

(14<sup>th</sup> October 2024)

## International

### Starship Booster Captured in A World First

SpaceX company achieved a significant milestone by catching the massive booster from its Starship rocket in a pair of robotic arms as it fell back to the company's launchpad in southern Texas. The 71-metre Starship rocket is the largest and most powerful spacecraft ever built. The rocket is also designed to be fully and rapidly reusable.

### Withdrawal of UNIFIL Urged

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has urged the United Nations to withdraw its UNIFIL peacekeeping force from southern Lebanon. Mr Netanyahu warned that the UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) forces in southern Lebanon could become hostages of Hezbollah.

## National

### eMigrate V2.0 Web Portal and Mobile App Launched

External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar inaugurated the eMigrate V2.0 web portal and mobile app in New Delhi on October 14. The eMigrate portal, which has 2.81 lakh registered foreign employers, promotes safe and legal mobility channels for Indian migrants. The portal will also provide social security to migrants.

### 149th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla is leading a Parliamentary delegation to the 149th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Geneva to address the assembly on the theme 'Harnessing science, technology and innovation for a more peaceful and

sustainable future.' The assembly will continue till the 17th of this month.

### President's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir Revoked

The Central Government has issued a notification revoking the President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir to facilitate the formation of a new government in the union territory. National Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah has staked the claim to form a new government in J&K. This would be the first elected government in Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370 and 35-A in 2019 and the bifurcation of the erstwhile state into two union territories, Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir.

### India Leadership Summit 2024 Held

The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) held its annual 'India Leadership Summit 2024' in New Delhi on October 14 to enhance bilateral trade, supply chains, semiconductor investment, AI, and next-gen technologies cooperation. The summit also aims to strengthen defence ties, promote clean energy, and secure a free and open Indo-Pacific.

### National Kishore Kumar Award

Film producer, director and screenwriter Rajkumar Hirani received the National Kishore Kumar Award in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh on October 13, on the occasion of the 37th death anniversary of renowned singer and actor Kishore Kumar. Khandwa is the birthplace of Kishore Kumar. The award is given every year to an eminent artist by the Directorate of Culture, Madhya Pradesh Government from 1997.

## Economy/ Business

### The Wholesale Price Inflation at 1.84 Percent

The wholesale price inflation rose to 1.84 percent in September as food items,

especially vegetables, turned costlier, as per the government data released on October 14. The wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation was 1.31 percent in August. It was (-)0.07 percent in September last year.

### **Total Renewable Energy-Based Electricity Generation Capacity Crosses 200GW**

The total renewable energy-based electricity generation capacity (including small and large hydro, biomass and co-generation and waste-to-energy) in India crossed the 200 GW-mark in September, to reach 201,457.91 MW. Solar (90,762 MW) and wind (47,363 MW) accounted for the bulk of it.

### **India Signs the Host Country Agreement (HCA)**

In an important development, India signed the Host Country Agreement (HCA) with the Global Biofuels Alliance to officially establish the Alliance's Secretariat in India. The Global Biofuels Alliance was launched on September 9, 2023, during India's G20 Presidency by the Indian Prime Minister and leaders of eight other countries, including Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Italy, Mauritius, Singapore, the UAE, and the USA.

### **Revised Growth Projection for Global Trade in Goods in 2024**

The World Trade Organisation has revised its growth projection for global trade in

goods in 2024 marginally upwards to 2.7 percent, from the previous estimate of 2.6 percent, but warned that geopolitical tensions and policy uncertainty, largely due to the West Asia crisis, could lower the growth projection.

### **Sports**

#### **Bendigo International Challenge Badminton Tournament Women's Singles Title**

Tanya Hemanth of India beat Tung Ciou-Tong of Taipei in straight games to clinch the women's singles title at the Bendigo International Challenge badminton tournament in Bendigo, Australia on October 13. The second-seeded Tanya beat her opponent Tung, seeded sixth in the tournament, 21-17, 21-17 in the women's singles final. In the men's doubles final, the top-seeded Indian pair of Hariharan Amsakarunan and Ruban Kumar Rethinasabapathi lost to the Taipei duo of Chen Cheng Kuan and Po Li-Wei 17-21, 14-2.

#### **Australia Prevails Over India**

In the Women's T20 Cricket World Cup, Australia beat India by nine runs in a Group-A match at Sharjah Cricket Stadium and sealed their place in the semi-finals. Australia maintained their unbeaten record in the tournament with a fourth consecutive win in the group stage.