



**OCTOBER CURRENT AFFAIR 2020
ADDITIONAL NOTES**



IMPORTANT DAY

Date	Day	Theme
October 1	International Day of older persons	“Year of the Nurse and Midwife”
October 20	National Solidarity Day	
October 31	National Unity Day	
October 31	Valmiki Day	

TAMILNADU

- * **The Young Advocates Welfare Fund** has been launched in Tamil Nadu. It provides monthly financial assistance of three thousand rupees each for two years to the lawyers who just come out of law colleges.
- * The state government of Tamil Nadu has launched the **Smart Black Board** scheme in 80,000 government schools of the state. The initiative aims to ensure a better teaching environment as well as lead towards Digital India and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

STATES

* India's First Fully Virtual Home School Inaugurated in Uttarakhand
* Asan Conservation Reserve (ACR) in Uttara Khand Gets Ramsar Site Tag
* PM Modi launched 3 projects in Gujarat
* Kisan Suryodaya Yojna <ul style="list-style-type: none">  The 'Kisan Suryodaya Yojna' is an Agri scheme which aims to provide power supply during daytime from 5 am to 9 pm (16 hours) for irrigation purposes to farmers.  India's biggest cardiac hospital in Ahmedabad World's longest temple ropeway project at Girnar in Junagadh.
* The Union Minister of State for Shipping (I/C), Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the 'Direct Port Entry (DPE) facility' of V.O.Chidambaranar Port Trust in Tamil Nadu.
* The state government of Gujarat has announced a 'Digital Seva Setu' programme to ensure optimum utilisation of technology for public welfare in rural areas
* Meghalaya government has entered into a partnership with Israel to establish a one of a kind Centre of Excellence (CoE) on high-value vegetables in the state to improve and promote the livelihoods of farmers.
* New NIA Branches - Chennai, Ranchi and Imphal
* Delhi Government becomes first to launch Tree Transplantation Policy.
* World's biggest Zinc smelter facility to be set up in Dosawada of Tapi district in Gujarat
* Kerala becomes first Indian state to fix floor price of vegetables
* Nitin Gadkari virtually laid the foundation stone for the first-ever multi-modal logistic park of India, at Jogighopa, in Bongaiga on district of Assam.
* Kerala has become the first state in the country to have high-tech classrooms in all its public schools.
* PM Modi launched the first seaplane service in India between the Statue of Unity near Kevadiya and Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad. He also inaugurated Sardar Patel Zoological Park and Geodesic Aviary Dome in Kevadia, Gujarat.

NATIONAL

- * India has contributed one million dollars to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees in Middle East. This aid will support the Agency's programmes and services, including education, health care, relief and social services.
- * India is the third largest and the fastest-growing aviation market in terms of domestic aviation and Indian carriers are projected to increase their fleet size from 600 to 1200 by 2024.

INTERNATIONAL

- * **World's Largest Foundation Unveiled in Dubai**
 🇦🇪 In a bid to boost its tourism, sector amid tough conditions of COVID-19 pandemic, Dubai unveiled the 'Palm Foundation', the world's largest foundation on October 22, 2020
- * **Harivansh Rai Bachchan**
 🇵🇱 A square in Wroclaw city in **Poland** has been named after great Hindi poet Harivansh Rai Bachchan
- * **Singapore** became the World's First Country to attach Facial verification in the National Identification Database.
- * The Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) on behalf of the Government of India has extended a Line of Credit (LoC) of USD 400 million (about Rs 2,932 crore) to the Maldives.
- * The Amnesty International India has stopped its operations in the country, after the government of India froze the bank accounts of the organisation.

APPOINTMENTS

- * **Indian-origin Wavel Ramkalawan** - elected as the President of Seychelles
 🇵🇰 Ramakalwan is a priest of Indian Origin whose grandfather came from Gopalganj, Bihar.
- * **Alpha Conde** - President of Guinea
- * **Charanjit Singh Attra** - Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of SBI
- * **Dinesh Kumar Hara** - Chairman of SBI
- * **Rajeswara Rao** - Deputy Governor of RBI

SCHEMES

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| * Andhra Pradesh CM launches Jagananna Vidya Kanuka' scheme to distribute school kits. |
| * Uttarakhand Government launches ' Mukhya Mantri Saur Swarojgar Yojana' to generate self-employment for youth & migrants through green energy. |
| * West Bengal government has launched the " Pathashree Abhijan " scheme. It is a road repair scheme. |
| * The Goa Government has tied up with India Post to get 11,000 farmers enrolled in the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sanman Nidhi scheme . This is the first such exercise in India to enrol farmers in the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, whereby the postman will be utilised to benefit farmers. |
| * Chief Minister of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik has inaugurated " Sujal ", 'Drink from Tap Mission' scheme. |

COMMITTEES

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| * Rajiv Gauba Committee - To streamline the spectrum allocation process |
| * Rajiv Kumar Committee - To look into introducing reforms in the urban planning education system. |
| * Ajay Kumar Bhalla committee - To commemorate 400 th anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur |

PACT, CONFERENCE & SUMMITS

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| * India hosts 7th meeting of Ministers of Justice of SCO |
| <p>* 3rd India-US 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue - New Delhi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ India is hosting the third India-US two plus two Ministerial Dialogue at Hyderabad House in New Delhi. ✚ The Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar are leading the Indian delegation. ✚ The United States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of Defence Mark Esper are leading the US delegation. The First two plus two dialogue was held in New Delhi in September 2018 and the Second in Washington DC in 2019. |
| * India and Myanmar are working towards the operationalization of the Sittwe port in the Rakhine state of Myanmar. |
| * The 'concession agreement' for the Greenfield airport, estimated cost Rs |

29,560 crores, was linked between the Uttar Pradesh government's agency and the Yamuna International Airport Private Limited (YIAPL), a special purpose vehicle floated by the Zurich Airport for the project.

- * The Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K) and the Archaeological Survey of India have signed an agreement with two institutions from Italy, seeking restoration and protection of historical monuments.

AWARDS

Nobel Prizes - 2020

* **Medicine or Physiology**

- + American scientists duo **Harvey J. Alter** and **Charles M. Rice** and British scientist **Michael Houghton** for their discovery of the hepatitis C Virus, a major cause of liver disease.

* **Physics**

- + British physicist **Roger Penrose**, **Andrea Ghez** of the USA and **Reinhard Genzel** of Germany for their black hole discoveries.
- + Reinhard Genzel and Andrea Ghez shared the second half of the Physics Nobel for the discovery of supermassive compact object at the centre of galaxy.
- + Ms. Andrea Ghez is just the fourth woman to get Nobel Prize for Physics since 1901 when the first Nobel Prizes were presented.

* **Chemistry**

- + **Emmanuelle Charpentier** of France and **Jennifer Doudna** of the USA for developing the gene-editing technique better known as CRISPR-Cas 9 tool; contributing to new cancer therapies and giving new directions in treatment of hereditary diseases.
- + Charpentier and Doudna are just the sixth and the seventh women to get the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in its history.
- + It is also the first time that a Nobel science prize has gone to an entirely women-team.

* **Literature**

- + American Poet **Louise Gluck** "for her unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal." Ms. Gluck, a professor of English at Yale University is known for themes of childhood and family life.

- + Louise Gluck is the 16th woman to get the Nobel in literature. She is also the fourth woman to win the Nobel literature Prize in the past decade after Olga Tokarczuk, Svetlana Alexievich and Alice Munro.
- + She was honoured with the Pulitzer Prize in 1993 for her collection 'The Wild Iris' and the National Book Award for her collection 'Faithful and Virtuous Night' in 2014.

* **Peace**

- + The Rome-based United Nations' World Food Programme (WFP) for its efforts to combat hunger around the world and improve conditions for peace in areas affected by conflict. The WFP helps about 97 million people in about 88 countries each year.

* **Economics**

- + American economists duo **Paul Milgrom** and **Robert Wilson**, both based at Stanford University, USA originally known as the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences for work on commercial auctions, including for goods and services difficult to sell in traditional ways such as radio frequencies.
- + Nobel Prize in Economics is originally called 'Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences'. It was not part of original Nobel awards given in the fields of Chemistry, Physics, Physiology or Medicine, Peace and Literature as per the will of Alfred Nobel in 1895. The honour in economics was instituted in 1968 by Sveriges Riksbank, Sweden's Central Bank in memory of Alfred Nobel.
- + The Nobel Prizes will be presented on December 10, 2020 on the occasion of the death anniversary of Alfred Nobel in Stockholm. Only Nobel Peace Prize is given in Oslo, the capital of Norway.
- + The Nobel Prize in each category prize money worth 10 million Swedish Kronor (about 1.1 US dollars).

* **Gold Stevie Award - Seema Gupta**

* **Seoul Peace Prize - IOC President Thomas Bach**

* **UN Global Climate Action Awards, 2020**

- + 'Global Himalayan Expedition' (GHE) in Financing for Climate Friendly Investment Category.

* **PATA Grand Award 2020 in Marketing - Kerala Tourism**

* **Sarala Puraskar 2020 - Nityananda Nayak - Odia Poet**

* **2020 Wildlife Photographer of the year award - Aishwarya Sridhar - First Indian Woman to win this award**

* **Lifetime Achievement Award at India International Film Festival of**

Boston - Om Puri (Posthumously)
* ISA Solar Awards (Visvesvaraya award) - Japan - for the Asia Pacific region and the Netherlands for Europe and others region
* ISA Solar Awards (Kalpana Chawla awards) - Dr. Bhim Singh from IIT Delhi (India) and Dr. Aasha Alnuaimi from Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (United Arab Emirates).
* ISA Solar Awards (Diwakar award) - Arpan Institute (Haryana) and Arushi Society.
* The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) has presented the lifetime achievement award to business icon Ratan Tata.
* Mario Jose Molina, the only Mexican scientist to receive the Nobel Prize,.
* UK-based Indian-origin plastic surgeon, Dr Jajini Varghese has been named an 'Outstanding Young Person of the World 2020'.
* Allan D. Emil Memorial award - ISRO Chairman Sivan

RANKINGS, INDEX

* Migrants to OECD countries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Uttar Pradesh has emerged as the top destination for attracting the highest number of domestic tourists visiting the state in 2019 as per the Indian Tourism Statistics (ITS), 2020, released by the Ministry of Tourism. Tamil Nadu (21.3%) came second followed by Andhra Pradesh (10.2%). ✚ Tamil Top destination for attracting foreign travellers. Maharashtra (over 55 lakh) is at second position in this list while Uttar Pradesh (over 47 lakh) has secured the third position in attracting foreign tourists visiting in 2019
* Forbes India Rich List - Mukesh Ambani - 2nd - Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani, and 3rd-Tech tycoon Shiv Nadar
* Forbes' list of World's Best Employer 2020 - Samsung - HCL Tops among Indian list
* Top performing district for implementing the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) - Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh - By Union Ministry of Rural Development
* Oxfam's Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index 2020 - Norway - India-129; Last - South Sudan (158)
* Most powerful country influencing Asia-Pacific: Asia Power Index - US - India - 4th
* OECD International Migration Outlook report - largest source of - China

- India - 2nd

- * **National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC)** has featured on the top on the list of Indian PSUs under the 'World's Best Employer 2020', published by Forbes.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

BOOKS	AUTHORS
A song of India	Ruskin Bond
Karmayoddha Granth (Biography of Modi)	Vivek
Shuttling to the Top: The Story of PV Sindhu	Krishnaswami
Shivaji in South Block: The Unwritten History of a Proud people	Girish Kuber
10 Indian Champions who are fighting to save the Planet	Bijal Vachharajan and Radha Rangarajan
'Deh Vechwa Karani'	Dr Balasaheb Vikhe Patil
'Portraits of Power'	NK Singh
A Road Well Travelled	RK Raghavan
How to Avoid Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need	Bill Gates

APPS/PORTALS

- * **Telangana CM Chandrasekhar Rao launches 'Dharani' Portal for land & property registrations.**
- * **'Secure Application for the Internet' (SAI) - Indian Army**
- * Assam has launched a portal "**Kritagyata**", an online pension submission and tracking system.

OBITUARY

- * **Guitar Legend - Eddie Van Halen**
- * **Bhanu Athaiya, India's First Oscar Winner**
 - ✚ Costume designer Bhanu Athaiya, who became the first India to win an Oscar
 - ✚ Athaiya won the Academy Award in the Best Costume Design

category at the 1983 Oscars for her work in Richard Attenborough's Gandhi. She also won a BAFTA Award for Best Costume Design for the film. Athaiya is also a two-time National Award winner for costume designing in Lekin (1991) and Lagaan (2011).

✚ In 2012, Athaiya returned her Oscar to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for safe keeping.

* **Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri : Malayalam Poet, Jnanpith Award Winner**

* **Charlie Moore - Athlete**

* **Prof Pushpa Bhave, also known as the Iron Lady of Mumbai**

* **Vilas Paswan** He was also the president of the Lok Jan Shakti Party, Eight-time Lok Sabha member and current Rajya Sabha MP.

* The "Nightingale of Gujarat", **Kaumudi Munshi**

* Renowned Kuchipudi dancer **Shobha Naidu**

SPORTS

* Australian woman cricketer and wicketkeeper, **Alyssa Healy** broke the record of "Most Dismissal by Wicket Keeper" by MS Dhoni's who made 91 dismissals in 98 T20 Internationals (T20Is) for India.

* India's 16-year-old Visnu Shivaraj Pandian has won the 10m air rifle event at the fifth edition of the International Online Shooting Championship.

* Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) has won the 2020 Eifel Grand Prix, held at the Nurburgring in Nurburg, Germany.

* Nozomi Okuhara of Japan clinched the Denmark Open 2020