

International

Antonio Guterres lauds India-China border de-escalation.

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed optimism that “good neighbourly relations” between India and China will be strengthened following their recent agreement on border de-escalation., India’s Foreign Secretary, on October 21, Vikram Misri announced that an agreement had been reached regarding patrolling arrangements along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the India-China border areas.

India’s humanitarian assistance for the people of Palestine.

As humanitarian assistance for the people of Palestine, India dispatched the first tranche comprising 30 tons of medicine and food items On October 22. The assistance has been sent through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine refugees in the Near East.

Continuation of the Quad Cyber Challenge

India, the US, Australia, and Japan have announced the continuation of the Quad Cyber Challenge for strengthening responsible cyber ecosystems, promoting public resources, and raising cybersecurity awareness. Earlier in 2023, Quad had launched a public campaign ‘Quad Cyber Challenge’ to improve cyber security across their nations.

National

Revamped and upgraded version of the eShram portal launched.

An upgraded version of the eShram portal, offering additional features to serve as a ‘One Stop Solution’ for the benefit of unorganised workers, was launched on October 21, to provide seamless access to different Social Security Schemes (12 schemes to start with) to the unorganised workers registered on the eShram portal.

Omar Abdullah takes oath

In Jammu and Kashmir, Pro-tem Speaker, Mubarak Gul, on October 21, administered oath to the newly sworn-in Chief Minister Omar Abdullah along with other newly elected members of the J&K Legislative Assembly.

Mission Basundhara 3.0

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched Mission Basundhara 3.0 in Guwahati to provide land rights to indigenous people. Under the scheme, steps will also be taken to digitize various land-related services and publish maps for the benefit of the people of the state, he also launched the Revenue Department’s Digidoc, a digital directory for non-registrable and optional registrable documents.

14th All India Civil Defence and Home Guards Conference

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the 14th All India Civil Defence and Home Guards conference at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar on October 22. Mr Shah who is on a visit to Gujarat also attended the 60th foundation day of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) in Anand.

Economy/ Business

Creation of Chief General Manager post (CGM), below board level, in five more nationalised banks gets approval

The creation of a Chief General Manager post (CGM), below board level, in five more nationalised banks, received the approval of the Finance Minister. These banks include the Bank of Maharashtra, Central Bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank, Punjab and Sind Bank, and UCO Bank. An increase in the existing number of CGMs in the banks that already have these posts also received approval from the Finance Minister.

Ambuja Cements acquires stake in Orient Cement

Ambuja Cements, an Adani Group company, has acquired a 46.8 per cent stake in Orient Cement for ₹8,100 crore from its promoters. The company will make an open offer to shareholders of Orient Cement to acquire an additional 26 per cent at ₹395 per equity share.

Export tax on parboiled rice scrapped

The Union Government has scrapped the export tax on parboiled rice, as per an official order on October 22, 2024, as inventories across India — the world's biggest exporter of the grain — surged and the country is set to produce a bumper crop after copious monsoon rains.

The mega media assets merger of Reliance Industries and Walt Disney

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) on October 22, 2024, published the 48-page detailed order approving the mega media assets merger of Reliance Industries and Walt Disney, entailing specific conditions, including divestment of seven TV channels.

Paytm receives NPCI approval to onboard new UPI users.

In a move which is expected to come as a relief to Paytm, after restrictions by the RBI earlier this year on PPBL on onboarding new UPI users on the Paytm app, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has approved Paytm to onboard new UPI users, subject to adherence to all procedural guidelines and circulars, according to the company.

IMF retains India's economic growth at 7 per cent.

IMF in its annual publication of 'World Economic Outlook', has retained India's economic growth at 7 per cent during the current fiscal (Fiscal Year 2024-25 or FY25). For the global economy, the outlook has maintained the growth projection at 3.2 per cent for 2024 but lowered the forecast by 10 basis points to 3.2 per cent in 2025.

Sports

Several prominent sports removed from the 2026 Commonwealth Games

To strike a balance between ensuring the event has a multi-sport feel and the need to manage financial and operational risk, the organisers of the 2026 Commonwealth Games, have decided to remove several prominent sports like hockey, badminton, wrestling, cricket, squash and shooting from the event.

The 23rd edition of the Commonwealth Games will take place in Glasgow, Scotland - from the 23rd of July to the 2nd of August in 2026 - across four venues and will include only 10 sports.

Around 3,000 athletes from 74 Commonwealth nations and territories, including India, will participate in the Games.