

# Daily Current Affairs

## (15<sup>th</sup> September 2024)

### International

#### Indian women's contributions across the UAE honoured.

The Indian Women Dubai Awards 2024 took place in Dubai on Saturday night, honouring the achievements of Indian women who contributed in various fields of excellence across the UAE, the event celebrated empowerment, resilience, and unity showcasing the impact of women who are shaping the community.

More than 30 awards were presented, recognizing women for their achievements in areas such as technology, entrepreneurship, healthcare, and the arts.

### Important Days

#### National Engineers Day: 15th September.

National Engineers Day, observed every year on September 15th, to honour the remarkable contributions of engineers to society.

This day is a tribute to the legendary engineer Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, whose birth anniversary is commemorated through this occasion.

National Engineers Day 2024 will focus on the theme "Innovating for a Sustainable Future".

#### International Day of Democracy: 15th September.

International Day of Democracy is observed annually on 15<sup>th</sup> September to review the state of democracy in the world. Democracy is as much a process as a goal, and only with the full participation of and support by the international community, national governing bodies, civil society and individuals, can the ideal of democracy be made into a reality to be enjoyed by everyone, everywhere.

This year's theme for the International Day of Democracy is focused on the importance of Artificial Intelligence as a tool for good governance.

### National

#### Centre to reduce export duty on onions.

The Central Government has decided to reduce the export duty on onions from 40 per cent to 20 per cent.

Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that this decision will directly benefit farmers and other onion-related sectors and mentioned that with this decision, onion-producing farmers will get better prices for onions, and onion exports will also increase.

#### New section for young filmmakers in IFFI 2024.

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has instituted a new section as part of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2024 for young filmmakers called the "Best Debut Indian Film Section 2024".

The 55th IFFI is slated to be held in Goa from November 20th to 28th.

These selections will highlight the creative vision and unique storytelling approaches of young filmmakers, providing a platform for new talent and showcasing the work of emerging directors.

#### ICMR inks an MoA with industry and academic partners.

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has signed a Memorandum of Agreements with industry and academic partners to advance First-in-Human Phase-one Clinical Trials. The agreement marks a pivotal step towards establishing India's self-sufficiency in clinical development and advancing indigenous pharmaceutical agents.

The partnership also marks a ground-breaking entry into First-in-Human Clinical Trials for four promising molecules.

The MoA will also foster the capacity to develop new drugs from early-phase trials through to marketing, thereby reducing dependency on international resources, and ultimately driving the mission of affordable, high-quality healthcare for all.

## The fourth edition of Global Bio-India 2024.

The fourth edition of Global Bio-India 2024 successfully concluded after showcasing India's biotech prowess. The three-day event was themed on the potential and opportunities in 'Biotech Innovation' and 'Bio-manufacturing' and their impact on the bio-economy.

The event was organised by the Ministry of Science and Technology in New Delhi.

## Business and Economy

### No floor price on the export of Basmati rice.

The Centre, in a significant move, has decided to completely remove the floor price on export of basmati rice to boost its export

A floor price of 1200 dollar per metric ton was introduced in August 2023 as a temporary measure in view of rising prices of rice and the tight supply position in domestic markets. The floor price was later rationalised to 950 dollar per metric ton in October 2023.

### India's forex reserves hit a record high

India's foreign exchange reserves rose by 5.2 billion dollars to a record high of 689.24 billion dollars for the week ending August 30. According to data released by the Reserve Bank of India, Foreign Currency Assets (FCAs) increased by 5.10 billion dollars to 604.1 billion dollars.

In dollar terms, FCAs reflect changes in the value of non-US currencies, such as the euro, pound, and yen, held in the reserves. Gold reserves also saw a boost, rising by 129 million dollars to 61.98 billion dollars. Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) for the week were up by 4 million dollars, reaching 18.47 billion dollars.

## Sports

### Neeraj Chopra finishes second at the Diamond League Final.

Indian javelin throw athlete Neeraj Chopra, finished in the second position in Brussels with a best throw of 87.86 m at the Diamond League.

Paris Olympics bronze medallist Anderson Peters hurled the spear to a distance of 87.87 m to claim the top position.

Julian Weber of Germany, with his best attempt of 85.97 m, finished third.

### Indian Men's Hockey team defeat Pakistan 2-1

India secured a thrilling 2-1 victory over arch-rivals Pakistan in their final league match of the Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament in Moqi, China.

Both teams have secured their places in the semifinals, but India is the only team to remain unbeaten in the six-nation Asian Championship.

### Indian women's chess team win over Switzerland

In the 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad, India's women's chess team secured victory over Switzerland at Budapest, Hungary.

R Vaishali, Divya Deshmukh and Vantika Agarwal scored victories to ensure a 3-1 win over Switzerland, despite a shock defeat for D Harika on the top board.