

Advanced Educational Activities Pvt. Ltd.

CURRENT AFFAIRS CAPSULE (OCTOBER 2023)

INTERNATIONAL

Government shutdown averted, as Joe Biden signs funding before midnight

The threat of a US federal government shutdown suddenly lifted as President Joe Biden signed a temporary funding bill to keep agencies open with little time to spare after Congress rushed to approve the bipartisan deal.

Populist pro-Moscow party wins Slovakia's parliamentary elections.

A populist pro-Moscow party led by former PM Robert Fico has won Slovakia's parliamentary elections, with almost all votes counted.

In Bangladesh death toll from dengue infection raise to 1017

In Bangladesh, the death toll from dengue infection rose to 1017 in this year with 11 more casualties reported in the last 24 hours. Besides, 2,596 new dengue patients were hospitalized during the same period.

U.S., Philippines begin annual drills in disputed South China Sea

The United States and the Philippines launched annual joint naval war games "Samasama" (Tagalog for Together), days after the latest diplomatic row between Manila and Beijing over the disputed South China Sea.

EU set to announce Ukraine accession talks by December
The European Union is preparing to start talks with Ukraine on its future accession to the bloc with a formal announcement anticipated as early as December, 2023.

Ukraine war: US gives 1.1 million rounds of ammunition seized from Iran to Kyiv

The US has sent roughly 1.1 million bullets seized from Iran last year to Ukraine. The US Central Command (Centcom), which oversees operations in the Middle East, says the rounds were confiscated from a ship bound for Yemen in December.

Death toll from strong earthquakes that shook western Afghanistan rises to 2,000

Death toll from strong earthquakes that shook western Afghanistan rises to 2,000. A powerful magnitude-6.3 earthquake followed by strong aftershocks killed dozens of people in western Afghanistan.

EU reverses earlier announcement that it was 'immediately' suspending aid to Palestinians

The European Union has reversed an earlier announcement by an EU commissioner that the bloc was "immediately" suspending aid for Palestinian authorities and instead said it would urgently review such assistance in the wake of the attacks on Israel by Hamas. The EU is the largest donor of aid to the Palestinian territories.

Russia is defeated in its bid to regain a seat on the U.N.'s top human rights body

Russia was defeated in its bid to regain a seat in the U.N.'s premier human rights body Human Rights Council by a significant majority in October 10th's election in the General Assembly, which voted last year to suspend Moscow after its invasion of Ukraine. In the secret ballot vote, Bulgaria got 160 votes, Albania received 123 votes and Russia just 83 votes.

China hosts Belt and Road forum in Beijing October 17-18

China hosted the third Belt and Road Forum in Beijing from Oct. 17 to 18. The conference marks the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) championed by President Xi Jinping, with representatives from many developing countries, notably from Latin America and Africa, have attended.

Israeli President and opposition leader jointly form emergency wartime govt

Israeli President Benjamin Netanyahu and opposition leader Benny Gantz jointly announced the formation of an emergency wartime government. They declared that the unity government would not promote any unrelated policy or laws except those related to the ongoing fighting with terrorist organization, Hamas, in Gaza.

India reiterates call for 'sovereign, independent, viable state of Palestine'

India has reiterated its call for the creation of a sovereign Palestinian state, with the Ministry of External Affairs saying that there was an "obligation" to uphold humanitarian principles.

ADB to provide 338m for vaccine production in Bangladesh

Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed to provide \$338 million to Bangladesh for manufacturing vaccines against various diseases.

Israel orders evacuation of 1.1 million people from northern Gaza, says U.N.

Israel's military directed the evacuation of northern Gaza, a region that is home to 1.1 million people about half of the territory's population within 24 hours, a U.N. spokesman said.

Australian voters reject greater Indigenous rights.

Australians have roundly rejected greater rights for Indigenous citizens, thwarting plans to amend the country's 122-year-old constitution after a divisive and racially tinged referendum campaign.

Armenian president approves parliament's decision to join the International Criminal Court

Armenian President Vahagn Khachaturyan has approved the parliament's decision to join the International Criminal Court in a move that has further strained the country's ties with its old ally Russia.

Conservative parties sweep to power in New Zealand election

New Zealanders resoundingly elected a new conservative government, with incumbent Prime Minister Chris Hipkins conceding his centre left Labour party's six years in power were over. The conservative National Party won 48 seats and right-wing ACT 11 seats, giving them 59 seats in the 122-seat parliament.

Israel declares its northern border with Lebanon a closed military zone

Israeli military declared its northern border with Lebanon a closed military zone as deadly clashes with terror group Hezbollah forces intensified.

UN aid chief says six months of war in Sudan has killed 9,000 people

Six months of war between Sudan's military and a powerful paramilitary group has killed up to 9,000 people and created "one of the worst humanitarian nightmares in recent history," the United Nations humanitarian chief said.

Hong Kong court rules that gay couples get equal housing rights

A Hong Kong court has dismissed a government bid to deny same-sex married couples the right to rent and own public housing saying that it was "discriminatory in nature" and a complete denial of such couples' rights.

Polish Opposition wins parliamentary majority in tight vote

Polish pro-EU opposition parties have won a parliamentary majority in a tight general election, the poll commission said. The nationalist Law and Justice (PiS) party, which has been ruling for the last eight years, emerged first with 35.38% of the vote but is unlikely to form a majority.

UNSC fails to adopt resolution on Israel-Palestine conflict after veto by U.S.

The UN Security Council failed to adopt a Brazil-led draft resolution that would have called for humanitarian pauses in the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict to allow full access for aid to the Gaza strip after the U.S. vetoed the text.

Egypt agrees to open border crossing to allow passage of humanitarian aid into Gaza.

US President Joe Biden has said Egypt has agreed to open a border crossing into Gaza to allow in 20 trucks with humanitarian aid as part of efforts to de-escalate tensions due to the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian terror group Hamas.

Canada withdraws 41 diplomats from India as row over separatist killing grows.

Canada had withdrawn 41 diplomats from India - fallout from a bitter row over the killing of a Sikh separatist on Canadian soil. It planned to revoke diplomatic immunity for all but 21 of Canada's diplomats and their families, forcing Ottawa to pull out the others.

Over 2 million trapped in Gaza as airstrikes continue.

Israeli airstrikes pounded locations across the Gaza Strip early Thursday, including parts of the south that Israel had declared as safe zones, heightening fears among more than 2 million Palestinians trapped in the territory that nowhere was safe.

Brazil President vetoes bill limiting Indigenous land claims

Brazil's President announced that he will partially veto a bill restricting Indigenous groups' claims to ancestral lands, overriding Congress's recent approval of the legislation.

Japan, U.S. and South Korea hold first joint air drills

South Korea, the United States and Japan carried out their first joint aerial drills. The exercise, which involved a U.S. nuclear-weapons-capable B-52 bomber, comes as the three countries beef up their defense cooperation against growing missile and nuclear threats from North Korea.

Pakistan: Special court convicts Former PM Imran Khan in cipher case

A special court in Pakistan convicted former Prime Minister Imran Khan and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi for leaking classified documents in the cipher case. Khan was charged under the Official Secrets Act in a closed-door trial.

Turkiye submits protocol for Sweden's admission into NATO to Parliament for ratification

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has submitted a protocol for Sweden's admission into NATO to Türkiye's parliament for ratification, bringing the Nordic country a step closer to membership in the military alliance.

China announces removal of Defence Minister

China has replaced Defence Minister Gen. Li Shangfu, who has been out of public view for almost two months with little explanation.

India to resume some Visa services in Canada

India will resume visa services in Canada for certain categories. The categories are Entry visa, Business visa, Medical visa, and Conference visa.

Iceland: tens of thousands of women on one-day strike to protest against gender discrimination.

In Iceland, tens of thousands of women went on a one-day strike to protest against gender discrimination. The striking women were also joined by Prime Minister, Katrin Jakobsdóttir.

Japan's Supreme Court strikes down required removal of reproductive organs to officially change gender

Japan's Supreme Court has ruled that a law requiring transgender people to have their reproductive organs removed in order to officially change their gender is unconstitutional.

Slovakia announces halt of military aid to Ukraine

Slovakia's new populist Prime Minister Robert Fico said that his government was stopping military aid to Ukraine, in the first Western reversal of the kind.

Eight former Indian Navy officers get death penalty in Qatar.

Eight former Indian Navy personnel, who had been employed by a company in Doha, were handed the death penalty by a local court in Doha in an alleged case of espionage.

Pakistan sets up deportation centres to hold migrants.

Pakistan is setting up deportation centres for migrants who are in the country illegally, including an estimated 1.7 million Afghans. Anyone found staying in the country without authorization from November 1 will be arrested and sent to one of centres.

U.N. overwhelmingly calls for aid truce between Israel and Hama

The United Nations General Assembly has overwhelmingly called for an immediate humanitarian truce between Israel and Palestinian militants Hamas and demanded aid access to the besieged Gaza Strip and protection of civilians.

Spanish clergy sexually abused over 200,000 children, probe estimates.

Over 200,000 minors are estimated to have been sexually abused in Spain by the Roman Catholic clergy since 1940, according to an independent commission published Friday.

US and South Korean militaries hold joint future combat drills

In Gangwon Province in South Korea, the US and South Korean militaries held joint future combat drill exercises. More than 120 soldiers from both sides participated in the training which involved use of drones, unmanned vehicles and wearable laser sensors.

Kazakhstan: Death toll from fire at coal mine owned by Arcelor Mittal rise to 45

In Kazakhstan, the death toll from a fire at a coal mine owned by Arcelor Mittal has risen to 45. Operator ArcelorMittal Temirtau, the local unit of Luxembourg-based steelmaker ArcelorMittal, said, 206 of 252 people at the Kostenko mine had been removed after what appeared to be a methane blast.

Gaza receives largest aid shipment so far as deaths top 8,000 and Israel widens military offensive

Nearly three dozen trucks entered Gaza in the largest aid convoy since the war between Israel and Hamas began. The Gaza Health Ministry said the death toll among Palestinians passed 8,000, mostly women and minors

Joe Biden signs sweeping order to regulate AI in U.S

U.S. President Joe Biden signed an executive order to enable wide-ranging regulation of artificial intelligence (AI). Mr Biden's order invokes the Defense Production Act, last used to give the U.S. federal government powers to direct production during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Cayman Islands removed from FATF 'grey list'

The Financial Action Task Force ("FATF") announced that the Cayman Islands has been removed from the FATF's increased 'monitoring list' (often referred to as the FATF Grey List).

Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal participates in G7 Trade Ministers Meeting in Osaka, Japan

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on 28th October 2023 participated in G7 Trade Ministers Meeting in Osaka, Japan. During the session, he encouraged Public-Private partnership, investment in critical infrastructure, and the need for innovation.

Bangladesh is building memorial to honour Indian heroes of 1971 war

A memorial to honour the Indian soldiers who sacrificed their lives in the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971 at Ashuganj in Bangladesh is in the advanced stages of completion. It will have the names of around 1,600 Indian soldiers inscribed on it.

NATIONAL

India and Argentina sign social security agreement for professionals

India and Argentina signed a 'Social Security Agreement(SSA)' aimed at safeguarding the legal rights of professionals in each other's domains. This agreement is expected to facilitate risk-free international mobility for professionals from both countries.

Defence Ministry tightens entitlement rules for award of disability compensation for military personnel

The Defence Ministry has issued new entitlement rules (ER) for grant of disability pensions to military personnel, tightening some of the provisions and introducing a new 'impairment relief' (IR) in lieu of the 'disability element' to cover lifestyle diseases such as hypertension and diabetes.

Special Swachhata Campaign 3.0 begins on October 2

A Special Campaign 3.0 began on October 2 with a focus on Swachhata and reducing pendency in government offices with a saturation approach. It will continue till 31st of this month.

PM announces National Turmeric Board & Sammakka Sarakka Tribal University for Telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced National Turmeric Board and Sammakka Sarakka Tribal University for Telangana. The board will extend help to all turmeric farmers on all aspects of Turmeric crop. He also announced 900 crore rupees to the Tribal University.

IAF to induct Astra missiles by end-2023

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has placed two contracts with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for the indigenous Astra Beyond Visual Range (BVR) Air to Air Missile and the first batch is expected to be inducted by the end of 2023.

Govt. to commission impact study of UG, PG scholarships for SCs, OBCs, EBCs, DNTs

The Centre is now looking to commission an impact assessment review of three of its flagship undergraduate and postgraduate scholarship schemes for Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes, Denotified and Nomadic Tribes (DNTs), landless agricultural labourers and traditional artisans, two of which are scholarships for studying abroad.

More than 50 lakh street vendors benefit from micro-credit scheme: Centre

More than 50 lakh street vendors have availed loans worth ₹8,600 crore under a micro-credit scheme PM SVANidhi launched in 2020 to help them tide over the COVID-19 pandemic, the Union government said.

Sikkim flash floods: 14 dead, 102 missing

Fourteen people have died and 102 others, including 22 Army personnel, were missing after the cloudburst over Lhonak Lake in North Sikkim triggered a flash flood in the Teesta river basin. The lake outburst also resulted in the breach of the Chungthang dam.

Cabinet approves tenancy regulations for 3 UTs

The Union Cabinet has approved tenancy regulations for the Union territories of Andaman and Nicobar, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep to provide "a legal framework" for creating an accountable and transparent ecosystem for renting premises.

Centre hikes LPG subsidy for Ujjwala beneficiaries to ₹300 per cylinder

The Union Cabinet has increased the subsidy given on LPG cylinders under the Ujjwala scheme to ₹300 from the current ₹200.

Centre hikes contribution to complete stalled North Koel irrigation project

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved a proposal by the Jal Shakti Ministry to increase its share of funding for the under-construction North Koel Reservoir, an inter-State irrigation project spanning Bihar and Jharkhand. The Centre committed to contribute ₹1,836 crore against the ₹1,378 crore approved in 2017.

IIT-Delhi researchers achieve secure quantum communication for 380 km in standard telecom fiber

IIT-Delhi researchers have achieved an experimental breakthrough on secure quantum communication up to a distance of 380 kilometres in standard telecom fiber with a very low error rate that can be helpful in securing financial transactions and secret codes.

I&B Ministry notifies changes in Cable Television Networks Rules

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry notified amendments in the Cable Television Networks Rules, thereby providing an operational mechanism for the implementation of decriminalised provisions of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act.

Centre bans Shabir Shah's outfit for five years

The Centre has declared the Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party (JKDFP), founded by separatist leader Shabir Ahmad Shah as an "unlawful association" under the anti-terror Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). The ban is effective for five years.

SC to form 7-judge Bench to consider issue relating to Money Bill

The Supreme Court of India will constitute a seven-judge Bench to consider the issue of validity of passage of laws like the Aadhaar Act as Money Bill.

MGNREGS runs out of funds

Six months into the financial year, the flagship rural employment programme, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), has run out of funds and as per the statistics put out by the Ministry on its website is running a deficit of ₹6,146.93 crore.

YouTube, X and Telegram receive notices on child sexual abuse material

YouTube, Telegram and X (formerly Twitter) have been told to proactively filter child sexual abuse material (CSAM) out "on the Indian Internet", the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology said.

Rajasthan government orders conduct of caste survey

Close on the heels of Bihar releasing the caste data, the Congress government in Rajasthan ordered a similar caste-based survey to find out the socio-economic status of different sections of society and formulate targeted welfare schemes for them.

ISRO plans Gaganyaan unmanned flight tests, gears for abort mission

The Indian Space Research Organisation, which is planning to commence unmanned flight tests for the Gaganyaan mission, has started to make preparations for the Flight Test Vehicle Abort Mission-1 (TV-D1).

Navy forms new appraisal mechanism for its officers

The Indian Navy has institutionalized a new 'transformative initiative' of '360 Degree Appraisal Mechanism' for various promotion boards, which it said is aimed to address the shortfall in the present assessments.

UGC to train over 1,000 teachers to teach Indian knowledge systems from degree level

UGC plans to start credit courses on Indian culture and traditions in both UG and PG programmes; training programme covers Vedic texts, philosophy, vocabulary, and research methods. More than 1,000 university teachers across the country are being equipped with a working understanding of Indian traditions, culture and way of life.

IAF Chief unveils new Ensign as the force marks 91st anniversary

Indian Air Force (IAF) Chief Air Chief Marshal (ACM) Vivek Ram Chaudhari has unveiled a new Ensign for the force, as it marked its 91st anniversary, by the inclusion of the Air Force Crest in the top right corner of the Ensign, towards the fly side. This year, the Air Force Day parade was held at Air Force Station Bamrauli in Prayagraj.

Army concludes 70 schemes under EP-4 worth ₹11,000 crore

The Indian Army has completed the fourth tranche of Emergency Procurements (EP) undertaken between September 2022 to September 2023 with over 70 schemes concluded worth nearly ₹11,000 crore.

Students can choose to take Board exams once or twice a year

Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has said that appearing for Class 10 and 12 board exams twice a year will not be mandatory for students. He said the option has been introduced to reduce stress caused by the fear of a single opportunity.

100-km smart fencing along Myanmar border in the pipeline to boost surveillance: Home Ministry

An advanced smart fencing system of 100 km along the Myanmar border is in the pipeline to strengthen the existing surveillance system, the 2022-23 annual report of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) published last week said.

Election Commission announces dates for Assembly polls in 5 States

Assembly elections in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana and Mizoram would be held between November 7 and 30. The counting of votes would take place on December 3 for all the five States, the Election Commission announced.

ICMR to set up study to develop solutions to remedy childhood undernutrition

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is constituting a team to start a multi-centre research study to assess the effects of providing appropriate take home foods in combination with behaviour change intervention to ensure good complementary feeding practice that is nutritionally optimum to meet young children's nutrient needs.

India, Italy sign defence cooperation agreement

India and Italy signed a defence cooperation agreement to promote cooperation in varied defence domains such as "security and defence policy, R&D, education in military field, maritime domain awareness, sharing of defence information and industrial cooperation, including co-development, co-production and setting up of joint ventures".

Centre launches protocol to manage malnutrition in children at Anganwadi

The Centre has launched a standardised national protocol to identify and provide extensive care to malnourished children in the country which includes fresh initiatives like appetite testing and "buddy mother" concept. The 'Protocol for Management of Malnutrition in Children' was launched by Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Irani in New Delhi.

Operation Ajay: First batch of Indians to leave from Israel
India is putting in place a major operation named "Ajay" to evacuate its citizens who wish to return from conflict-hit Israel. Announcing the initiative, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said special chartered flights are being arranged.

Centre to launch 'Mera Yuva Bharat' platform for young leaders

The Centre has announced the setting up of a new government platform for youth development. Named as 'Mera Yuva Bharat' or MY Bharat, the platform is aimed at developing leadership skills among youth to make them social innovators and leaders in the communities.

Assembly polls in Rajasthan rescheduled to November 25
Assembly polls in Rajasthan would now be held on November 25 instead of November 23 as announced earlier, the Election Commission of India (ECI) said.

I&B Minister launches trailer of animated series on Indian freedom struggle

Union Minister Anurag Thakur has launched the trailer of KTB- Bharat Hain Hum, an animated series spread over two seasons featuring stories from the Indian freedom struggle from the 1500s to 1947.

Cabinet approves digital tech pacts with France, Papua New Guinea, Trinidad and Tobago

The Union Cabinet has approved the country's three separate MoU's with Papua New Guinea, France, Trinidad and Tobago in the field of digital technologies.

PM Modi inaugurates 141st IOC Session in Mumbai

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 141st International Olympic Committee, IOC Session in Mumbai. The IOC session serves as a key meeting of the members of the International Olympic Committee. India is hosting the IOC session for the second time and after a gap of about 40 years.

CCI organizes 8th BRICS International Competition Conference in New Delhi

The 8th BRICS International Competition Conference began in New Delhi. The two-day conference organized by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is based on the theme of New Issues in competition law and policy dimensions, Perspectives, and Challenges.

Prasar Bharati OTT likely to become operational early next year

Prasar Bharati has expedited the process for developing an over-the-top (OTT) platform through which it plans to provide a range of services in collaboration with the other prominent players in the industry. The project is expected to materialise early next year.

India and Sri Lanka resume ferry service after forty years

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India and Sri Lanka are embarking on a new chapter in diplomatic and economic relations. He was addressing the launch of ferry services between Nagapattinam, India and Kankesanthurai, Sri Lanka via video message.

Centre seeks inclusion of traditional medicine on WHO's list

The Indian government has sought for Ayurveda and related systems to be included in the 11th revision of the World Health Organisation's International Classification of Diseases (ICD), as the second module of a supplementary chapter on traditional medicine conditions.

Operation Ajay: Two flights bring back 471 Indians from Israel

Two flights from Tel Aviv carrying a total of 471 Indians landed in the national capital on October 15. One flight was operated by Air India and another by SpiceJet. A total of four flights have been operated under Operation Ajay.

Supreme Court refers electoral bonds case to 5-judge Constitution Bench

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud has referred the challenge to the validity of the electoral bonds scheme, which facilitates anonymous donations to political parties, to a Constitution Bench of five judges.

India-UK 2 plus 2 Foreign and Defence Dialogue held in New Delhi

India-UK 2 plus 2 Foreign and Defence Dialogue was held in New Delhi. The two sides discussed possibilities to boost collaboration, particularly in areas of trade and investment, defence, critical and emerging technologies, civil aviation, health, energy, culture and strengthening people connections.

PM Modi inaugurates third edition of Global Maritime India Summit 2023

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the third edition of the Global Maritime India Summit 2023 via video conferencing. The summit was held from 17th till 19th October in Mumbai.

SC rejects woman's plea for termination of 26-week pregnancy

The Chief Justice headed Supreme Court Bench has dismissed a woman's petition seeking permission to terminate her 26-week-long pregnancy.

SC refuses to legalise same sex marriages

The Supreme Court of India had refused to tweak the Special Marriage Act to legalise same-sex marriage. The court also refused to strike down Section 4 of the law to allow a non-heterosexual couple to marry under the law.

PM Calls upon scientists to aim for Indian Space Station by 2035 and sending astronauts to Moon by 2040

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has asked the scientific community to aim for new and ambitious goals including setting up Bharatiya Antariksha Station (Indian Space Station) by 2035 and sending the first Indian to the Moon by 2040.

Modi unveils long term blueprint for blue economy

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has unveiled 'Amrit Kaal Vision 2047', the long-term blueprint for the Indian maritime blue economy while inaugurating Global Maritime India Summit 2023 in Mumbai through videoconference. The blueprint outlines strategic initiatives aimed at enhancing port facilities, promoting sustainable practices, and facilitating international collaboration.

Cabinet approves release of extra instalment of DA, relief for govt staff and pensioners

The Union Cabinet has approved the release of an additional instalment of dearness allowance to central government employees and dearness relief to pensioners. The decision, which will cost a total of ₹12,857 crore per year, will benefit 48.67 lakh central government employees and 67.95 lakh pensioners.

Centre notifies appointment of 17 judges across eight High Courts

The Centre has notified the appointment of 17 judges across eight High Courts and the transfer of 16 judges across several High Courts, including the acting Chief Justice of Manipur.

Ayodhya Ram temple trust gets FCRA licence to receive foreign donations.

The Ayodhya Ram temple trust, known as the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra, has received a license to

accept foreign donations under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA). Foreign donations will only be accepted at one State Bank of India (SBI) branch located at 11 Sansad Marg, New Delhi.

PM Modi launches 511 Pramod Mahajan Grameen Kaushalya Vikas Kendras in Maharashtra

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that India is creating skilled professionals not only for the country but also for the world. He was speaking at the launch of 511 Pramod Mahajan Grameen Kaushalya Vikas Kendras in Maharashtra via video conferencing.

CBI conducts searches at 76 locations across country under Operation Chakra-II

CBI conducted searches at 76 locations across multiple states regarding five separate cases as part of its Operation Chakra-II. The operation is aimed at combating and dismantling infrastructure of organized cyber-enabled financial crimes in India.

PM Modi flags off country's first Namoo Bharat train

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the country's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS), calling the Namoo Bharat train a glimpse of India's promising future. The full 82-km Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor is scheduled to be functional by 2025.

Gujarat's Dhordo village gets UNWTO recognition.

Dhordo, a village located in the Kutch district of Gujarat, has been bestowed with the title 'Best Tourism Village' by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). A total of 26 villages around the globe have earned the accolades this year for "nurturing rural areas and preserving landscapes, cultural diversity, local values, and culinary traditions.

26 crore Ayushman Cards created under AB- PMJAY so far

A total of 26 crore Ayushman Cards have been created under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana (AB- PMJAY) so far. The flagship scheme AB PMJAY provides health cover of five lakh rupees per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to twelve crore beneficiary families.

Indian Navy gets its third stealth destroyer 'IMPHAL'.

The third stealth destroyer of Project 15B Class Guided Missile Destroyer 'IMPHAL' was handed over to the Indian Navy by The Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited in Mumbai.

Govt authorities to pay ₹30 lakh compensation to families of those who die while cleaning sewers: SC

Taking a grim view of incidents of sewer deaths in the country, the Supreme Court of India had said government authorities will have to pay ₹30 lakh as compensation to the kin of those who die while cleaning sewers.

ISRO's human spaceflight Mission Gaganyaan gets off on a successful note.

ISRO successfully tested crew escape system of the country's first human spaceflight mission Gaganyaan. The liquid-propelled single-stage Test Vehicle (TV-D1) lifted off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota carrying a homegrown system that would be crucial for the safety of the Indian astronauts - the Crew Escape System.

WCD Minister Smriti Irani flags off bike expedition "Yashaswini", in New Delhi

Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani flagged off the bike expedition "Yashaswini", in New Delhi. A total of 150 women CRPF officers will converge at the Statue of Unity in Ekta Nagar (Kevadia), Gujarat for the grand finale scheduled to take place on the 31st of October.

PM Modi holds discussion with DG of IAEA to enhance enduring partnership

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a discussion with Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Rafael Mariano Grossi in New Delhi, to enhance enduring partnership between India and IAEA.

Army to start phasing out Cheetah, Chetak helicopters from 2027

The Indian Army will start phasing out the first lot of the vintage Cheetah and Chetak helicopters from 2027 onwards on completion of their Total Technical Life (TTL) while it looks to induct the indigenous Light Utility Helicopters (LUH) in numbers to replace them.

Indian Panorama announces official selection for 54th IFFI, 2023

Indian Panorama, the flagship component of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) has announced the selection of 25 feature films and 20 non-feature films. The selected films will be showcased at the 54th IFFI to be held from 20th to 28th of November in Goa.

Indian Army Launches 'Project Udbhav' to Revive Ancient Statecraft and Military Wisdom

In a significant endeavor, the Indian Army has inaugurated 'Project Udbhav' to rekindle the profound heritage of Indian statecraft and strategic wisdom derived from ancient Indian literature.

Govt plans ₹30,000 cr push to expand crop cover portal

The Union government plans to earmark ₹30,000 crore to expand the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) portal into a comprehensive platform that will extend insurance coverage beyond crops to include assets such as ponds, tractors, livestock, and palm trees.

Joint training exercise of Indian and Malaysian Armies

A joint bilateral training exercise named 'Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023' of Indian and Malaysian Armies has commenced in Meghalaya's Umroi Cantonment to enhance military capability for conduct of multi-domain operations in a sub-conventional scenario.

Centre to roll out DNA, face matching systems at police stations across India.

In an ambitious step towards modernising crime investigation, the Centre is poised to roll out DNA and facial recognition systems in 1,300 police stations nationwide. This move follows the approval of the Criminal Procedure Identification Act (CrPI) by the Parliament in April 2022.

I&B Ministry cancels registration of 477 cable TV operators

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has terminated the registration of 477 Multi System Operators (MSOs), which run multiple cable television systems, for various violations and non-compliance of rules.

Food labels to have QR code to help the visually disabled

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has recommended the inclusion of QR code on food products for accessibility by visually impaired individuals stating that this will ensure access to safe food for all including individuals with special needs such as visually impaired individuals.

Law Commission presents roadmap on 'One Nation, One Election' to Ram Nath Kovind-led panel

The Law Commission has suggested a roadmap, which includes proposed changes to the Constitution for holding simultaneous elections, before a high-level committee headed by former President of India Ram Nath Kovind. The panel has also been officially renamed the High Level Committee (HLC) on One Nation, One Election.

ISRO chairman S. Somanath pens autobiography

ISRO chairman S Somanath's autobiography in Malayalam titled Nilavu Kudicha Simhangaal – loosely translated as 'Lions that drank the moonlight' – promises to be a tale of motivation. The book is slated to hit the shelves in November.

In a first, Army gets vertical wind tunnel to train special forces

To augment the training infrastructure of special forces and combat free-fallers, the Indian Army's Special Forces Training School (SFTS) at Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh, got the Army's first Vertical Wind Tunnel (VWT).

Supreme Court allows surrogacy, strikes down rule banning use of donor gametes

The Supreme Court of India has protected the right of parenthood of a woman, suffering from a rare medical condition, by staying the operation of a law which threatened to wreck her hopes to become a mother through surrogacy.

90% of paint samples tested contain lead above permissible limits in India: Study

Over 90% of 51 paints used to paint houses, which are available in the Indian market, analysed by two research and advocacy groups contain lead concentrations above the Central government's permissible limit of 90 parts per million (ppm).

BANKING & ECONOMY

India & UAE Sign MoU to Boost Investment and Collaboration in Industry & Advanced Technologies

India and the UAE have taken a significant step towards strengthening their partnership in sustainable industrial development and advanced technologies. A MoU was officially inked in Abu Dhabi, solidifying the commitment to collaborative efforts in areas such as supply chain resilience, clean energy technology, healthcare, space, Industry 4.0, and industrial standards.

Oct. 7 deadline to exchange ₹2,000 notes

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 30 September extended the last day to exchange and deposit ₹2,000 notes till October 7, 2023.

Online gaming companies to collect 28% on full bet value.

From October 1, online gaming companies will charge 28% GST on full value of bets, while offshore platforms too would be required to have GST registration to operate in India.

Reliance Jio tests satellite internet service in four districts

Reliance Jio has tested its satellite internet service, JioSpaceFiber, in four of the "remotest" districts in India, the company announced. The tests have happened in Nabarangpur district in Odisha, Gir in Gujarat, Korba in Chhattisgarh, and Jorhat in Assam.

Gross GST revenue growth slowed to 10.2% in Sept.

Growth in India's gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenues slowed to a 27-month low of 10.2% in September, from around 10.8% in the previous two months. However, collections improved 2.3% over August revenues to touch ₹1,62,712 crore.

China's economy stabilises, factory activity returns to expansion

China's factory activity expanded for the first time in six months in September, adding to a run of indicators suggesting the world's second-largest economy has begun to bottom out. The purchasing managers' index (PMI), based on a survey of major manufacturers, rose to 50.2 in September from 49.7.

Indian economy to grow at 6.3% in FY24: World Bank

According to a World Bank report, the Indian economy is projected to grow at 6.3% in the current financial year aided by investment and domestic demand.

Pakistan's inflation rises to 31.4% y/y amid high energy prices

Pakistan's inflation rate rose to 31.4% year-on-year in September from 27.4% in August, statistics bureau data showed, as the nation reels from high fuel and energy prices.

Mumbai tops office space leasing in July-Sept quarter says CBRE

Office space leasing in Mumbai was the highest among all cities in the July-September 2023 quarter and stood at 3.3 million sq. ft., an increase of 50% year-over-year compared with 2.2 million sq. ft. in the same period last year, according to a report by CBRE India.

Homestay marketplace Airbnb contributed \$920 mn to Indian economy in 2022.

Airbnb, a U.S.-based online marketplace for short- and long-term homestays and experience, contributed more than \$920 million to India's Gross Domestic Product and supported in the creation of more than 85,000 jobs in 2022 alone, according to Oxford Economics.

Swiggy lends ₹450 crore to restaurant owners

Swiggy has disbursed ₹450 crore as loans to more than 8,000 restaurant owners under its Capital Assist Program, which was unveiled in 2017 in collaboration with lending outfits such as Indifi, Incred, FT Cash, PayU & IIFL.

NIIF unveils \$600 mn India-Japan Fund

The National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited (NIIF) unveiled a \$600 million (₹4,900 crore) India-Japan Fund. The fund aims to channel investments into India's environmental conservation sectors, encompassing renewable energy, e-mobility, and circular economy areas like waste management and water management.

SEBI sets up working groups to simplify regulations.

SEBI has constituted working groups to recommend simplification of its various regulations. The working groups will also look into the compliance requirements to enhance ease of compliance and reduction in cost of compliance.

Reliance Brands to acquire majority ownership of Superdry IP for Indian territory

Reliance Brands Ltd. (RBL), through its wholly-owned subsidiary in the U.K. (RBUK), has signed a definitive agreement to acquire majority ownership of Superdry IP for the Indian territory from U.K.-based Superdry Plc.

Moratorium under IBC to exempt aircraft and engines, govt. notifies

In a big relief for aircraft lessors, the Centre notified that the protection offered to a corporate debtor from recovery of dues under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 will not cover aircraft, helicopters and engines.

India and UAE Forge Historic Partnership for RuPay Domestic Card Scheme Implementation

NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) has inked a landmark agreement with Al Etihad Payments (AEP), an indirect subsidiary of the Central Bank of UAE. The strategic partnership paves the way for the implementation of the Domestic Card Scheme (DCS) in the UAE, powered by India's highly RuPay card network.

SAT dismisses SEBI's order against Prannoy Roy, Radhika Roy in insider trading case

The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) quashed a SEBI order that barred NDTV founders Prannoy Roy and Radhika Roy from the securities market for two years in an insider trading case.

Nokia opens 6G Lab in Bengaluru

Nokia opened a 6G Lab at its Global R&D centre in Bengaluru. Claimed to be the first of its kind, the lab is

expected to accelerate the development of fundamental technologies and innovative use cases underpinned by 6G technology that will address the future needs of both industry and society.

RBI's MPC keeps policy rate unchanged

RBI has decided unanimously to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 6.50%. Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate remains at 6.25% and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate at 6.75%. Real GDP growth for 2023-24 has been projected at 6.5% with Q2 at 6.5%; Q3 at 6.0%; and Q4 at 5.7%. CPI inflation has been projected at 5.4% for 2023-24.

RBI includes PM Vishwakarma under PIDF scheme

The RBI has decided to include PM Vishwakarma under the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) Scheme and extended the tenure of the scheme PIDF by another two years that is up to December 31, 2025.

RBI to harmonise Internal Ombudsman framework to strengthen customer grievance mechanism

With a view to strengthen customer grievance redressal system, RBI decided to effect certain changes and also consolidate and harmonise the Internal Ombudsman guidelines into a single master direction. This will further strengthen the customer grievance redressal system of the regulated entities.

₹2,000 notes worth ₹3.43 lakh crore have come back: RBI Governor

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said ₹3.43 lakh crore of ₹2,000 denomination notes have come back to the system so far, and reminded the public that they can return the withdrawn notes at 19 RBI offices from October 8.

RBI proposes anonymising ATM details at banks, instead of merchant sites

In its attempts to further secure online transactions, the RBI has proposed to allow banks to directly "tokenise" debit or credit cards. The process, called Card-on-File Tokenisation (CoFT), which anonymises card details has been offered at merchant sites since March 2020.

ADIA arm to invest ₹4,967 crore in Reliance Retail Ventures for 0.59% stake

Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd. (RRVL) has announced that a wholly owned subsidiary of Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) will invest ₹ 4,966.80 crore in RRVL, a subsidiary of Reliance Industries Ltd., valuing RRVL at a pre-money equity value of ₹ 8.381 lakh crore.

IMF, World Bank hold first meetings in Africa in 50 years

The IMF and World Bank gathered in Morocco for their first annual meetings on African soil in 50 years, under pressure to reform to better aid poor nations blighted by debt and climate change.

Centre extends Digital Competition Law panel tenure till October end

The Corporate Affairs Ministry (MCA) has formally extended till the end of October the tenure of the 16-member Committee on Digital Competition Law (CDCL).

Ahead of Bima Vistaar rollout, IRDAI issues guidelines on Bima Vahaks

IRDAI issued guidelines on Bima Vahaks, the women-centric, dedicated distribution channel for enhancing insurance inclusion with a focus on rural areas. A part of a multi-pronged strategy to achieve its 'Insurance for All goal', Bima Vahaks are expected to have a key role in taking Bima Vistaar, or affordable, accessible and comprehensive cover mooted by the regulator, to the target segment.

Federal Bank to stop funding for thermal power projects by 2030

Federal Bank, oldest private sector lender in Kerala, will completely stop funding for thermal power projects by 2030. As a first step towards its de-carbonisation initiative, the bank will halve its exposure to the thermal power sector by 2025.

Net direct tax collections up 21.8% to ₹9.57 lakh crore

India's net direct tax collections grew 21.8% to ₹9.57 lakh crore by October 9, surpassing over half of the Budget estimates for this year, with personal income tax revenues rising 32.5% and corporate taxes increasing 12.4%.

Shiv Bajrang Singh takes charge as Indian Bank ED

Shiv Bajrang Singh has assumed charge as the Executive Director of Indian Bank. Prior to his elevation, Mr. Singh was the Chief General Manager at Bank of India.

Dohare takes charge as ED Central Bank of India

Mahendra Dohare has taken charge as the Executive Director of the Central Bank of India. Before his elevation, he was Chief General Manager of Punjab National Bank.

RBI asks BoB to suspend onboarding customers on 'bob World' mobile app

The RBI has directed Bank of Baroda (BoB) to suspend, with immediate effect, any further onboarding of customers on its 'bob World' mobile application. This action is based on certain material supervisory concerns observed in the manner of onboarding of their customers onto this mobile application.

Sri Lanka confirms major debt deal with China

The Sri Lankan government has confirmed that it has concluded a preliminary deal with China on the restructuring of its debts to Beijing, seen as a big step in the cash-strapped country's economic recovery. China holds about 52% of Sri Lanka's \$46 billion external credit.

Cabinet approves royalty rates for lithium, two other strategic minerals

The Centre has approved royalty rates of 3% each for lithium and niobium and 1% for Rare Earth Elements (REEs). The approval by the Cabinet will enable the Centre to auction lithium, niobium and REE blocks for the first time in the country.

Foreign cos without PAN can open bank accounts in IFSC-Gift City

Non-residents & foreign companies opening bank accounts in IFSC Gift City will not have to furnish PAN and can instead file a declaration. The non-resident or the foreign company opening a bank account at the International Financial Services Centres (IFSC) will have to file a declaration in Form 60 and should not have any tax liabilities in India.

Anant Goenka appointed RPG Group vice chairman

RPG Group has announced the appointment of Anant Goenka to the position of Vice Chairman. In addition to his new role, Mr. Goenka will continue to serve as the Vice Chairman of CEAT and Zensar Technologies.

Kotak Mahindra Bank to focus on SME, mid-market lending

Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. (KMBL) will be focusing more on SME and mid-market segment in the South by adding two-three markets every year to drive wholesale banking group's (WBG) growth, said its President and Head – Wholesale Bank, Paritosh Kashyap.

Industrial growth hit 14-month high of 10.3% in August

India's industrial output surged at a 14-month high pace of 10.3% in August, from a 6% rise in July, aided by favourable base effects from last year when production levels had contracted 0.7% and the best manufacturing performance since this April.

Indian banks assess carbon risk of loan book amid investor, central bank push

India's largest banks have begun to audit their own and borrowers' carbon footprint as they try to mitigate financial risks amid growing pressure from regulators and investors to better align their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) reporting with global norms.

Microsoft's bid for Activision gets UK approval

Microsoft's purchase of video game maker Activision Blizzard won final approval from Britain's competition watchdog, reversing its earlier decision to block the \$69 billion deal and removing a last obstacle for one of the largest tech transactions in history.

IOC gets board nod for ₹1,660-cr. investment in green energy JV with NTPC

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) board approved equity contribution of up to ₹1,660.15 crore by the state-owned refiner, towards 50% stake, in joint venture company IndianOil NTPC Green Energy.

Centre unveils tradeable Green Credit

The Centre has introduced a special programme allowing an individual or entity to earn Green Credit and trade it on a dedicated exchange. Green Credit refers to a unit of an incentive provided for specified activities that deliver a positive impact on the environment.

India's National Green Hydrogen Mission allots ₹1,906 crore across three Ministries

India's National Green Hydrogen Mission has so far allocated over ₹1,906 crore – which includes ₹1506 crore across three Ministries and other supported projects; and ₹400 crore for R&D purposes. Allotments made across Ministries include ₹455 crore to the Ministry of Steel, till 2029-30; around ₹155 crore to the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) till 2025-26, and ₹400 crore to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) also till 2025-26.

CBAM: EU ready to consider India's offer to collect carbon tax but after detailing

The EU is ready to consider India's proposal of domestic collection of the carbon tax that the bloc plans to levy on Indian steel, aluminium and cement shipments under the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) from January 1, 2026.

CBDT simplifies angel taxation norms for DPIIT-recognised start-ups

Recognised Start-ups will not face verification on account of angel taxation in case they are picked up for scrutiny. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has issued an instruction to follow the same. There are 99,380 start-ups recognised by the DPIIT (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trades).

Ircon and RITES attains Navratna Status for Public Sector Enterprises

Ircon International Limited & RITES Ltd under the Ministry of Railways, have been announced as the 15th and 16th Navratna among Central Public Sector Enterprise. Both the companies have been conferred Navratna status by the Ministry of Finance.

Retail inflation drops to 5.02% in September

India's retail inflation eased from 6.83% in August to 5.02% in September. India's retail inflation rate fell below the Reserve Bank of India's upper tolerance level of 6% for the first time in 3 months in September.

WPI remains in negative for 6th consecutive month at 0.26% in September

Wholesale price index (WPI) based inflation remained in negative territory for the sixth consecutive month in September 2023. WPI Inflation saw a negative growth of 0.26 per cent in September 2023. Vegetable price inflation eased to 1.54 per cent in September from 5.62 per cent in August.

HDFC Bank Q2 net rises 51% on merger with parent company

HDFC Bank Ltd's reported second quarter (Q2) standalone net profit grew 50.6% to ₹15,976 crore over the same period last year due to more than 30% growth in Net Interest Income (NII) and on account of the benefits of the \$40 billion merger with its parent HDFC Ltd.

Bank of Maharashtra Q2 PAT jumps 72% to ₹920 crore

Bank of Maharashtra reported second quarter standalone net profit surged 71.90% to ₹920 crore as compared with ₹535 crore in the year-earlier period.

Prime Minister welcomes Google's India manufacturing plans in call with Sundar Pichai

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has virtually interacted with Google and Alphabet CEO Sundar Pichai, where they discussed Google's plan to participate in expanding the electronics manufacturing ecosystem in India.

Qatar signs 27-year gas deal with Britain's Shell

Qatar has agreed to supply British firm Shell with natural gas for 27 years, the Gulf emirate's state-owned energy company announced. Qatar will supply 3.5 million tonnes of gas a year under the deal, QatarEnergy said.

SEBI and RBI are investigating alternate investment funds' attempts to circumvent regulations

Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are investigating a dozen cases of alternate investment funds (AIFs) allegedly being used to circumvent regulations, including "evergreening" of stressed loans.

Bajaj Finance to acquire 26% stake in fintech Pennant Technologies for ₹267.50 crore

Non-bank lender Bajaj Finance is acquiring 26% equity stake in Hyderabad-based fintech solutions provider Pennant Technologies for ₹267.50 crore.

RBI imposes penalty on ICICI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank for violation of norms

The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of ₹12.19 crore on ICICI Bank and ₹3.95 crore on Kotak Mahindra Bank for non-compliance of certain regulatory norms.

India to spend nearly ₹143 lakh crore on infrastructure between FY24 and FY30: CRISIL

India will spend nearly ₹143 lakh crore on infrastructure between fiscals 2024 and 2030, more than twice the ₹67 lakh crore spent in the past seven financial years starting 2017, rating agency CRISIL said.

Coal India push for UG mines; aims for 100 million tons by 2030

Coal India Limited (CIL) is planning to scale up production from its underground (UG) mines to 100 Million Tons (MT) by 2030 through a slew of mass production technologies alongside a revenue sharing model with private entrepreneurs.

Centre raises minimum support prices for Rabi crops

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has increased the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for all Rabi crops for the financial year 2024-25. The highest increase in MSP compared with last year is for lentils (masur) at ₹425 per quintal (new price: ₹6,425 per quintal) followed by rapeseed and mustard at ₹200 per quintal (new MSP: ₹5,650 per quintal).

India's UPI system leading in cross-border payment: U.S. treasury official

India's Unified Payments Interface system (UPI) stands out in advancing bilateral links with other countries, including Singapore and the United Arab Emirates, a U.S. treasury official said.

Domestic hydrogen equipment market to touch \$50 billion by 2030: India Hydrogen Alliance

Industry body India Hydrogen Alliance (IH2A) said it expects the domestic hydrogen equipment manufacturing and services market to reach \$45-50 billion by 2030.

India extends curbs on sugar exports to calm domestic prices.

India extended its restriction sugar exports beyond October, as the world's second-biggest producer tries to bring down domestic prices by increasing supplies ahead of key state elections.

Air India Express gets a new livery

Air India's low-cost arm, Air India Express, has launched a new logo and aircraft livery in orange and turquoise colours. The colours represent enthusiasm, premium sensibility and a digital-first approach, the airline said in a statement.

India's share of global growth to rise to 18% in 5 years: IMF official

India's contribution to global economic growth will rise by 2 percentage points in 5 years, a senior IMF official said. Currently China and India's contribution to global growth is 50%. "Out of this India's is 16% and the rest by China. This 16% contribution from India will grow to 18% in the next five years as India is growing faster," he added.

Google to assemble Pixel phones in India from 2024

Google Inc. set a 2024 target to assemble its Pixel line of smartphones in India, the firm announced at its annual Google for India event.

Dabur's 3 foreign subsidiaries face lawsuits in U.S., Canada

Three foreign subsidiaries of Dabur India are facing multiple lawsuits in the federal and state courts in the U.S. and Canada over allegation that their hair-relaxer products have caused ovarian cancer, uterine cancer and other related health issues.

India secures over 10 lakh crore investments within three days of Maritime Amritkaal Vision 2047

India secured over 10 lakh crore investments within three days of the unveiling of the Maritime Amritkaal Vision 2047. The Global Maritime India Summit, 2023, one of the largest maritime summits in the world anchored 10 lakh. crore rupees of investment during the three-day event, which concluded.

Tata Motors to acquire 27% stake in 'Freight Tiger' for ₹150 crore.

Tata Motors and Freight Commerce Solutions Private Ltd have signed a Securities Subscription Agreement (SSA) and a Shareholders Agreement (SHA) for the acquisition of 26.79% stake in 'Freight Tiger' for a consideration of ₹150 crore.

Nokia to cut up to 14,000 jobs after sales drop a fifth

Finnish telecom gear group Nokia said it would cut up to 14,000 jobs in a new cost reduction effort after third-quarter sales fell by a fifth, taken down by sales of next-generation 5G equipment.

IT hardware licensing put on hold till September 2024

The Centre's licensing requirement for imports of IT hardware such as laptops, PCs and tablets will not come into force until September next year, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) announced.

US budget gap soars to \$1.7 trillion, largest outside COVID era

The United States government posted a \$1.695 trillion budget deficit in fiscal 2023, a 23 percent jump from the prior year as revenues fell and outlays for Social Security, Medicare and record-high interest costs on the federal debt rose.

ICICI Bank Q2 results: Net profit jumps 36% to ₹10,261 cr.
Private sector lender ICICI Bank reported a 36 per cent rise in standalone net profit to ₹10,261 crore for the September 2023 quarter, aided by an improvement in interest income.

Kotak Bank Q2 profit rises 23%

Kotak Mahindra Bank's consolidated net profit for the September quarter increased by 23.56% to ₹4,422.86 crore, helped by core income.

IDBI Bank Q2 net profit jumps 60 pc to ₹1,323 crore

IDBI Bank reported a 60% rise in net profit to ₹1,323 crore for the second quarter ended September 30 on the back of a fall in bad loans.

To curb evasion, EU report calls for 2% global wealth tax on billionaires

Pointing out that tax evasion is enabling billionaires to enjoy effective tax rates equivalent to 0% to 0.5% of their wealth, the European Union Tax Observatory in its 'Global Tax Evasion Report 2024' has called for a global minimum tax on billionaires equal to 2% of their wealth.

Former Barclays banker Ashok Vaswani to head Kotak Mahindra Bank

Ashok Vaswani, a banker with more than three-and-half decades experience in building and scaling up businesses across consumer and corporate banking and payments, will be the next managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of Kotak Mahindra Bank.

RBI Imposes ₹2.5 Crore Fine On L&T Finance For Non Compliance

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 on the company.

HDFC Bank Unveils XpressWay Digital Platform for Swift Loans

HDFC Bank, a leading financial institution, has introduced its cutting-edge digital platform, XpressWay, to streamline and expedite its banking products and services.

NMDC's in-charge CMD gets another extension

NMDC's Director Finance Amitava Mukherjee who has been holding additional charge as the Chairman-cum-Managing Director since March this year will continue to hold the additional responsibility with the Centre issuing another extension.

Cooperative export body NCEL gets ₹7,000 crore orders so far

Cooperation Minister Amit Mr. Shah said the newly established National Cooperative for Exports Ltd. (NCEL) has bagged orders of ₹7,000 crore so far. Mr. Shah, said the cooperative will ensure that benefits of exports reach member farmers of cooperatives and will share with them about 50% of the export profit over and above the minimum support price.

Online gaming companies get ₹1 lakh crore GST show cause notices so far

GST authorities have issued show cause notices worth ₹1 lakh crore to online gaming companies for tax evasion so far, a senior official said. The official, however, said that there is no data yet of foreign gaming companies registering in India since October 1.

Cabinet approves ₹22,303 cr subsidy on P&K fertilisers for Rabi crop season

The Union Cabinet has approved a ₹22,303 crore subsidy on P&K fertilisers for the current Rabi season to ensure farmers continue to get soil nutrients at reasonable rates despite high global prices.

GMR to acquire Malaysian partner's 11% in Hyderabad airport for \$100 mn

GMR Group has decided to acquire the 11% stake of Malaysian partner MAHB Group in GMR Hyderabad International Airport (GHIAL) for \$100 million.

Axis Bank Q2 PAT up 10% to ₹5,864 crore

Axis Bank Ltd. reported second quarter standalone net profit grew 10% to ₹5,864 crore from ₹5,330 crore in the year earlier period due to improvement in asset quality.

RBI asks private banks to have at least 2 whole-time directors

The Reserve Bank of India had asked private banks and wholly owned subsidiaries of foreign banks to ensure at least two Whole Time Directors (WTDs), including the MD & CEO, on their boards to facilitate succession planning.

SEBI orders defreezing of bank, demat accounts, MF folios of Rana Kapoor

SEBI has ordered the defreezing of bank accounts as well as share and mutual fund holdings of Rana Kapoor, former MD and CEO of Yes Bank. Kapoor has been in jail since March 2020 in connection with the DHFL money laundering case.

ECB breaks record streak of rate hikes as economy weakens

Amid the growing concern of recession in Europe, the European Central Bank, announced to keep its key interest rate unchanged at 4%. The recent rate pause broke the ECB's longest streak of interest rate hikes in its 25-year history.

IRDAI forms panel to simplify insurance policy wordings

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has constituted a 12-member committee for simplification of insurance policy wordings.

PNB Q2 net rises over fourfold to ₹1,756 crore

Punjab National Bank reported second-quarter standalone net profit surged more than fourfold to ₹1,756 crore year-on-year on better asset quality and reduction in non-performing assets (NPA).

Indian Bank Q2 net profit jumps 62%

Indian Bank reported a 62% jump in the second-quarter standalone net profit to ₹1,988 crore, driven by an increase in net interest income, other income and improvement in asset quality.

Mamaearth parent Honasa Consumer's ₹1,701-crore IPO to open on Oct. 31

Skin and haircare products brand Mamaearth's parent Honasa Consumer Ltd. has announced a ₹1,701-crore initial public offering (IPO) in the price band of ₹308 to ₹324 per share with a face value of ₹10 each.

City Union Bank Q2 standalone net rises marginally to ₹281 cr.

City Union Bank Ltd. (CUB) reported standalone net profit for the September quarter rose marginally to ₹281 crore from ₹276 crore during the year-earlier on improved recovery and reduced slippages.

IOB posts 25% growth in Q2 net profit to ₹625 crore

Indian Overseas Bank's (IOB) standalone net profit for the quarter ended September rose 25% to ₹625 crore from the year -earlier period due to increase in interest income and improvement in asset quality

Canara Bank Q2 net profit rises 43%, NPAs decline

Canara Bank reported 43% year-on-year jump in its September ended quarter net profit to ₹3,606 crore.

Ola Electric raises ₹3,200 crore to fund EV business

Ola Electric has raised ₹3,200 crore from Temasek-led investors and State Bank of India. The funds raised would be utilised towards expansion of Ola's EV business and setting up India's first lithium-ion cell manufacturing facility at Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu.

Union Bank Q2 PAT soars 90% to ₹3,511 crore

Union Bank of India reported second quarter net profit surged 90% to ₹3,511 crore compared with ₹1,848 crore in the year earlier period.

Ivy Growth announces \$30 million fund for start-ups

Ivy Growth Associates Pvt. Ltd., a micro venture investment firm, has announced plans to introduce a \$30-million venture capitalist fund for revenue-based and traction-based start-up enterprises by FY2024-25.

India on the cusp of 'an epochal leap' in ICT sector, says KPMG report

Three technologies, 5G/6G, Satellite Communication (SatCom) and Semiconductors, collectively will add \$240 billion to the Indian economy in the next five years and add 1.6% to India's GDP by FY28, estimates KPMG in a report.

Centre clears decks for CCI to issue guidelines on Competition law provisions.

The Corporate Affairs Ministry (MCA) has paved the way for the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to issue guidelines on various provisions of the Competition law.

Online gaming industry stakeholders to set up skill gaming institute

Online gaming companies have come together to set up a Skilled Online Games Institute (SOGI). The institute has members of the industry such as All India Gaming Federation (AIGF) and e-Gamers and Players Welfare Association (EPWA) who be the repository of knowledge concerning all aspects of the industry.

Blackstone enters the Indian healthcare services sector in a deal valued at \$1-3-1.5 billion

Blackstone is entering the healthcare space in India with two acquisitions in a deal valued at around \$1.3-1.5 billion. Blackstone said it has acquired a majority stake in CARE Hospitals from Evercare, a platform of TPG RISE funds and CARE Hospitals in turn has signed an agreement to acquire a majority stake in KIMSHEALTH.

PFRDA makes 'penny drop' verification mandatory for NPS fund withdrawal

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has made 'penny drop' verification mandatory for the withdrawal of funds by subscribers of the National Pension System (NPS) for the timely transfer of money.

Arbitration tribunal asks West Bengal Government to pay 766 crore rupees to Tata Motors

An arbitral tribunal has asked West Bengal Industrial Development Corp (WBIDC) to pay Tata Motors 766 crore rupees compensation in connection with losses incurred on its manufacturing site in Singur.

Small Finance Banks AU and Fincare agree to merge

The Board of Directors of AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB) Ltd and Fincare Small Finance Bank (Fincare SFB) Ltd has approved an all-stock merger of AU SFB and Fincare SFB.

SAT quashes SEBI's ban on key roles for ZEE's Goenka

The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) set aside an order of the SEBI barring Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd. CEO Punit Goenka from holding any key managerial position in the media house or any other company over allegations that he and his father Zee founder Subhash Chandra had siphoned off company funds.

State Bank of India ropes in MS Dhoni as brand ambassador

State Bank of India (SBI), the country's largest commercial bank, has announced a partnership with Mahendra Singh Dhoni, naming the cricketer as their official "Brand Ambassador."

Katalin Kariko, Drew Weissman Get Nobel Prize for Medicine

Katalin Kariko and Drew Weissman has won the Nobel Medicine Prize for work on messenger RNA (mRNA) technology that paved the way for groundbreaking Covid-19 vaccines.

Nobel Prize in Physics awarded to Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L'Huillier

The Royal Swedish Academy of Science has announced that the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physics has been awarded to Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L'Huillier for their work in "experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electron dynamics in matter."

Moungi G Bawendi, Louis E Brus, and Alexei Ekimov win Nobel Prize in Chemistry

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the year 2023 has been awarded to three scientists for their discovery and synthesis of quantum dots. These US-based scientists are French-American chemist Moungi G Bawendi, American Louis E Brus, and Russian-born Alexei Ekimov. Quantum dots are tiny nanoparticles whose properties are determined by their size.

Sudha Murty, the first woman to get Global Indian Award

Renowned author, philanthropist and wife of Infosys co-founder N. R. Narayana Murty, Sudha Murty, was conferred with the Global Indian Award by the Canada India Foundation at the biggest Indo-Canadian gala.

Norwegian author Jon Fosse wins Nobel Prize 2023 in Literature

Norwegian author Jon Fosse has been awarded the 2023 Nobel Prize in Literature for his innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable, said the Swedish Academy.

Prof. Dr Joyeeta Gupta receives Spinoza Prize in field of climate change.

Indian-origin professor Dr Joyeeta Gupta has received the Spinoza Prize, the highest distinction in Dutch science for her work in the field of climate change at a ceremony in the Netherlands.

Iranian Narges Mohammadi gets Nobel Peace Prize 2023

Iranian activist Narges Mohammadi has been chosen by the Royal Swedish Academy for the coveted 2023 Nobel Peace Prize for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all.

Claudia Goldin wins Nobel Prize in Economics for work on women's labour market outcomes.

Professor Claudia Goldin of Harvard University has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics 2023 for her comprehensive research on women's contribution to the labour market, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced.

Indian-American teen inventor honoured by Jill Biden for leading community improvement in U.S.

Teenage Indian-American inventor Gitanjali Rao was honoured by U.S. First Lady Jill Biden, along with 14 other young women leaders, for leading a change and shaping a brighter future in their communities across the nation.

Michael Douglas to get Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at IFFI 2023

Hollywood actor and producer Michael Douglas will receive the prestigious Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at the 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

Mahsa Amini awarded EU's Sakharov human rights prize
Mahsa Amini, the 22-year-old Kurdish-Iranian woman whose death in police custody sparked a wave of women's rights protests in Iran, has been awarded the European Union's top human rights prize Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought.

CJI Chandrachud receives Harvard Law School's 'Award for Global Leadership'

Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud 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.

Two Indian American scientists awarded United States highest scientific honour

Two Indian American scientists, Ashok Gadgil and Subra Suresh, were awarded the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, which is the highest honour for technological achievement in the United States.

Lionel Messi Pips Erling Haaland and Kylian Mbappe to Win Ballon d'Or 2023

Lionel Messi won the Ballon d'Or for the eighth time in his career at a star-studded ceremony in Paris. Messi awarded for his performances last season, when he inspired Argentina to glory at the World Cup. Aitana Bonmati has won her first Ballon d'Or Feminin award following World Cup success with Spain.

Union Home Minister's Special Operation Medal" for this year awarded to four Special Operations

The "Union Home Minister's Special Operation Medal" for this year has been awarded for four Special Operations. Several officers and personnel from CRPF, NIA, NCB and different States, and organizations have been selected for the award.

PERSONS IN NEWS (National and International)

Mohamed Muizzu

Mohamed Muizzu has won the Presidential election in Maldives after a second-round run-off against incumbent Ibrahim Mohamed Solih.

Daniel Noboa

Daniel Noboa has become Ecuador's youngest ever President at 35 after winning by a margin of around five points over his rival, the leftist lawyer Luisa González.

Indra Sena Reddy

Telangana BJP leader Indra Sena Reddy Nallu has been appointed as the Governor of Tripura. Mr. Nallu is a BJP leader from Telangana. He is a BJP national executive member and he succeeds Satyadeo Narain Arya as the Tripura Governor.

Sultan Ibrahim

Malaysia has announced that its next and 17th king will be Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar from the southern state of Johor. Sultan Ibrahim was chosen by the country's nine sultans at a session of the Conference of Rulers and will be installed on January 31 next year.

Rajkumar Rao

Actor Rajkumar Rao, whose portrayal of an official tasked with conducting polls in the Naxal-affected areas of Chhattisgarh in the Hindi film "Newton" won accolades, will be inducted as a National Icon by the Election Commission (EC).

Akash Tripathi

MyGov chief executive officer Akash Tripathi, a 1998 batch Indian Administrative (IAS) Officer, will take over as the chief of the India Semiconductor Mission which spearheads the country's \$10-billion chip subsidy scheme.

Kevin McCarthy

In an extraordinary showdown, the US House of Representatives Speaker Kevin McCarthy has been voted out of the job. The 216-to-210 vote marked the first time in history

that the House removed its leader, with eight Republicans voting along with 208 Democrats to remove McCarthy.

Mike Johnson

The Republicans have elected Representative Mike Johnson as House Speaker, elevating a deeply conservative but lesser-known leader to the seat of U.S. power and ending for now the political chaos in their majority.

Samia Suluhu Hassan

Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan has begun a four-day visit to India with an aim to bolster bilateral relations. The presidential visit from Tanzania to India is taking place after a span of more than eight years.

Shanth Kumar

K.N. Shanth Kumar, a seasoned media professional, has been elected as the Chairman of the Press Trust of India's Board of Directors for a one-year term.

Raghu Srinivasan

Lieutenant General Raghu Srinivasan assumed the role of the 28th Director General (DG) of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO).

Sachin Tendulkar

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has named India's cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar as the Global Ambassador for the Men's Cricket World Cup 2023.

Harpal Randhawa

Harpal Randhawa, an Indian billionaire and his son were among the six individuals killed when their private plane crashed near a diamond mine in southwestern Zimbabwe after experiencing a technical fault.

Mukesh Ambani

Mukesh Ambani has raced ahead of Gautam Adani to become the richest Indian on a list of wealthiest people in the country. Reliance Industries wealth grew by a marginal 2% to ₹8.08 lakh crore, as per the 360 ONE Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2023.

Raghubar Das

Former Jharkhand Chief Minister Raghubar Das has been appointed as the Governor of Odisha. Mr. Das, currently a national vice-president of the BJP, was the first non-tribal Chief Minister of Jharkhand from 2014 to 2019.

Louise Glück

Louise Glück, an American poet and essayist has died at 80. She won the 2020 Nobel Prize in Literature. Her other awards include the Pulitzer Prize, National Humanities Medal, National Book Award, National Book Critics Circle Award, and Bollingen Prize.

Dariush Mehrjui

One of Iran's most prominent film-makers, Dariush Mehrjui, was stabbed to death alongside his wife at their home near Tehran. Dariush was the co-founder of Iran's film new wave in the early 1970s that mainly focused on realism.

M.S. Gill

Former Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Manohar Singh Gill, 86, passed away after a brief illness. Mr. Gill served as a Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs as well as Minister for Statistics and Programme Implementation in the Manmohan Singh government. Mr. Gill was also a recipient of Padma Vibhushan, the second highest civilian award.

Martti Ahtisaari

Nobel peace laureate Martti Ahtisaari, who served as Finland's 10th president between 1994 and 2000, died at the age of 86. Ahtisaari was celebrated around the world for brokering peace in conflict zones in Kosovo, Indonesia and Northern Ireland.

Bishan Singh Bedi

Bishan Singh Bedi, one of India's most iconic cricketers, passed away at the age of 77. A left-arm spinner and former captain of the Indian cricket team, he played 67 Tests for India, taking 266 wickets.

Li Keqiang

China's former Premier Li Keqiang died of a heart attack aged 68, just 10 months after retiring from a decade of office during which his star had dimmed. Li was premier and head of China's cabinet under Xi for a decade until stepping down in March.

Prof. Saleemul Huq

Eminent climate change expert Professor Saleemul Huq, director of International Centre for Climate Change and Development, passed away in Dhaka. He was an expert in adaptation to climate change in the most vulnerable developing countries and a lead author of the third, fourth and fifth assessment reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Matthew Perry

Actor Matthew Perry has died after apparently drowning in a hot tub. Perry was best known for his longtime role as Chandler in the internationally successful U.S. television sitcom "Friends" which ran for 10 seasons from 1994 to 2004.

Anant Nath

Anant Nath, editor of 'The Caravan', was elected the president of the Editors Guild of India. Mr. Nath, who was the general secretary, succeeded Seema Mustafa as president.

SPORTS

Sarabjot- Divya secure silver in mixed 10m air rifle team event

The Indian shooting duo of Sarabjot Singh and Divya Subbaraju secured a silver medal in the mixed 10m air rifle pistol team event at the ongoing Asian Games in Hangzhou.

Bopanna-Rutuja pair brings home mixed doubles gold
Rutuja Bhosale raised her game in nick of time while the seasoned Rohan Bopanna stayed solid with his big serves as India came back from a set down to win the tennis mixed doubles gold at the Asian Games.

Asian Games: Indian Table Tennis players picks up historic bronze medal in women's doubles

In Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou, Indian Table Tennis players Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee picked up a historic bronze medal in the women's doubles tournament.

Women's team traps silver as India finishes with its bestever haul

The Indian women's trio of Rajeshwari Kumari (111), Manisha Keer (114) and Preeti Rajak (112) claimed silver with a 337, behind China (357, world record), in trap on the final day of shooting at the Asian Games.

ICC World Cup: New Zealand beats England by 9 wickets at Narendra Modi stadium in Ahmedabad

In Cricket, on the opening day of the ICC world cup, New Zealand beat England by 9 wickets at the Narendra Modi stadium in Motera, Ahmedabad.

Indian women down holder Japan for hockey bronze

The Indian women's hockey team edged past 2018 champion Japan 2-1 and claimed a bronze at the Asian Games.

India concludes historic Asian Games campaign with 107 medals

India has made history at the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, surpassing the 100-medal mark for the first time. The nation has amassed a medal tally of 107 medals including 28 gold, 38 silver, and 41 bronze at Hangzhou.

Formula 1 racing: Verstappen seals third F1 title

RedBull's Max Verstappen sealed a third successive Formula 1 world championship by finishing second behind Oscar Piastri in a chaotic Qatar Grand Prix Sprint. Becoming the 11th driver to reach at least three titles and just the fifth to win a hat-trick of titles in a row.

Niki Poonacha and Divij Sharan win Challenger doubles title

Fourth seeds Niki Poonacha and Divij Sharan defeated the third-seeded Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and John-Patrick Smith 6-4, 3-6, [10-7] in the doubles final of the €118,000 Challenger tennis tournament at Alicante, Spain.

India beat Australia by six wickets in its first match of 13th Men's ODI World Cup

In ICC Men's World Cup Cricket, India beat Australia by 6 wickets in their first game of World Cup 2023 to start their campaign on a winning note at the MA Chidambaram Stadium. Chasing a target of 200 runs set by Australia, India made 201 runs for the loss of four wickets in 41.2 overs.

19th Asian Games concludes in Hangzhou, China

The baton for the next Asian Games has been passed on to Nagoya, Japan for 2026. The closing ceremony of the 19th Asian Games concluded at the Hangzhou Olympics Stadium in China. Hockey player P. R. Sreejesh was the flag bearer for India.

Ayush Shetty wins bronze in BWF World Junior Championships

India's Ayush Shetty secured a bronze medal at the BWF World Junior Championships that concluded at Spokane, USA. He went down to Indonesia's Ali Farhan in the semifinal 18-21, 15-21 to win the bronze medal.

ODI World Cup 2023: Pakistan completes highest run chase in WC history

Pakistan chased down 345 runs in the ODI World Cup 2023 match against Sri Lanka in to break the record for the highest successful run chase in World Cups.

World Athletics nominate Neeraj Chopra for Athlete of the Year award for this year

World Athletics has nominated Neeraj Chopra for the Men's Athlete of the Year award 2023. World Athletics has confirmed a list of 11 nominees, selected by an international panel of athletics experts, comprising representatives from all six continental areas of World Athletics.

Gill named ICC 'Player of the Month' for September

Shubman Gill was named ICC 'Men's Player of the Month' for September after dominating a stretch of ODIs ahead of the World Cup. Sri Lanka's Chamari Athapaththu took the honours for women.

International Olympic Committee approves cricket for 2028 Los Angeles Olympics

Cricket is all set to feature in the 2028 Olympics as the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Executive Board approved the proposal of Los Angeles Games organisers to include the sport in the programme. Apart from cricket, four other sports — baseball-softball, flag football, lacrosse (sixes) and squash — also got the nod of the IOC Executive Board which met here with president Thomas Bach chairing it.

World Cup 2023: India thrash Pakistan by 7 wickets

In the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup, India has thrashed Pakistan by 7 wickets at Ahmedabad. Chasing a paltry score of 192, India achieved it in just 30.3 overs losing only 3 wickets.

CM Hemant Soren unveils Mascot and trophy for Asian Women's Hockey Championship in Ranchi

Chief Minister Hemant Soren unveiled the mascot- Juhu and the trophy of Asian Women's Hockey Championship in Ranchi. Around 13 countries will take part in the international hockey championship beginning from October 27 to November 14 in Ranchi.

ICC Men's Cricket World Cup: Afghanistan defeated defending Champions England

In the ICC Cricket World Cup, Afghanistan pulled off one of the greatest World Cup shocks when they defeated defending champions England by 69 runs at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi.

IOC members urge Thomas Bach to seek third term as president after 2025

Members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) have urged the incumbent president Thomas Bach to stay on in his role after he completes his 12-year term in 2025.

ICC Men's Cricket World Cup: Netherlands beats South Africa by 38 runs

In a major upset in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup, the Netherlands defeated South Africa by 38 runs at Dharamshala in Himachal Pradesh. Chasing the target of 246 runs set by the Netherlands, South Africa were all out for 207 in 42.5 overs.

Sports Ministry approves list of 303 sportspersons for participation in Asian Para Games

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has approved a list of 303 sportspersons across 17 sporting disciplines for participation in the upcoming Asian Para Games in China.

Karthikeyan Murali beats World number One Magnus Carlsen in Qatar Masters

In Qatar Masters, Karthikeyan Murali, became the third Indian player to beat the world's number one player, Magnus Carlsen in classical chess. Karthikeyan Murali is the third Indian after Harikrishna and Viswanathan Anand to have beaten Carlsen.

Unnati Hooda captures women's singles title at Abu Dhabi Masters 2023

Unnati Hooda beat Samiya Imad Farooqui to capture the women's singles title at the Abu Dhabi Masters 2023. She defeated the 20-year-old Samiya Imad Farooqui 21-16, 22-20.

Fourth Asian Para Games officially commenced in Hangzhou, China

The fourth Asian Para Games officially commenced in Hangzhou, China, today. It will go on till October 28. The Indian contingent at the Asian Para Games in Hangzhou, China comprises of 303 sportspersons across 17 sporting disciplines

Gill breaks Amla's record, becomes the fastest to 2000 ODI runs

Opener Shubman Gill bettered Hashim Amla's record to become the fastest batsman to reach 2,000 runs in ODI cricket during the World Cup match against New Zealand. Gill achieved the milestone in 38 innings, two better than South Africa's Amla.

ICC World Cup: Afghanistan beat Pakistan by 8 wickets in Chennai

In the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup, Afghanistan beat Pakistan by 8 wickets at MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. Chasing a target of 283 runs Afghanistan scored 286 runs in 49 overs.

PM to formally inaugurate 37th National Games at Margao in Goa

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 37th National Games in Margao. The National Games are being held in Goa for the first time. More than 10 thousand athletes from across the country will compete in over 43 sports disciplines across 28 venues.

Asian Para Games Hangzhou: India's medal tally reaches all-time high of 94 comprising 24 gold, 27 silver and 43 bronze

In the Asian Para Games at Hangzhou, India's overall medal haul has surged to an impressive 94 comprising of 24 gold, 27 silver and 43 bronze. This remarkable feat supersedes India's previous best of 72 medals, which was recorded in the 2018th edition of Asian Para Games at Indonesia.

ICC Men's Cricket World Cup: Sri Lanka thrashes England by eight wickets

In the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup, Sri Lanka thrashed England by eight wickets at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. Chasing a paltry target of 157 runs set by defending champions England, Sri Lanka secured victory in just 25.4 overs for the loss of two wickets.

South Africa hold off New Zealand to win record fourth Rugby World Cup

South Africa produced a magnificent defensive display to edge 14-man New Zealand 12-11 in a compelling arm-wrestle of a Rugby World Cup final and win the Webb Ellis Cup for a record fourth time.

Mexico City Grand Prix: Max Verstappen wins restarted race after Kevin Magnussen crash

Red Bull's Max Verstappen took a dominant victory in the Mexico City Grand Prix to break his own record for wins in a single Formula 1 season.

India beat England by 100 runs to win their sixth consecutive match in ICC Men's Cricket World Cup

In ICC Men's Cricket World Cup, India crushed England by 100 runs at Ekana Stadium in Lucknow to win their sixth consecutive match. Chasing a victory target of 230 runs, England were bundled out for 129 runs in 34.5 overs.

FIFA bans Luis Rubiales of Spain for 3 years for kiss and misconduct at Women's World Cup final

FIFA banned ousted former Spanish soccer federation president Luis Rubiales from the sport for three years for misconduct at the Women's World Cup final where he forcibly kissed a player on the lips at the trophy ceremony.

World Cup 2023: Afghanistan beat Sri Lanka by 7 wickets in Pune

Afghanistan cruised to a 7-wicket win against Sri Lanka in ODI 30 of the ongoing 2023 World Cup, at the MCA Stadium in Pune. Chasing 242, Afghanistan cruised to 242/3 in 45.2 overs, courtesy of some fine batting.

MISCELLANEOUS

More than 100 dolphins found dead in Brazilian Amazon

More than 100 dolphins have died in the Brazilian Amazon rainforest in the past week as the region grapples with a severe drought, and many more could die soon if water temperatures remain high, experts say.

'Statue of Equality': Tallest statue of Ambedkar outside India unveiled in US

The tallest statue of Dr BR Ambedkar, the principal architect of India's Constitution, outside India was formally inaugurated in a Maryland suburb of the US capital. The 19-foot statue, named Statue of Equality has been made by renowned artist and sculptor Ram Sutar.

India's global mobile download speed better than Japan, Turkiye in Ookla index

India has witnessed significant boost in mobile download speed, making it to the top 50 in the Ookla Speedtest Global Index list. India has now jumped 72 places higher and clinched the 47th spot in the index. Top countries with fastest mobile speed are UAE (210.89 mbps), Qatar (192.71 mbps), Kuwait (153.86 mbps), Norway (134.45 mbps).

U.S. waives 26 federal laws to allow border wall construction in South Texas

The Joe Biden administration announced it waived 26 federal laws in South Texas to allow border wall construction marking the administration's first use of a sweeping executive power employed often during the Trump presidency.

Indonesia launches China-funded high-speed rail, first in Southeast Asia

Indonesia has launched Southeast Asia's first high-speed railway, a delayed multibillion-dollar project backed by China that will cut travel between capital Jakarta and another major city by hours. The Chinese-made bullet is train named "Whoosh".

Global Net freedom on the decline: Freedom House report

According to a new report by Freedom House, a Washington DC-based non-profit, global Internet freedom has declined

for the 13th consecutive year. The environment for human rights online has deteriorated in 29 countries, with only 20 countries registering net gains.

California Governor vetoes bill that would have banned caste discrimination

California governor Gavin Newsom vetoed a bill that would have added caste to the state's anti-discrimination legislation, arguing that existing laws already prohibit discrimination based on various dimensions, including caste.

World's First Gender Balance Framework for the 4th Industrial Revolution debuted in Dubai

The world's inaugural framework for gender balance in the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) took center stage at the 'Gender Balance and 4IR' workshop, held as part of the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting of the Global Future Councils in Dubai.

Largest Hindu temple outside India in the modern era opens in New Jersey

New Jersey is hosting the world's largest modern-era Hindu temple that is constructed outside of India. This temple, known as BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham, is set to become a significant symbol of Hindu culture and architectural excellence in the Western world.

India re-elected AIBD GC president for third successive term

India has been elected president of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) General Conference (GC) for the third successive term. India is one of the founding members of AIBD.

Gates Foundation funding \$40 million effort to help develop mRNA vaccines in Africa in coming years

A \$40 million investment will help several African manufacturers produce new messenger RNA vaccines on the continent where people were last in line to receive jabs during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced.

China witnesses record-low number of births last year

China has witnessed a record-low number of births in 2022. As per the data published by the National Health Commission, the country had just 9.56 million births in 2022. The number of babies born last year was the lowest figure since records began in 1949.

India ranks 111 out of 125 countries in Global Hunger Index

India ranks 111 out of a total of 125 countries in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2023, with its progress against hunger nearly halted since 2015, reflecting a global trend. Afghanistan, Haiti and 12 sub-Saharan countries perform worse than India on the GHI.

Biden awards \$7 billion for 7 hydrogen hubs in climate fight plan

The Biden administration has selected clean-energy projects from Pennsylvania to California for a \$7 billion program to kickstart development and production of hydrogen fuel, a key component of President Joe Biden's agenda to slow climate change.

India slips to 45th position on the Global Pension Index 2023

India slipped to 45th position out of 47 countries on the Global Pension Index 2023 as compared to 41st position out of 44 countries in 2022 and 40th out of 43 countries in 2021. Globally, Netherlands took the top spot, followed by Iceland and Denmark, while Argentina was ranked last, according to the index.

International Day of Older Persons: 1st October

The International Day of Older Persons, observed on October 1st every year, is a global occasion that recognizes the invaluable contributions of senior citizens while shedding light on the unique challenges they face.

International Day of Non-Violence: 2nd October

The International Day of Non-Violence, celebrated on October 2nd each year which marks the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, a towering figure in the Indian independence movement and a pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence.

World Habitat Day 2023: 2nd October

World Habitat Day, observed on the first Monday of October each year, this year World Habitat Day observed on 2nd October. The theme for World Habitat Day 2023, "Resilient Urban Economies: Cities as Drivers of Growth and Recovery".

Nation celebrates 154th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2

The nation paid homage to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi on his 154th birth anniversary on Monday i.e. October 2. The nation is also remembering former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary on October 2.

World Cotton Day: 7th October

World Cotton Day, observed on October 7 each year, emphasizes cotton's importance in generating jobs and supporting economies, especially in less developed countries. The theme for World Cotton Day 2023, 'Making cotton fair and sustainable for all, from farm to fashion'.

Indian Air Force Day: 8th October

Indian Airforce Day 2023 Will be celebrated on 8 October 2023 which was officially established on 8 October, 1932.

World Mental Health Day observed on Octob. 10

World Mental Health Day is observed on October 10, every year to raise awareness and foster positive change about mental health. The theme for this year is "Mental health is a universal human right".

World Students Day: 15th October

World Students Day, observed on October 15 each year, is a day dedicated to commemorating the birth anniversary of the late Indian President, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. The theme for World Students Day 2023 is "FAIL: stands for First Attempt in Learning."

International Day of Rural Women 2023: 15th October

The International Day of Rural Women, celebrated annually on October 15, is a day dedicated to recognizing the vital contributions of rural women worldwide. The theme of International Day of Rural Women 2023 is "Rural Women Cultivating Good For All".

World Development Information Day: 24th October

The World Development Information Day is celebrated on 24th October by the United Nations (UN). This day coincides with the United Nations Day, celebrated to commemorate the day UN began operating in 1945.

World Polio Day: 24th October

World Polio Day is observed on 24th October. Every year this day is remembered to raise awareness against the poliomyelitis disease, commonly known as polio, and the importance of polio vaccination.

United Nations Day: 24th October

United Nations Day, observed on October 24th each year, commemorates the anniversary of the entry into force of the UN Charter in 1945.

UN Disarmament Week Observed on 24-30 October

UN Disarmament Week, celebrated on October 24 to 30, 2023, is an annual event organized by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA).

PM Narendra Modi participates in National Unity Day celebrations at Statue of Unity on October 31

Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the National Unity Day celebrations at Statue of Unity in Ekta Nagar, Gujarat on October 31. Prime Minister paid floral tributes to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at the Statue of Unity on the birth anniversary of the country's first Home Minister.