



**CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER 1-15, 2023**

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## Foot Prints

(Compilation of Current Events)

 <b>TAMIL NADU</b>	 <b>STATES</b>	 <b>NATIONAL</b>	 <b>INDIA &amp; THE WORLD</b>	 <b>INTERNATIONAL</b>
 <b>SCHEMES</b>	 <b>DEFENCE</b>	 <b>SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY</b>	 <b>EVS</b>	 <b>ECONOMY</b>
 <b>COURT VERDICTS</b>	 <b>CONFERENCES &amp; SUMMITS</b>	 <b>AWARDS</b>	 <b>PERSONALITIES</b>	 <b>BOOKS &amp; AUTHORS</b>
 <b>SPORTS</b>	 <b>RANKS &amp; REPORTS</b>	 <b>DAYS</b>	 <b>OBITUARY</b>	 <b>NEWS OF THE MONTH</b>
 <b>KNOWLEDGE</b>	 <b>APPOINTMENTS</b>	 <b>COMMITTEES</b>	 <b>APPS / PORTALS</b>	 <b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>

<b>Sl.No</b>	<b>TOPICS</b>	<b>Pg.No</b>
1	Tamil Nadu	3
2	State	6
3	National	9
4	International	10
5	Schemes	13
6	India and Other countries	16
7	Conferences & Summits	18
8	Defence	21
9	Economy	24
10	Awards	25
11	Science, Technology & Environment	31
12	Sports	33
13	Ranking	41
14	Important Days	42

# TAMIL NADU

## ➤ Tamil Nadu Government Honours 9 ISRO Scientists

- ✓ In a heartwarming gesture, the Tamil Nadu government recently felicitated nine eminent scientists from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and announced a generous award of 2.25 crore.
- ISRO Chairman K Sivan, Chandrayaan-1 and 2
- Project Director, Mylswamy Annadurai
- Director of Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre- ISRO V Narayanan
- Director of Satish Dhawan Space Centre, A Rajarajan
- Distinguished ISRO Scientist, M Sankaran
- Chandrayaan-3 Project Director, P Veeramuthuvel
- ISRO's M Vanitha
- ISRO's Nigar Shaji
- ISRO-Propulsion Complex Director, J Asir Packiaraj



- ✓ This noble recognition is a testament to the tireless efforts and groundbreaking achievements of these scientists in the field of space research.
  - ✓ Chief Minister announced cash awards of Rs.25 lakh for each of the scientists and unveiled plans for a scholarship program to encourage scientific innovation among postgraduate engineering students.
  - ✓ Chief Minister highlighted the remarkable journey of these scientists, noting that six of the nine had their education in government schools in Tamil Nadu.
- **Thoothukudi's' Udangudi Panangkarupatti gets GI tag**
- ✓ The Intellectual Property of India (IPI) on Tuesday conferred a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for the famous 'Udangudi Panangkarupatti', a product widely

associated with the Tirunelveli District Palmyrah Products Cooperative Federation Limited.



- ✓ The Geographical Indications Registry recognised the uniqueness of the delicacy known since time immemorial, for its sucrose concentration, sap collection method, traditional method of preparation, and packaging methods.
- ✓ Besides Udangudi Panangkarupatti, Thoothukudi is home to two other products that have been conferred with the GI tag, including Kovilpatti Kadalaimittai, and Authoor Vetrillai.

➤ **Passenger Ferry Service between T.N. and Sri Lanka**

- ✓ The much awaited resumption of the high-speed passenger ferry service between Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu and Kankesanthurai in Sri Lanka's Northern Province will begin on October 10 after a gap of nearly four decades.



- ✓ Official sources said the High-Speed Craft (HSC) Cheriyanani, owned by the Shipping Corporation of India (SCI), and a 14member crew arrived at Nagapattinam on Saturday.
- **Protected Agricultural Zone - Mayiladuthurai**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Assembly on Wednesday adopted a Bill to make the newly formed Mayiladuthurai district a protected agricultural zone.



- ✓ The government had enacted the Tamil Nadu Protected Agricultural Zone Development Act, 2020, to convert Thanjavur, Nagapattinam and Tiruvarur districts and a few blocks of Pudukottai and Cuddalore districts into a protected agricultural zone.

➤ **Project Nilgiri Tahr**

- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Thursday launched 'Project Nilgiri Tahr' to promote the conservation of Tamil Nadu's State animal.
- ✓ He also distributed books to school students to create awareness about the Nilgiri Tahr.



- ✓ The project, with an outlay of 25 crore, aims to facilitate a better understanding of the Nilgiri Tahr population, their distribution and ecology.
- ✓ Reintroducing the animals to their historic habitats, addressing proximate threats to them, increasing public awareness on the species, and developing ecotourism at select sites are among the other aims.

# STATE

## ➤ All India Police Science Congress

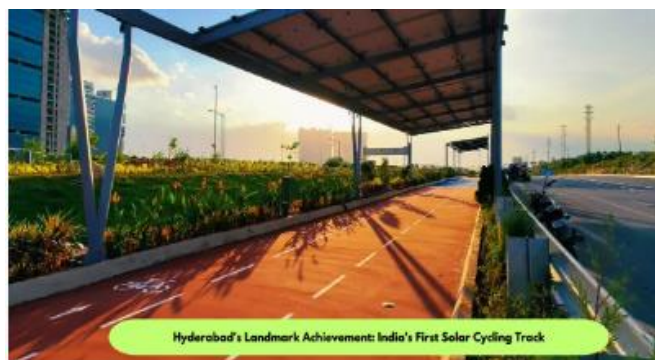
- ✓ The 49th All India Police Science Congress (AIPSC) organized by the Uttarakhand Police commenced today, October 7th at the Forest Research Institute in Dehradun.



- ✓ With the theme of “Policing in Amrit Kaal,” this annual event, held under the auspices of the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), promises to be a platform for insightful discussions on various aspects of modern policing.
- ✓ The 49th AIPSC selected six compelling themes for discussion, each addressing vital challenges and developments in contemporary policing.
- ✓ The 49th AIPSC is embracing technology for its management, showcasing its forward-thinking approach.

## ➤ Hyderabad’s Landmark Achievement: India’s First Solar Cycling Track

- ✓ Hyderabad, India, proudly inaugurated its first solar roof cycling track, Healthway in a stride towards promoting eco-friendly and active mobility.



- ✓ Healthway aims to encourage cycling as a means of transportation while incorporating sustainability and technological innovation.

- ✓ The 23-kilometer-long Healthway cycling track comprises two distinct stretches: a pink line spanning 8.5 kilometers from Nanakramguda to the Telangana State Police Academy and a blue line stretching 14.5 kilometers from Kollur to Narsingi.
  - ✓ It boasts five different access points, making it convenient for cyclists across the city.
- **UP - Declares Gangetic Dolphin As State Aquatic Animal**
- ✓ **Uttar Pradesh** Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** has made a significant announcement regarding the **Gangetic Dolphin**, designating it as the state's aquatic animal.



- ✓ This move highlights the importance of conserving these unique creatures and preserving the purity of the rivers and ponds they inhabit.
  - ✓ Uttar Pradesh's decision to declare the Gangetic Dolphin as the state aquatic animal and the launch of the "**Meri Ganga Meri Dolphin 2023**" **campaign** demonstrate the government's commitment to wildlife conservation, environmental preservation, and raising awareness about the importance of maintaining the purity of rivers and ponds.
- **India's First Wetland City**
- ✓ The Rajasthan government, in collaboration with the Environment and Forest Department, is making concerted efforts to elevate Udaipur, also known as the 'City of Lakes,' to international prominence by aiming to become India's first wetland city.



- ✓ Udaipur, with its striking natural beauty and ecological significance, is poised to fulfill all the requirements stipulated by the Ramsar Convention. Covering an area of 37 square kilometers, the city is graced by five major lakes – Pichola, Fateh Sagar, Rang Sagar, Swaroop Sagar, and Doodh Talai.
- ✓ The Ramsar Convention, officially known as the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat, is a global treaty designed to protect and sustainably utilize wetlands of international importance.
- **'Juhi' Mascot - Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2023**
- ✓ In a vibrant ceremony at Project Bhawan in Dhurva, Ranchi, Jharkhand, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Hemant Soren, unveiled the mascot for the upcoming Women's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy 2023.



- ✓ 'Juhi,' the mascot, takes inspiration from the beloved elephant at Betla National Park.
- ✓ The event also marked the initiation of the Trophy Tour for the Jharkhand Women's Asian Champions Trophy Ranchi 2023.



# NATIONAL

## ➤ Expedition 'Yashasvini'

- ✓ CRPF launches all-female bikers' expedition 'Yashasvini' from Srinagar.
- ✓ The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) is India's largest paramilitary force with over 3 lakh personnel.



- ✓ The CRPF initiated a cross-country bike rally by its women personnel named 'Yashasvini' to promote women's empowerment and gender equality.
- ✓ The rally was flagged off by the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, on October 4th, 2023.
- ✓ The rally will cover a distance of 2134 kilometers.
- ✓ The rally is a collaborative effort between the CRPF and the Ministry of Women and Child Development, and aims to showcase the achievements and potential of women in various fields.

# INTERNATIONAL

## ➤ Tallest Statue Of B.R. Ambedkar

- ✓ The tallest statue of the 'Architect of the Indian Constitution,' B.R. Ambedkar, known as the 'Statue of Equality,' is set to be unveiled in Maryland on October 14.



- ✓ The memorial symbolizes the enduring ideals of equality and human rights, reflecting the core principles that Dr. B.R. Ambedkar stood for throughout his life.
- ✓ Standing at a towering height of 19 feet, the 'Statue of Equality' is a testament to the enduring impact of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's work.
- ✓ This monumental sculpture is poised to become the largest statue of Babasaheb outside of India.

## ➤ 5th Meeting Of Moscow Format

- ✓ India Participates In The 5th Meeting Of Moscow Format.
- ✓ In a significant diplomatic gathering held in the Russian City of Kazan, representatives from various countries convened for the fifth meeting of the Moscow Format Consultation on Afghanistan.



- ✓ The primary focus of this high-level meeting was to discuss the ongoing situation in Afghanistan, with an emphasis on regional security and the integration of Afghanistan into border regional economic processes.

- ✓ One of the key outcomes of the meeting was a collective call on the Taliban to establish a government system that is “truly inclusive” and represents the interests of all key ethnopolitical groups within the country.

➤ **Operation Al-Aqsa Flood**

- ✓ The Israel-Palestine conflict has escalated dramatically as Hamas, the armed Palestinian group, initiated “Operation Al-Aqsa Flood,” firing over 5,000 rockets into Israel.



- ✓ The situation quickly escalated into a full-scale war, resulting in significant casualties and widespread fear among civilians.
  - ✓ Hamas launched a massive rocket barrage with more than 5,000 rockets targeting Israel.
- **Dakar Declaration on Climate Change 2023**
- ✓ Ministers from the world’s 46 least developed countries (LDCs) recently released the Joint Dakar Declaration on Climate Change 2023.



- ✓ The Dakar 2023 Joint Declaration on Climate Change outlines the expectations and priorities of the least developed countries for the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- ✓ IPCC AR6 conclusions: Ministers highlighted the conclusions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s Sixth Assessment Report Cycle (IPCC AR6) summary report, which shows that global greenhouse gas (GHG)

emissions have continued to increase and global warming is fast approaching 1.5°C.

➤ **Operation Iron Swords**

- ✓ Israel Defense Forces (IDF) on Saturday launched Operation 'Iron Swords' In response to the barrages of rockets launched by Hamas from Gaza at Israel, the IDF is currently striking Hamas targets in Gaza".



- ✓ Operation Iron Swords is Israel's retaliation for a surprise attack by Hamas, a Palestinian Islamist militant organisation, on Israel.
- ✓

# SCHEMES

## ➤ GST Amnesty Scheme 2023

- ✓ The **Goods and Services Tax (GST)** Council, in its **52nd meeting** has announced an **amnesty plan** to streamline the process of appealing against demand orders issued by tax inspectors.



- ✓ Under the existing GST rules, an individual has a **three-month window** from the date of issuance of an assessment order to file an appeal against it. This period can be extended by one additional month.
- ✓ To avail of this extended appeal period, taxpayers will be required to make an increased pre-deposit. Previously set at 10 percent of the tax demand, the pre-deposit has now been raised to **12.5 percent**. This change ensures that taxpayers have a vested interest in their appeals while providing some financial flexibility.
- ✓ This move reflects the Council's commitment to making the GST system more taxpayer-friendly.

## ➤ Establishment Of National Turmeric Board

- ✓ The Union government of India has notified the constitution of the national turmeric board, which will focus on the development and growth of turmeric and turmeric products in the country.



- ✓ The board will help in setting up processing units and aid in its export. The board will lay stress on exports, R&D and develop traditional value-added turmeric products, while also giving importance to quality and food safety as per established standards.
- ✓ India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of turmeric in the world. It enjoys 62 per cent share in the global turmeric market.

### ➤ **Shreshta Scheme**

- ✓ Government Introduces Shreshta Scheme For Quality Education Of Scheduled Caste Students.



- ✓ In a remarkable move towards enhancing education and bolstering the socio-economic advancement of Scheduled Caste (SC) students, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has unveiled the 'Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas' (SHRESHTA).
- ✓ SHRESHTA, designed to provide high-quality education to SC students, aims to create an environment conducive to their holistic development and secure their future prospects.

### ➤ **Samadhan Scheme**

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government on Tuesday announced a new Samadhan scheme with waivers and concessions to pave the way for the settlement of the pending tax dues of about 25,000 crore, of which a majority are under the erstwhile Tamil Nadu Value Added Tax and other legacy tax legislations.



- ✓ The new Samadhan scheme, which was announced by the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin at the State Assembly, seeks to put an end to the pending tax arrears, disputes and appeals between the traders and the State commercial tax department.
- ✓ The latest Samadhan scheme seeks to put an end to the pending tax arrears, disputes and appeals between the traders and the State commercial tax department.



# INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

## ➤ Social Security Agreement

- ✓ India and Argentina on Friday signed an agreement to ensure legal rights of professionals in each other's domain that will assist in risk-free international mobility.



- ✓ The Embassy of India in a statement said that the 'Social Security Agreement' is aimed at ensuring rights of the growing number of Indian nationals employed in various Indian and international concerns in Argentina as well as for Argentine nationals seeking employment in India.
- ✓ The Agreement was signed by Indian ambassador to Argentina Dinesh Bhatia and the Argentina's Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship Santiago Cafiero.

## ➤ India and Saudi Arabia sign MoU in Green Hydrogen & Supply Chain

- ✓ India and Saudi Arabia signed an MoU in Electrical Interconnections, Green/Clean Hydrogen, and Supply Chains.



- ✓ The MoU aims to establish a framework for cooperation between the two countries in these areas.
- ✓ India is taking significant steps to reduce the emission intensity of its GDP by 45% by 2030 and achieve Net Zero by 2070.



➤ **India-Sweden Innovation Day**

- ✓ Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addresses the 10th "India-Sweden Innovation Day" meeting on 9 October 2023.



- ✓ Both countries are commemorating the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations and the fifth anniversary of the Sweden-India Joint Declaration on Innovation Partnership.
  - ✓ The event aims to harness respective areas of expertise to spearhead environmentally sustainable growth.
- **Operation Ajay**
- ✓ India has launched Operation Ajay to facilitate the return from Israel of its citizens who wish to return.



- ✓ India has launched Operation Ajay to facilitate the return from Israel of its citizens who wish to return.
- ✓ External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar announced this operation, emphasizing the government's commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of Indian nationals abroad.
- ✓ Special charter flights and other arrangements are being organized to bring back Indian citizens from Israel.
- ✓ The Indian Embassy in Israel has initiated contact with registered Indian citizens, starting with the first group, for the special flight.

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **'Shramdaan Event' For A 'Garbage-Free India'**
- ✓ On 1st October 2023, the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) took a significant step towards realizing the vision of a "Garbage Free India."



- ✓ Shramdaan' epitomized a united and concerted effort. Participants from the Ministry of MSME, including its diverse range of organizations and field offices scattered across the country, actively participated. This collective engagement amplified the impact of the cleanliness drive.
  - ✓ "Garbage Free India" The focal theme of 'Shramdaan' revolved around the concept of "Garbage Free India." Emphasizing the importance of cleanliness, the event sought to engage citizens in proactive measures for a cleaner and healthier nation.
- **16th Agricultural Science Congress**
  - ✓ The 16th Agricultural Science Congress in Kerala will get underway this afternoon in Kochi. Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairy, will open the four-day celebration.



- ✓ Renowned agricultural economists, scientists, policymakers, farmers, and entrepreneurs will be gathered at the Congress, which will serve as a forum for them to interact and share ideas.
  - ✓ The National Academy of Agricultural Sciences' main goal in hosting the meeting is to foster a scholarly conversation about transforming India's agri-food systems into sustainable businesses so that future generations can profit from it.
- **8th BRICS International Competition Conference**
- ✓ The Competition Commission of India (CCI) is hosting the 8th BRICS International Competition Conference in New Delhi from October 11-13, 2023.



- ✓ The conference will focus on "New Issues in Competition Law and Policy - Dimensions, Perspectives, Challenges".
- ✓ The conference aims to discuss emerging issues and challenges in competition enforcement in BRICS countries.

➤ **9th P20 Summit: New Delhi**

- ✓ Presiding Officers of Parliaments of several G20 member countries have started arriving in New Delhi to take part in the ninth Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20 Summit).



- ✓ Presiding Officers of the Pan African Parliaments will be participating in the P-20 Summit in India for the first time.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Summit on 13th of October.

➤ **6th Annual Technology Conference - Infinity 2023**

- ✓ Rajeev Chandrasekhar delivered a message of hope and opportunity to India's youth at the 6th Annual Technology Conference - Infinity 2023 which was held in Noida.



- ✓ He encouraged young Indians to acquire skills that align with India's future in the technology and startup sectors.
- ✓ He stressed the immense potential for growth and opportunities in the field of startups.

➤ **India, France Defence Ministers Hold Fifth Dialogue**

- ✓ Shri Rajnath Singh, the Indian Defence Minister, concluded his two-nation European tour with a significant meeting in Paris with the French Minister of Armed Forces, Mr. Sebastien Lecornu. The 5th Annual Defence Dialogue between the two ministers was marked by discussions spanning various aspects of defense cooperation.



- ✓ The ministers assessed the current regional security situation, highlighting the importance of strategic cooperation between India and France in the face of evolving global challenges.
- ✓ Discussions extended to potential collaboration in niche domains such as space, cyber, and Artificial Intelligence, reflecting the need to stay at the forefront of technology.

# DEFENCE

## ➤ Swavlamban 2.0

- ✓ The Indian Navy is preparing to host the second edition of the Naval Innovation and Indigenization Seminar, known as Swavlamban, scheduled to take place on October 4th and 5th in the vibrant city of New Delhi.



- ✓ The Indian Navy is set to unveil two remarkable platforms at this event: the Autonomous Weaponized Boat Swarms and the Autonomous Vessel Underwater (AUV).
- ✓ The Indian Navy has entered into a significant agreement with the Sagar Defence Engineering Pvt. Ltd for the development of these autonomous systems. With the implementation of an integrated autonomous system, the foremost objective is to address India's maritime security needs by executing diverse naval and security missions.

## ➤ SAMPRITI-XI

- ✓ India and Bangladesh commenced the 11th edition of annual joint military exercise, SAMPRITI on 03rd October 2023 in Umroi, Meghalaya.



- ✓ The exercise underscores the importance of enhancing interoperability between the two armies, sharing tactical drills, and promoting best practices.

- ✓ SAMPRITI-XI, scheduled for 14 days, will engage approximately 350 personnel from both sides.
- ✓ Centered on the conduct of Sub-Conventional Operations as per Chapter VII of the UN mandate, SAMPRITI-XI will include a Command Post Exercise (CPX) and a Field Training Exercise (FTX), culminating in a Validation Exercise.
- **Annual Joint HADR Exercise 2023 (AJHE-23) - CHAKRAVAT 2023**
- ✓ AJHE, known as CHAKRAVAT, is a significant initiative that has evolved since its inception in 2015 into a multi-agency endeavour that includes the active participation of India's armed forces, paramilitary forces, disaster response organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academic institutions, and international organizations.



- ✓ The Annual Joint HADR Exercise is conducted on a rotational basis by India's three armed services: the Indian Army, Indian Navy (IN), and Indian Air Force (IAF).
- ✓ On October 11, 2023, a Multi-Agency Capability Demonstration will take place. This segment will showcase rescue and relief drills, emphasizing the nuances and important lessons learned in disaster response.
- **First Ever Mobile Tower Installed At Siachen Glacier**
- ✓ The Siachen Glacier, known as the world's highest battlefield, has witnessed a groundbreaking development with the installation of a mobile tower.



- ✓ The Fire and Fury Corps of the Indian Army, in collaboration with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), achieved this remarkable feat, bringing enhanced mobile communication to soldiers deployed at elevations exceeding 15,500 feet.
- ✓ The “Siachen Warriors” in partnership with BSNL erected the first-ever BSNL Base Transceiver Station (BTS) at forward posts in the Siachen Glacier region.



# ECONOMY

- **India's GST Revenue Growth Slows To 10.2% In September**
- ✓ In September 2023, India's Gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenues witnessed a significant slowdown, growing at the slowest pace in 27 months.



- ✓ The growth rate dropped to 10.2% from the previous months' approximately 10.8%. This decline, although notable, was coupled with some intriguing state-wise variations in GST collections.
- ✓ Components of GST included Central GST (CGST) collections of 29,818 crore, State GST (SGST) of 37,657 crore, and Integrated GST (IGST) of 83,623 crore. GST compensation cess inflows were 11,613 crore, which included 881 crore collected on the import of goods.



# AWARDS

- **NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Award 2023**
- ✓ Chandigarh scientist honoured for sound contributions towards making STEM accessible to hearing-impaired students.



- ✓ Dr Alka Rao of the CSIR Institute of Microbial Technology was presented NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Award 2023.
  - ✓ She has been dedicated to fostering inclusive STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education for individuals with disabilities, particularly the hearing impaired community, through comics, games, infographics, and simulations.
- **Nobel Prize 2023 - Medicine or Physiology**
  - ✓ Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman “for their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19”.



- ✓ The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet has today decided to award the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.
  - ✓ The discoveries by the two Nobel Laureates were critical for developing effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19 during the pandemic that began in early 2020.
- **Nobel Prize In Physics 2023**

- ✓ This year Nobel Laureates in Physics 2023, were awarded to Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L’Huillier were recognised “for experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electron dynamics in matter”.



- ✓ Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L’Huillier have demonstrated a way to create extremely short pulses of light that can be used to measure the rapid processes in which electrons move or change energy.
- ✓ The Nobel Prize in Physics is awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden.

➤ **Global Indian Award**

- ✓ Renowned author, philanthropist and the wife of Infosys co-founder N.R. Narayana Murthy, Sudha Murthy, was honored with the prestigious Global Indian Award by the Canada India Foundation (CIF) at a grand Indo-Canadian gala in Toronto.



- ✓ The award, which carries a value of \$50,000, is presented annually to an outstanding Indian personality who has left an indelible mark in their respective field.
- ✓ Sudha Murthy’s exceptional contributions to literature, philanthropy and her dedication to giving back to society made her a fitting recipient for this esteemed award.
- ✓ In a touching and generous gesture, Sudha Murthy donated \$50,000 award money to The Field Institute at the University of Toronto.

➤ **Nobel Peace Prize 2023**

- ✓ The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided to award the Nobel Peace Prize for 2023 to Narges Mohammadi for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all.



- ✓ However, her brave struggle has come with tremendous personal costs. Altogether, the regime has arrested her 13 times, convicted her five times, and sentenced her to a total of 31 years in prison and 154 lashes.
- ✓ The motto adopted by the demonstrators - "Woman - Life - Freedom" - suitably expresses the dedication and work of Narges Mohammadi.

➤ **Spinoza Prize**

- ✓ Dr Joyeeta Gupta has received the Spinoza Prize.
- ✓ Dr Joyeeta Gupta is an Indian-origin professor. She has received this prize for her work in the field of climate change at a ceremony in the Netherlands.



- ✓ Spinoza Prize is the highest distinction in Dutch science. The Dutch Research Council prize is worth 1.5 million euros.
- ✓ Joyeeta Gupta is a Dutch environmental scientist. She is a professor of Environment and Development in the Global South at the University of Amsterdam.

➤ **Bal Sahitya Puraskar**

- ✓ The renowned "Bal Sahitya Puraskar" for 2023 has been awarded by the Sahitya Akademi, India's foremost literary organization, in honor of excellent literary achievements.



- ✓ This time, Dilip Nongmaithem, a renowned novelist in the Manipuri language, has received the accolade for his outstanding work, "Ibemma Amasung Ngabemma."
- ✓ His masterful narrative and major contribution to children's literature are recognized by this prize.

➤ **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.



- ✓ The Nobel Prize in Literature is awarded by the Swedish Academy, Stockholm, Sweden. The Nobel Prize amount for 2023 is set at Swedish kronor (SEK) 11.0 million per full Nobel Prize.
- ✓ Fosse is today one of the most widely performed playwrights in the world and has become increasingly recognized for his prose.

➤ **Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award**

- ✓ Tamil writer Ambai has been selected for the Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award that recognises and salutes sustained and outstanding contribution to writing and literature in India.



- ✓ A feminist writer, who questioned the stereotyping of women, Ambai, born C.S. Lakshmi in Coimbatore, won the Sahitya Akademi award for her short story collection *Sivappu Kazhutthudan Oru Patchaiparavai* in 2021.
- ✓ Her first short story collection *Sirakukal Muriyum* was published in 1976.
- ✓ Ms. Ambai confined herself to writing short stories.

#### ➤ Nobel Economics Prize in 2023

- ✓ The Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences 2023 will be awarded to Claudia Goldin.
- ✓ She has received the award "for having advanced our understanding of women's labour market outcomes".



- ✓ She is only the third woman to win the Nobel economics prize.
- ✓ Understanding women's role in the labour market is important for society.
- ✓ Claudia Goldin's research increased understanding of the underlying factors, which have to be addressed in the future.

#### ➤ Saraswati Samman 2022

- ✓ Tamil writer Sivasankari was honoured with the prestigious 'Saraswati Samman' 2022 for her memoirs, "Surya Vamsam."

- ✓ The award, presented by the K.K. Birla Foundation, was given to her by former Union Minister M. Veerappa Moily, along with a citation, a plaque, and a prize of 15 lakh.



- ✓ Surya Vamsam, a two-volume work, offers a profound glimpse into the life of an innocent child who evolved into an acclaimed author. Additionally, the book beautifully reflects the societal transformations that have occurred over the past seven decades.
- ✓ The Saraswati Samman is one of India's most prestigious literary awards, recognizing outstanding literary works by Indian citizens.
- **Excellence in Film Lifetime Award**
- ✓ Renowned Hollywood actor Michael Douglas is set to receive the prestigious Satyajit Ray Excellence in Film Lifetime Award at the 54th International Film Festival to be held in Goa.

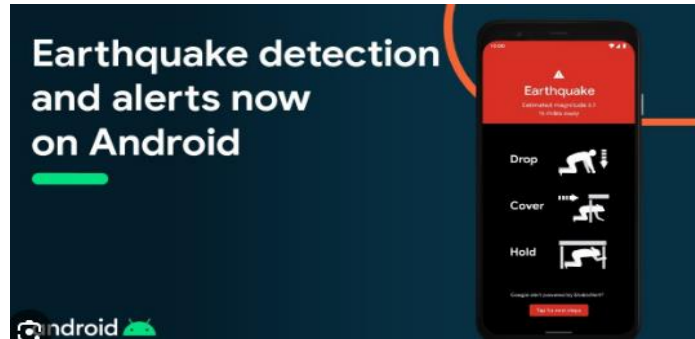


- ✓ Michael Douglas's illustrious career boasts numerous awards and iconic film roles.
- ✓ He has an impressive list of accolades, including two Academy Awards, five Golden Globe Awards, a Primetime Emmy Award, the Cecil B. DeMille Award, and the AFI Life Achievement Award.

# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

## ➤ **Android Earthquake Alerts System in India**

- ✓ Search giant Google in consultation with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the National Seismology Center (NSC) and the Ministry of Earth Sciences has launched its Earthquake Alerts System for Android smartphone users in India.



- ✓ The system utilizes the built-in accelerometers in Android smartphones to detect the initial stages of an earthquake.
- ✓ When multiple smartphones in a specific area detect seismic activity, the system aggregates this information to estimate the earthquake's epicentre and once the seismic event's details are determined, users in the affected area receive alerts on their smartphones.

## ➤ **Bufoides bhupathyi**

- ✓ Bufoides, is rare and endemic genus of toad found in Northeastern part of India. So far only two genus of Bufoides were known - Bufoides meghalayanus and Bufoides kempi.



- ✓ A group of scientists has discovered a new and rare species of toad in the Dampa Tiger Reserve, a forest located in the eastern Indian state of Mizoram.
- ✓ The species will be known as Bufoides bhupathyi, named after known Indian herpetologist Subramanian Bhupathy, who served as the principal scientist at the

Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu) based Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON).





# SPORTS

- **Tawang Marathon and 36th Senior National Tug of War Championship**
- ✓ Tawang, a Town in Arunachal Pradesh To Host 3500 People for Inaugural Marathon and Tug-of-War Events.



- ✓ The Tawang Marathon on Sunday will have more than 2,500 runners taking part while over 1,000 sportsperson, coaches and officials have arrived to take part in the 36th Senior National Tug of War Championship which started on Friday.
- ✓ Tawang is located just about 25 kilometres from the Line of Actual Control with China.
- ✓ The marathon and the tug of war competition are taking place at a hill station located 11,500 feet above sea level at the picturesque town, nestled amid the lofty Himalayas.

- **Asian Games 2023: Avinash Sable Wins Gold In Men's 3000m Steeplechase**
- ✓ The Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou, China, witnessed a historic moment as Avinash Sable, the Indian steeplechase sensation, secured a gold medal in the 3000m steeplechase event.



- ✓ This remarkable achievement not only made Avinash Sable the first Indian man to clinch gold in this event but also marked a breaking of the previous Asian Games record.

- **Asian Games 2023**

- **India Team Wins Archery Mixed Team Compound Gold**



- ✓ Indian players Jyothi Surekha Vennam and Pravin Ojas Deotale won gold in the Compound Archery Mixed Team.

- **Annu Rani Wins Gold In Women's Javelin Throw**



- ✓ India's Annu Rani won the gold medal in the women's javelin throw with a 62.92m throw at the Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou.
- ✓ She became the first Indian woman to win a javelin gold in Asian Games history.

- **Parul Chaudhary Wins 5000m Gold**



- ✓ Parul Chaudhary has become the third Indian track and field athlete to win gold at the 2023 Asian Games, winning the women's 5000m.

### ➤ Indian Team Wins Gold In Men's 4x400m Relay



- ✓ The Indian quartet won gold medal in the men's 4x400m relay at the Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou, China.
- ✓ The team comprising of Amoj Jacob, Muhammed Anas Yahiya, Rajesh Ramesh and Muhammad Ajmal Variyathodi finished with a time of 3:01.58.

### ➤ Neeraj Chopra Wins Gold In Javelin Throw



- ✓ India celebrated a remarkable 1-2 finish in the Men's Javelin Throw competition at the Asian Games 2023, held at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Park Main Stadium in the People's Republic of China.
- ✓ Neeraj Chopra secured the gold medal, while Kishore Kumar Jena clinched the silver, showcasing their exceptional talent on the grand continental stage.

### ➤ Gold In Compound Archery

- ✓ India's archery team continued its exceptional performance at the 19th Asian Games in 2023 by clinching the gold medal in a thrilling final match against Chinese Taipei.



- ✓ The team, consisting of Jyoti Surekha Vennam, Aditi Swami and Parneet Kaur, showcased their incredible skills and nerve under pressure, securing India's second gold medal in archery at the event.
- **Country's First High-Tech Sports Training Center**
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the country's first high-tech sports training centre for Divyangjan, named after former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.



- ✓ This initiative aims to provide equal opportunities in sports, enhance talent, and encourage participation in various sports disciplines.
  - ✓ Divyangjan from all over the country can practice and train in the Atal Bihari Training Center for Divyang Sports.
  - ✓ The Atal Bihari Training Centre for Disability Sports is a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to training and nurturing athletes with disabilities..
- 
- **Asian Games 2023**
  - **Compound Men's Team Archery**



- ✓ India's men's compound team of Abhishek Verma, Ojas Deotale and Prathamesh Jawkar secured another archery gold medal after its 235-230 win against South Korea in the Asian Games.

### ➤ Gold In Squash Mixed



- ✓ India's **Dipika Pallikal and Harinder Pal Sandhu** won the gold medal in the mixed doubles squash tournament at the **Asian Games 2023** in Hangzhou, the People's Republic of China.
- ✓ Dipika Pallikal and Harinder Pal Sandhu defeated Malaysia's Aifa Azman-Mohd Syafiq Kamal 2-0 (11-10, 11-10) in the mixed doubles final.

## Asian Games 2023

### ➤ INDIA GETS 100 MEDALS AT THE ASIAN Games 2023 - First Time In History

- ✓ India made history on **October 7, 2023**, by winning its **100th medal at the Asian Games for the first time ever**.
- ✓ This is a remarkable achievement, and it is a testament to the hard work and dedication of Indian athletes and coaches.
- ✓ India's 100th medal was won by the women's kabaddi team, who defeated Chinese Taipei 26-25 in a thrilling final. This medal was fittingly won by a team that has been so dominant in kabaddi over the years.

- ✓ India's success at the Asian Games is a sign of the growing strength of Indian sport.
- ✓ India has consistently improved its performance at the Games over the years, and it is now one of the leading nations in Asian sport.

➤ **Indian Men's Hockey Team Clinches Gold**



- ✓ In a historic moment at the **Gongshu Canal Sports Park Stadium in Hangzhou**, the **Indian men's hockey team** secured a remarkable victory over **Japan**, winning the gold medal and earning a coveted spot at the **Paris 2024 Olympics**.

➤ **Ojas Deotale Is Nagpur's First Asian Games Gold Medalist**



- ✓ In the final of **19th Asian Games 2023**, on Saturday at the **Fuyang Yinhu Sports Centre**, **Indian archer Ojas Deotale from Nagpur** won gold medal in the men's individual compound archery event.
- ✓ This victory marks Ojas Deotale third gold medal in the Asian Games 2023.

➤ **Indian Women's Kabaddi Team Clinches Gold**



- ✓ The **Indian women's kabaddi team** emerged victorious against a determined Chinese Taipei, securing the gold medal in the **Asian Games 2023**.
- ✓ In a fiercely contested match, the Indian women's kabaddi team clinched the gold medal by defeating Chinese Taipei with a nail-biting score of 26-25.
- **India Wins Gold In Men's Cricket**
- ✓ In a historic debut at the Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou, China, the Indian men's cricket team secured the gold medal in the T20 competition.
- **Jyothi Surekha Vennam Wins Gold In Women's Archery**



- ✓ India's Jyothi Surekha Vennam won gold medal in the women's individual compound archery event at the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, on Saturday.
- ✓ Jyothi defeated So Chaewon of South Korea 149-145 in the final.
- **Indian Contingent Finishes with Record 107 Medals**
- ✓ India exceeded its previous record of 70 medals at the Asian Games in 2018 by winning a total of 107 medals at the Asian Games in China.



- ✓ This is the 2nd time India has won more than 100 medals in any of the three major Games, including the Olympics, the Commonwealth Games, and the Asian Games.
- ✓ The Indian contingent finished its campaign by living up to the commitment of "Iss baar 100 paar".
- **World Athlete Of The Year Award**
- ✓ World Athletics, the global governing body for athletics, has officially nominated Neeraj Chopra for the prestigious Men's Athlete of the Year award for 2023.



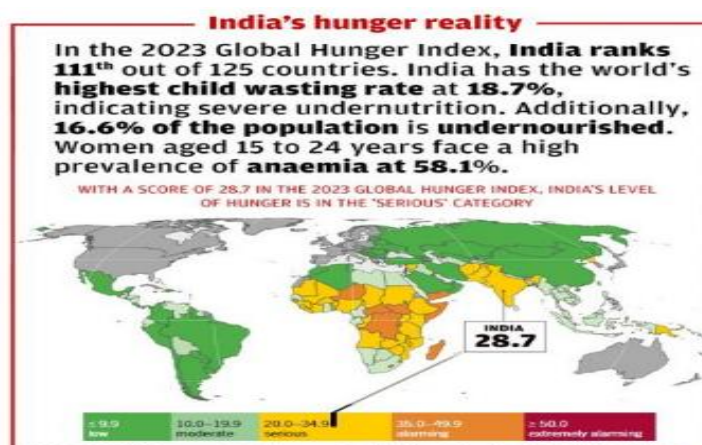
- ✓ A panel of international athletics experts, representing all six continental areas of World Athletics, diligently selected the 11 nominees for this prestigious award. Among these nominees, Neeraj Chopra, the Olympic and world champion, is vying for the title of the world's best male athlete.
- ✓ The voting process for the 2023 World Athletes of the Year award has commenced.



# RANKING

## ➤ Global Hunger Index 2023: India's Decline to 111th Place

- ✓ In the latest Global Hunger Index (GHI) for 2023, India has been ranked 111 out of 125 countries, marking a decline from its 107th position in 2022.
- ✓ The GHI is an annual assessment of hunger levels globally, published by Irish NGO Concern Worldwide and German NGO Welt Hunger Hilfe.



- ✓ Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Chile, China and Croatia are the top five countries in GHI 2023. Chad, Niger, Lesotho, Congo, Yemen, Madagascar, and Central African Republic are the countries ranked at the bottom of the index.
- ✓ In comparison to neighboring countries, India's GHI ranking appears stark:
- ✓ India: 111th
- ✓ Pakistan: 102nd
- ✓ Bangladesh: 81st
- ✓ Nepal: 69th
- ✓ Sri Lanka: 60th

# IMPORTANT DAYS

## ➤ International Day of Older Persons - October 01

- ✓ 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.



- ✓ In 2023, the 33rd commemoration of this significant day revolves around the theme of “Fulfilling the Promises of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for Older Persons: Across Generations.”

## ➤ Gandhi Jayanti - October 02

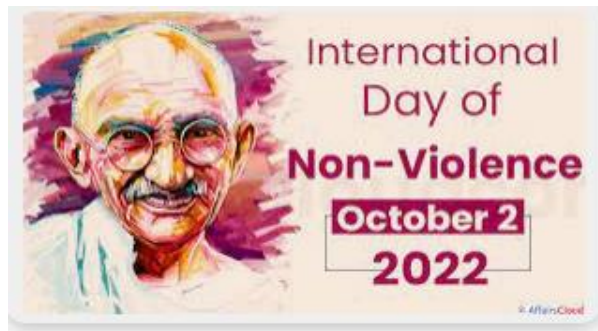
- ✓ Gandhi Jayanti, celebrated on October 2nd every year, is a day of profound significance in India and around the world.



- ✓ It marks the 154th birth anniversary of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, fondly known as Mahatma Gandhi, Bapu or the Father of the Nation.
- ✓ Theme of Gandhi Jayanti 2023
- ✓ “Ek Tareekh Ek Ghanta Ek Saath” is the theme for 2 October Gandhi Jayanti.

## ➤ International Day of Non-Violence - October 02

- ✓ The International Day of Non-Violence, celebrated on October 2nd each year, holds a special place on the global calendar.



- ✓ This day 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.
- ✓ The resolution is “to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence.”
- **National Wildlife Week 2023 - October 02 to 08**
- ✓ The National Zoological Park recently kick-started the celebration of the 69th Wildlife Week, a significant event aimed at raising awareness about the importance of wildlife conservation in India.



- ✓ This year’s theme, “Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation,” reflects the collaborative efforts required to protect and preserve the nation’s rich biodiversity.
- ✓ The festivities coincide with the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, reinforcing the principles of Ahinsa (non-violence) and compassion for all living beings. The choice of dates for Wildlife Week, spanning from October 2 to October 8, holds deep symbolism.
- ✓ Theme: “Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation”.
- **World Nature Day - October 03**
- ✓ World Nature Day, established by the World Nature Organization (WNO) on October 3, 2010, serves as a crucial platform to raise awareness about the challenges our environment faces, particularly due to climate change.



- ✓ It also encourages eco-friendly practices such as recycling, reducing plastic usage, and adopting sustainable lifestyles.
- ✓ Theme: Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet.

➤ **World Space Week - October 04-10**

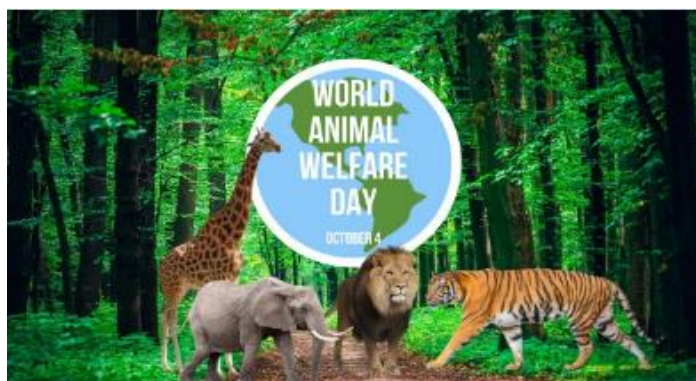
- ✓ World Space Week (WSW) is a global celebration that highlights the significance of space science and technology in enhancing human life.



- ✓ The choice of October 4 as the starting date of WSW is a tribute to the day when the Soviet Union launched Sputnik 1, the first human-made Earth satellite, marking the beginning of the Space Age and the first Space Race.
- ✓ The theme for World Space Week 2023 is "Space and Entrepreneurship." This theme underscores the evolving landscape of the commercial space industry and its growing influence.

➤ **World Animal Welfare Day - October 04**

- ✓ World Animal Day, also known as World Animal Welfare Day, is a global initiative celebrated annually on October 4th.
- ✓ This day serves as an International Day of Action, advocating for the rights and welfare of animals.



- ✓ The choice of this date coincides with the feast day of Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. This event unites animal lovers worldwide, raising awareness and fostering a sense of responsibility towards the well-being of animals.
- ✓ The theme for World Animal Day 2023, “Great or Small, Love Them All,” emphasizes the importance of acknowledging animals as sentient beings.

➤ **World Teachers’ Day - October 05**

- ✓ World Teachers’ Day, observed annually on October 5th, is a global celebration dedicated to honouring the invaluable contributions of teachers to society.
- ✓ This day serves as an opportunity to recognize the vital role teachers play in shaping the future and to address the challenges they face.



- ✓ Teachers have the unique opportunity to make a lasting impact on the lives of their students, shaping sustainable futures and finding personal fulfillment in their vocation.
- ✓ Theme: “The teachers we need for the education we want: The global imperative to reverse the teacher shortage”.

➤ **World Cerebral Palsy Day: October 06**

- ✓ The day sheds light on the need for increased awareness, understanding and support for those with cerebral palsy.



- ✓ Children and adults affected by cerebral palsy often face challenges that hinder their full participation in society.
  - ✓ The theme for World Cerebral Palsy Day in 2023 is “Together Stronger.”
  - ✓ This theme highlights the importance of unity, collaboration, and mutual support.
- **World Cotton Day - October 07**
- ✓ World Cotton Day, observed on October 7 each year, emphasises cotton’s importance in generating jobs and supporting economies, especially in less developed countries.



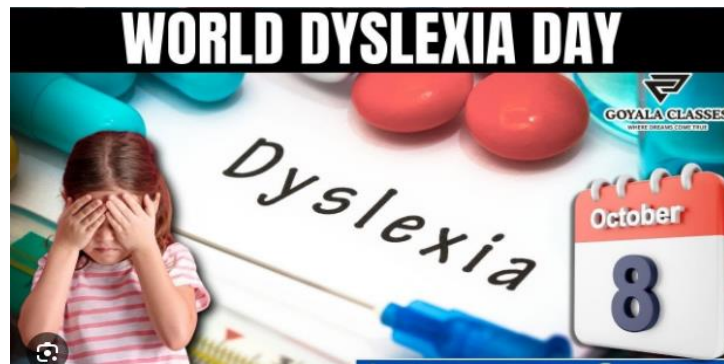
- ✓ The theme for World Cotton Day 2023, ‘Making cotton fair and sustainable for all, from farm to fashion,’ is championed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).
- **Nilgiri Tahr Day - October 07**
- ✓ Nearly a year after launching the Project Nilgiri Tahr for the conservation of its State animal, Tamil Nadu will celebrate the first ‘Nilgiri Tahr Day’ on October 7 (Saturday).



- ✓ October 7 was chosen by the Government as Nilgiri Tahr Day in honour of E.R.C. Davidar, a wildlife conservationist who pioneered studies on the sole mountain ungulate of Southern India as early as in 1960s.
- ✓ While launching Project Nilgiri Tahr, the Government had declared that Davidar's birthday would be celebrated as Nilgiri Tahr Day. Davidar took the first census of the Nilgiri tahr in the Nilgiris landscape during 1963.
- **Indian Air Force Day: October 08**
- ✓ Every year Air Force Day is celebrated on 8 October.
- ✓ Indian Air Force is celebrating its 91st anniversary by organizing air shows and mega events in different cities across the nation.



- ✓ The final celebration of the Indian Air Force Day will be held in Prayagraj on October 8.
- ✓ On this occasion, the air show will be organized which will be joined by 120 fighters, transport and helicopters.
- **World Dyslexia Awareness Day: October 08**
- ✓ This day is observed every year on 8th October to shed light on dyslexia, a learning difference that affects millions of individuals worldwide.



- ✓ The Dyslexia awareness week is celebrated annually from 2nd to 8th October. Persons with Dyslexia might struggle with reading, writing,
- ✓ The theme for this year's Dyslexia Awareness Day is Uniquely You.

➤ **World Post Day - October 09**

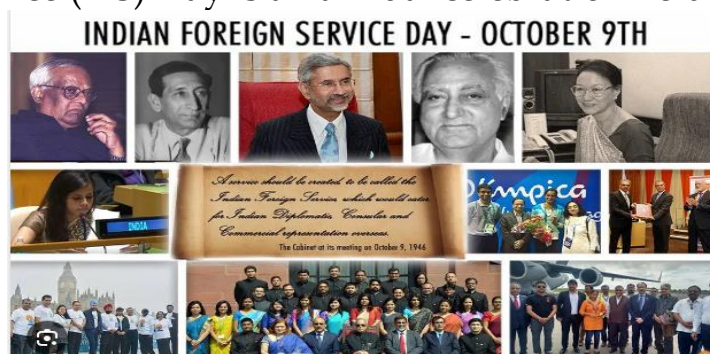
- ✓ World Post Day is celebrated each year on October 9th to commemorate the creation of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874.



- ✓ It's a day to recognize the crucial role that post offices play in connecting communities.
- ✓ The theme for World Post Day 2023, "Together for Trust: Collaborating for a safe and connected future."

➤ **Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day - October 09**

- ✓ Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day is an annual celebration held on October 9th.





- ✓ This special day honors the establishment of the Indian Foreign Service, a critical institution for India's diplomatic, consular, and commercial representation worldwide.
- ✓ It serves as a reminder of the invaluable contributions made by diplomats and Foreign Service officers in promoting India's interests and fostering global cooperation.
- **World Mental Health Day - October 10**
- ✓ World Mental Health Day on October 10th is a global initiative that brings organizations and individuals together to commemorate the importance of mental well-being.
- ✓ World Mental Health Day was established by the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) in 1992.



- ✓ This occasion serves to enhance knowledge, raise awareness, and drive actions that promote and protect the mental health of all individuals as a fundamental human right.
- ✓ World Mental Health Day 2023 provides a platform for individuals and communities to unite under the theme “Mental health is a universal human right.”
- **International Day Of The Girl Child - October 11**
- ✓ The **International Day of the Girl**, observed every year on **October 11**, is a global initiative dedicated to raising awareness about gender inequality and advocating for the rights and empowerment of girls.



- ✓ The International Day of the Girl was first celebrated in 2012.
- ✓ This day was established to focus attention on the unique challenges girls face and to promote their empowerment and the fulfillment of their human rights.
- ✓ The day was born out of the recognition that girls, like boys, deserve equal opportunities and rights.
- ✓ The theme for the International Day of the Girl in 2023 is “Invest in Girls’ Rights: Our Leadership, Our Well-being.”

➤ **World Sight Day - October 12**

- ✓ Every year, the **second Thursday of October** marks a crucial occasion on the global calendar, **World Sight Day**. This day is dedicated to raising awareness about vision impairment and blindness. This year it falls on **12th October**.



- ✓ The theme for World Sight Day 2023, ‘**Love Your Eyes at Work,**’ resonates deeply in our fast-paced, digital age where we increasingly strain our eyes through prolonged screen time and demanding work schedules.
- ✓ It emphasizes the importance of caring for our eyes while navigating the challenges of the modern workplace.

➤ **International Day For Disaster Risk Reduction - October 13**

- ✓ The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, observed annually on the 13th of October, brings global attention to the critical issues of disasters and inequality.



- ✓ This day serves as a platform for creating awareness, educating communities, and promoting resilience in the face of natural and man-made disasters.
- ✓ The theme of UN International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2023 is “Fighting inequality for a resilient future.”
- **National Cinema Day: October 13**
- ✓ National Cinema Day aims to celebrate the magic of the big screen and applaud the success of recent blockbusters.



- ✓ More than 4000 screens all over the country are participating.
- ✓ Film buffs can buy tickets all over the country at just ninety nine rupees. Multiplex Association of India encourages audiences to come back to cinema halls after a long lull caused by Covid-19 Pandemic.
- **World Egg Day - October 13**
- ✓ World Egg Day is a yearly celebration that promotes the health benefits and versatility of eggs.
- ✓ The day is celebrated on the second Friday of October every year, focusing on the significance of eggs in our diets and their role in nourishing people around the world. This year, World Egg Day 2023 will be observed on October 13.



- ✓ The theme of the World Egg Day 2023 “Eggs for a Healthy Future” signifies the importance of the egg in enhancing the nutritional, cultural, and environmentally sustainable outcomes, prompting better futures for all.
- **World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) – October 14**
- ✓ World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) 2023 is a global event celebrated twice a year, each with a unique focus.



- ✓ This year, the fall celebration falls on October 14 and revolves around the theme “Water: Sustaining Bird Life.”
- ✓ It’s a day that highlights the importance of migratory birds and their conservation efforts.
- **World Students Day: October 15**
- ✓ World Students Day 2023 is observed on the 15th of October 2023, to honour the birthday of our former president, the late Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.



- ✓ In 2010, World Students Day was established by the United Nations.
- ✓ In honor of former Indian president APJ Abdul Kalam, who was born on the same day in 1931, October 15 of each year is observed as World Students' Day.
- ✓ The theme for World Students Day 2023 is **“FAIL: stands for First Attempt in Learning.”**

➤ **International Day of Rural Women: October 15**

- ✓ International Day of Rural Women 2023 is observed on the 15th of October 2023.
- ✓ The United Nations (U.N.) has been working to keep the world's nations peaceful and friendly since its founding in 1945.



- ✓ The United Nations has undertaken a number of humanitarian initiatives and adopted resolutions and laws aimed at protecting the environment.
- ✓ The U.N.'s efforts to improve the status and well-being of women, particularly those in rural areas, rank among its most impressive accomplishments.  
Theme: **“Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All.”**

