.
- Tata Power will deploy 25/30 KWh capacity DC fast chargers, which are capable of charging a four-wheeler within one hour.
- This rapid charging capability allows for the efficient use of these chargers, with the potential to serve 20-24 vehicles in a single day.

- The chargers will operate 24×7, ensuring round-the-clock availability for EV owners.
- London-based property consultant, Knight Frank, has ranked Mumbai in the 19<sup>th</sup> position, Bengaluru in the 22<sup>nd</sup> position, and New Delhi in the 25<sup>th</sup> position in the Global Prime Residential Index Q2 2023.
- Mumbai is the highest-ranking Indian city in terms of percentage increase on the global index.
- In Q2 2023, Chennai and Kolkata ranked 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively among the Indian cities and globally were at 39<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> ranking on the global index.
- The Turkish capital Ankara leads Knight Frank's Global Residential Cities Index Q2 2023 with the highest growth rate of 105.9 percent, followed by Istanbul at 85.1 percent. Stockholm ranked the lowest in terms of price appreciation (−14.3.0%) on the Global Residential Cities Index.