



Weekly Current Affairs

(11th – 17th October, 2023)

- 1. India's textiles sector** is set for significant expansion, with an **11% year-on-year growth in Ready-Made Garments (RMG)** of all Textiles exports, as per India's trade data of August 2024, signaling a bright future. The Textiles sector in the country is expected to grow to USD 350 billion by 2030, driven by India's inherent strengths and a strong policy framework that encourages investment and exports.
- 2. An 18-year-old Nepali mountaineer, Nima Rinji Sherpa**, made history on Wednesday by becoming the youngest person to summit all 14 of the world's 8,000-meter (26,246-foot) peaks. His remarkable achievement was sealed after successfully reaching the summit of Tibet's 26,335-foot Shisha Pangma.
- 3. India** participated in the **44th session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)** held in Dresden, Germany from October 2 to October 6, 2024. As a key contributor, India made pivotal interventions on significant agenda items.
- 4. The UN General Assembly (UNGA)** has elected **18 new members to the 47-member Human Rights Council** for the 2025-2027 term. This decision was made through a secret ballot held recently, with countries like Benin, Bolivia, Colombia, Cyprus, Qatar, and Thailand among the newly elected. The newly elected members will begin their three-year terms on January 1, 2025. The Human Rights Council, based in Geneva, plays a crucial role in promoting and protecting human rights globally. The elections reflect a commitment to staggered terms, ensuring continuity within the Council's composition.
- 5. President Droupadi Murmu** is set to embark on a significant state visit to Algeria, Mauritania, and Malawi from October 13 to 19, 2024. This marks the first-ever visit by an Indian head of state to these three African nations, highlighting India's commitment to enhancing its partnerships on the continent. The visit follows a year after the African Union became a permanent member of the G20 during India's presidency, reinforcing India's strategic engagement with Africa.
- 6. The central government** has given its in-principle approval for **Bihar's second tiger reserve in Kaimur district**. This decision follows a proposal from the Bihar government to develop the Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary (KWLS) into a tiger reserve. Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR) in West Champaran was the only tiger reserve in Bihar until now.
- 7. DigiLocker**, a secure cloud-based platform for document storage and verification, has integrated with the

UMANG app to enhance access to various government services. This collaboration aims to simplify citizen interactions with the government, enabling users to manage multiple services through a single platform. To utilize this integration, users need to update the DigiLocker app, install the UMANG app, and access a range of services conveniently. This partnership marks a significant step in India's digital governance efforts, providing authenticated documents equivalent to originals as per regulatory standards.

- 8. The 44th and 45th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summits and related events began on October 9 in Vientiane, Laos, focusing on the theme "ASEAN: Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience."** Lao President Thongloun Sisoulith urged member countries to uphold peace, stability, and sustainable development while honoring their commitments to multilateralism. This year marks a significant opportunity for ASEAN to build a more integrated and resilient community in response to pressing challenges.
- 9. The Second Army Commanders' Conference of 2024** began on October 10 in a hybrid format at a forward location in Gangtok, Sikkim. Bringing together senior leaders of the Indian Army, the conference serves as a crucial platform to review the nation's overall security landscape, address key conceptual issues, and devise strategies to tackle emerging challenges.
- 10. Indian Navy Partners with Bajaj Allianz for Naval Civilians' Insurance Coverage.** In line with its focus on enhancing the

welfare of Naval Civilians, the Indian Navy has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance. This initiative is a key highlight of 2024, declared as the "**Year of Naval Civilians.**" It underscores the Navy's commitment to financial security and inclusivity for its civilian workforce, particularly by offering affordable life insurance options, including term insurance, to safeguard their families in the event of an untimely death.

- 11. In a major boost to India's digital payment landscape, UPI transaction volumes recorded a 52% year-on-year rise to 78.97 billion in the first half of 2024.** According to Worldline's India Digital Payments Report, UPI's value surged by 40%, growing from ₹83.16 trillion to ₹116.63 trillion between January 2023 and June 2024. While PhonePe led the market, followed by Google Pay and Paytm, the average ticket size (ATS) saw an 8% decline, reflecting a shift toward smaller transactions.
- 12. The Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** has chosen Uttarakhand as the host for the **38th Summer National Games**, scheduled to take place from 28th January to 14th February 2025. This announcement marks a significant achievement for the state, as it will be hosting the prestigious event for the first time, followed by the upcoming Winter Games, which will be held outside Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh for the first time. The 37th National Games, held in Goa from 25th September to 9th November 2023, paved the way for Uttarakhand's momentous turn to

showcase its capabilities on the national sporting stage.

13. On October 4, 2024, Dr. Ajit Kumar Mohanty, Secretary of the **Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission**, inaugurated the Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) Observatory in Hanle, Ladakh. This monumental facility is the largest imaging Cherenkov telescope in Asia and stands as the highest of its kind in the world, located at an altitude of approximately 4,300 meters.
14. **World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD)** is a biannual global event aimed at raising awareness about the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. In 2024, WMBD will be observed on **11 May and 12 October**, marking key dates in the migratory cycles of birds across the world. World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated twice a year—in May and October—to reflect the seasonal bird migrations in different parts of the world. The 2024 theme, **“Insects for Birds”**, highlights the importance of insects for migratory birds and calls for immediate action to protect the rapidly declining populations of insects.
15. The **International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR)** is observed annually on 13th October. This global event, spearheaded by the United Nations, emphasizes the importance of mitigating disaster risks and promoting strategies that help reduce the loss of lives and livelihoods due to natural and human-made disasters.
16. **Ratan Naval Tata**, the Bihar Postal Circle has released a special cover

commemorating his contributions to industry, philanthropy, and national development. This gesture serves not only as a tribute but also as a reminder of his enduring values and leadership. Tata, who passed away in a Mumbai hospital on October 10, 2024, was honored with state rites, reflecting the immense respect and admiration he garnered throughout his life. The special cover is considered a significant collector’s item, honoring Tata’s visionary work that continues to inspire future generations.

17. **The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)**, the world’s largest voluntary organization, is entering its **100th year on the auspicious occasion of Vijayadashami**. Founded on this very day in 1925, also known as Dussehra, the RSS has grown exponentially over the past nine decades, expanding its reach across India and abroad.
18. **Nicaragua** has officially severed **diplomatic relations with Israel**, a move announced by Vice President Rosario Murillo following a congressional resolution. This decision aligns with Nicaragua’s leftist government, led by President Daniel Ortega, which has condemned Israel’s actions in the ongoing Gaza conflict and labeled its government as **“fascist and genocidal.”** While the announcement is largely symbolic, as there are minimal existing relations between the two nations, it underscores a broader trend in Latin America where countries with leftist ideologies are increasingly showing solidarity with the Palestinian cause.
19. **The Tata Trusts**, holding a significant **66%** ownership of Tata Sons, wields immense

influence over the strategic, investment, and philanthropic directions of one of India's largest conglomerates. Recently, Noel Tata was appointed chairman of this philanthropic arm, following the death of his half-brother, Ratan Tata.

20. The Indian government has appointed **L Satya Srinivas**, currently serving as Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce, as the additional CEO of the Government e Marketplace (GeM). This decision follows the recent appointment of the previous CEO, P K Singh, as secretary of the renewable energy ministry. Srinivas, an officer from the 1991 batch of the Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Indirect Taxes), will take on this crucial role, overseeing online procurement processes for all central government ministries and departments. The GeM portal, launched on August 9, 2016, aims to streamline and enhance the public procurement process.
21. After devastating floods and landslides claimed over **200 lives in Kerala's Wayanad district in July 2024**, the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences took a crucial step to bolster disaster preparedness by approving the installation of an X-band radar in the region. The torrential rains, which triggered a massive landslide in the valley above Punchirimattom near the Mundakkai area, led to catastrophic debris flows, intensifying the destruction.
22. **The recently concluded 44th and 45th ASEAN Summits in Vientiane, Laos (October 8-11)** brought together leaders from ASEAN countries and partners, emphasizing resilience and connectivity across key areas. With nearly 90

documents adopted, the summits focused on strengthening ASEAN's role in the Indo-Pacific, addressing supply chain connectivity, sustainable agriculture, and climate change. New cooperation fields like digital economy and green transition were also highlighted.

23. **The India Digital Agri Conference 2024**, co-organized by the **Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) and IIT Ropar TIF – AWaDH in New Delhi**, marked a significant milestone in revolutionizing Indian agriculture. The event focused on leveraging digital technologies like AI, IoT, drones, and data analytics to address challenges such as climate change, food security, and sustainable resource management. By modernizing farming practices, enhancing productivity, and fostering cross-sector collaboration, the conference laid the foundation for India's leadership in Agri-tech.
24. **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** has been upgraded to the status of Maharatna, making it the **14th Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE)** to receive this prestigious classification from the Government of India. This announcement, made on October 12, enhances HAL's operational autonomy and financial capabilities, allowing it to invest up to 15% of its net worth in projects and up to ₹5,000 crore in foreign ventures without government approval. The stock price responded positively, trading at ₹4,510, reflecting a 1.42% increase.
25. India's vaccine regulatory system has been recognized as **"functional"** by the **World Health Organization (WHO) following an evaluation from**

September 16-20, 2024. The WHO assessment team confirmed that India meets global standards for ensuring vaccine safety, quality, and efficacy. This recognition reaffirms India's significant role in the global pharmaceutical industry, especially in vaccine production, while showcasing its regulatory strength through Maturity Level 3 certification in the WHO Global Benchmarking Tool.

- 26.** The **PM GatiShakti National Master Plan**, launched on **October 13, 2021**, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, marks three years of transformative achievements in India's infrastructure landscape. The initiative has significantly improved project execution by integrating data from over 44 central ministries and 36 states and union territories, leading to reduced logistics costs and enhanced service delivery. As of now, over 200 major infrastructure projects have been assessed, focusing on multimodal connectivity and efficient resource allocation.
- 27.** A recent survey by the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** highlights a remarkable increase in the average monthly income of rural households, which rose by **57.6%** over the past five years. The second '**All India Rural Financial Inclusion Survey (NAFIS) 2021-22**' reports that the average monthly income grew from ₹8,059 in 2016-17 to ₹12,698 in 2021-22, indicating a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 9.5%.
- 28.** The **Indian men's table tennis** team secured a bronze medal at the **Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024 held in Astana, Kazakhstan**, marking their

third consecutive bronze in this event. India's top-ranked women's doubles duo, Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee, achieved a remarkable milestone by claiming a bronze medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024. Ayhika and Sutirtha became the first all-Indian women's doubles pair to win a medal at the Asian Championships, following Gool Nasikwala's gold medal win with Japan's Yoshiko Tanaka in 1952. India's total medal tally at the Asian Championships now stands at eight, all of which are bronze medals. The Indian men's team clinched the bronze medal after losing in the semi-finals to Chinese Taipei with a score of 3-0.

- 29.** The **International Day of Rural Women is celebrated annually on October 15**, recognizing the critical role rural women play in the advancement of agriculture, rural development, and poverty eradication. In 2024, the theme for this significant day is "**Rural Women Sustaining Nature for Our Collective Future: Building climate resilience, conserving biodiversity, and caring for land towards gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.**" This theme underlines the importance of rural women as key actors in promoting environmental sustainability and climate resilience while also emphasizing the need for gender equality.
- 30.** **Breast Cancer Awareness Month (BCAM)**, observed **every October**, is an annual global campaign designed to raise awareness about breast cancer, its symptoms, and the importance of early detection. This initiative brings attention to the impact of breast cancer on

individuals, families, and communities, while also emphasizing the need for timely diagnosis and treatment. In the United States, **October 13 is nationally recognized as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day**, a day dedicated to increasing awareness about metastatic (stage four) breast cancer. In 2024, the campaign's theme is **"No one should face breast cancer alone"**, underscoring the importance of peer support for patients and survivors, many of whom experience feelings of isolation during their cancer journey.

- 31. World Standards Day, celebrated every year on October 14**, honors the immense contributions of individuals and organizations involved in the development and implementation of international standards. These standards play a critical role in shaping various industries by ensuring safety, quality, efficiency, and interoperability in products and services worldwide. The day serves to raise awareness about the value of standardization in facilitating international trade, economic development, and improving quality of life.
- 32. Indranand Singh Jha**, a celebrated former radio presenter and compere of **Akashvani Darbhanga**, **passed away at the age of 77 in his ancestral village, Chanaur, Darbhanga**. Known affectionately as Khur Khur Bhai, Jha gained immense popularity for his rural radio talk program Gamghar, which resonated with listeners throughout his career. His distinctive voice and engaging style made him a beloved figure in the world of radio broadcasting. Following his death, social and cultural

organizations have expressed their condolences and paid heartfelt tributes to Jha, reflecting on his lasting impact on the radio community and the hearts of many.

- 33.** The Central Government has officially revoked **President's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir, paving the way for the appointment of a new Chief Minister**. In a notification issued by President Droupadi Murmu, the revocation was enacted under the powers granted by the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, and relevant constitutional provisions.
- 34. India** has surged to become the **second-biggest supplier of restricted critical technologies to Russia, US and European** officials said, highlighting the challenge in efforts to choke off exports fueling President Vladimir Putin's war machine.
- 35.** In a significant tribute to the late industrialist **Ratan Tata, the Maharashtra government announced on October 14, 2024**, that the Maharashtra State Skills Development University will be renamed the **"Padma Vibhushan Ratan Tata Skills University."** This decision honors Tata's substantial contributions to education, skill development, and social causes across India. Tata, who passed away on October 9, was revered not only for his business acumen but also for his philanthropic efforts. His body was placed for public homage at the National Centre of Performing Arts (NCPA), where he was honored with full state rites.
- 36. Telangana** becomes the third state to initiate a caste-based headcount, following Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. The

Telangana government has initiated the process of a comprehensive household caste survey in the state aimed at targeted and equitable resource distribution among all communities.

37. Bollywood actress and environmental activist **Dia Mirza** has been appointed as a jury member for the **All Living Things Environmental Film Festival (ALT EFF) 2024, scheduled from November 22 to December 8**. The festival will showcase 72 films, including 38 India premieres, focusing on critical environmental issues like climate change and wildlife conservation. Mirza expressed her honor in participating, emphasizing the festival's role in fostering dialogue about sustainability.
38. **S. Paramesh** officially took charge as the **Director General (DG)** of the Indian Coast Guard at its headquarters in New Delhi. His appointment comes following the tragic demise of his predecessor, DG Rakesh Pal, last month. Paramesh, who had been officiating as the Director General, was formally appointed by the government a day prior. Upon assuming office, he was honored with a ceremonial guard of honour.
39. **The Prime Minister's Internship Scheme was launched on October 3, 2024**. This ambitious initiative, implemented through an online portal, aims to provide one crore young individuals with valuable internship opportunities over the next five years, allowing them to immerse themselves in diverse business environments and explore various professions. Also, Prime Minister Internship Scheme Portal went live for candidates to register at 5pm on October

12, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs said in a press release.

40. **The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** has partnered with Meta to introduce an AI-powered assistant for the Skill India Digital (SID) Portal and establish five Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in Virtual Reality (VR) and Mixed Reality (MR) across India.
41. **Bank of Baroda (BoB)** has introduced a new 400-day term deposit scheme known as the '**bob Utsav Deposit Scheme**', aimed at offering higher interest rates to various categories of depositors during the festive season. This scheme not only provides competitive interest rates for general depositors but also caters specifically to senior and super senior citizens, making it a beneficial investment option for a wide range of customers.
42. **Navi**, a fintech company co-founded by **Sachin Bansal**, has made significant strides in the **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** landscape, emerging as India's fifth-largest ecosystem player. In September, the company achieved remarkable transaction volumes, processing 120.41 million transactions valued at Rs 6,549.1 crore.
43. **India's wholesale price inflation (WPI) increased to 1.84% in September 2024**, up from 1.31% in August, driven by a sharp rise in food prices, according to data from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. This surge was primarily due to a spike in vegetable prices, with onion, potato, and tomato costs rising by 78.8%, 78.1%, and 74.5%, respectively. The food price inflation rose to 11.53% from 3.11% in August, marking a two-year high. Despite deceleration in other

categories such as fuel and manufactured products, food price inflation led the overall increase.

44. **World Food Day, observed annually on October 16th**, serves as a global call to action in the fight against hunger and malnutrition. As we approach World Food Day 2024, it's crucial to understand the significance of this year's theme and the ongoing challenges in global food security.
45. **Every year on October 15, World Students' Day** is observed to honor the life and contributions of **Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam**, a visionary leader, educator, and former President of India. Known as the "Missile Man of India," Dr. Kalam is celebrated for his work in science, technology, and education, and his deep affection for students and the youth of the nation. The day marks Dr. Kalam's birthday and serves as a reminder of his enduring legacy in inspiring young minds toward innovation and academic excellence.
46. **The Department of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation (DoWR, RD & GR)**, under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, proudly announces the winners of the 5th National Water Awards (NWA), 2023. These prestigious awards recognize the efforts of individuals, organizations, and institutions across India in water conservation and management. With 38 winners across 9 categories, the awards aim to raise awareness and encourage best practices in water usage and sustainability.
47. **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has revealed the Players of the Month for September 2024, honoring Sri Lanka's

Kamindu Mendis and England's Tammy Beaumont for their outstanding performances in international cricket. Both players have earned this prestigious recognition for the second time, reflecting their consistency and dominance on the global cricketing stage.

48. **Dr. S. Somanath**, Chairman of the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**, has been honored with the prestigious International Astronautical Federation (IAF) World Space Award. This accolade was awarded in recognition of the remarkable success of Chandrayaan-3, India's lunar mission that made history with its soft landing on the Moon's South Pole. The award ceremony took place in Milan, Italy, and marked a significant milestone in India's growing prominence in space exploration.
49. In a significant step towards positioning India as a global leader in biotechnology and sustainable solutions, **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, inaugurated India's first Demonstration Facility for Biopolymers at **Jejuri in Pune in October 2024**.
50. **Aerospace startup Space Kidz India** has launched the **ShakthiSAT mission**, aiming to train **12,000 girls aged 14-18 from 108 countries in space technology**, targeting a satellite launch under ISRO's Chandrayaan-4 mission in 2026. A prototype presentation will be made to Prime Minister Narendra Modi later this year or early next year. This initiative not only emphasizes skill development in the realm of space but also seeks to inspire and empower young women globally.

51. India's star drag-flicker and captain, **Harmanpreet Singh**, emerged as the most expensive player in the Hockey India League auction on Day 1. Soorma Hockey Club secured the services of the Indian captain for a whopping Rs 78 lakh, marking the highest bid on the first day of the auction, held on Sunday. A total of 54 players, including 18 international stars, went under the hammer as eight franchises vied to strengthen their squads with top talents from India and abroad.
52. **State-owned BEML** has been awarded a contract worth **₹866.87 crore** by Integral Coach Factory (ICF) to design, manufacture, and commission India's first indigenously built bullet trains. This project marks a significant milestone in India's high-speed rail journey, as it will feature two high-speed trainsets, each comprising eight cars, with a test speed of 280 km/h and an operational speed of 250 km/h. The trains are set to roll out by late 2026, produced at BEML's (Bharat Earth Movers Limited) Bengaluru facility, as part of the broader initiative to enhance India's rail infrastructure.
53. **Omar Abdullah**, a prominent leader of the **Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC)**, has been sworn in as the new **Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir**, marking a significant political transition in the region. Abdullah took the oath of office in a ceremony administered by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. His ascension to the position comes after the National Conference emerged victorious in the recent elections, albeit without the direct involvement of the Congress party, which has chosen to provide external support instead.
54. **The World Health Organization secured \$1 billion** in pledges during a fundraising event in Berlin, marking a significant initiative to reform its funding model and enhance its ability to address global health emergencies.
55. **As of October 2024, Abu Dhabi** has been recognized as the richest city globally regarding sovereign wealth funds, boasting an impressive **\$1.7 trillion in capital**. This significant achievement highlights the city's financial prowess and strategic investments.
56. **The Assam government** has launched an ambitious project aimed at revitalizing **129 beels (wetlands)**, covering an area of 3,800 hectares, to mitigate flooding and boost fish production in the state. These wetlands serve as essential water and fishery resources, offering vital hydrological regulation services, including flood mitigation, groundwater recharge, river flow regulation, and erosion control.
57. To address the immediate skill gaps in **Andhra Pradesh, Shri Jayant Chaudhary**, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and Minister of State for the Ministry of Education, Government of India, inaugurated a new National Skill Training Institute (NSTI) extension center at the Andhra Medical Tech Zone (AMTZ) campus in Visakhapatnam and engaged with the candidates at the center.
58. **The Kerala Assembly** unanimously passed a resolution urging the BJP-led central government to withdraw the **Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2024**, which

was introduced in the Lok Sabha in August and subsequently referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC). The state's lawmakers expressed concerns over the bill, asserting that it could undermine the autonomy of Waqf boards and the management of Waqf properties.

59. During a special address at the second edition of the **Indian Gaming Convention (IGC)**, Shri Priyank Kharge, Karnataka's Minister of Information Technology and Biotechnology, expressed the state's ambition to lead the gaming and animation industry. Kharge stated, "**Karnataka has all that is needed to ensure that we become the gaming and animation capital of not only this country but also of Asia.**"
60. On **October 15, 2024**, Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** laid the foundation stone for a new **Very Low Frequency (VLF)** Station of the Indian Navy at Damagundam Reserve Forest, Vikarabad, Telangana. Covering 2,900 acres and costing Rs 3,200 crore, this facility aims to enhance the Navy's communication capabilities, facilitating secure and reliable long-distance transmission essential for effective command and control in complex maritime environments.
61. **The Indian Army** is set to embark on a month-long series of commemorative events from **October 17 to November 14, 2024**, to honor the brave soldiers who fought valiantly in the Battle of Walong during the 1962 Sino-Indian War. This year marks the 62nd Walong Day, celebrating the courage and sacrifice of those who defended India's eastern front. The events aim to engage local

communities and reinforce the bond between the Army and the people of Arunachal Pradesh.

62. **United States has announced it will send the advanced THAAD** missile defence system to Israel. This move is part of a broader strategy to bolster Israel's defence capabilities and deter further aggression from Iran and other regional adversaries. The deployment underscores the US's "**ironclad commitment**" to Israel's defence and comes at a time of heightened geopolitical sensitivity in the region.
63. **External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar inaugurated the revamped eMigrate V2.0 web portal** and mobile app in Delhi, aiming to enhance safe and legal migration for Indian citizens. This initiative underscores the Indian government's commitment to protecting the rights and dignity of workers abroad while facilitating their mobility and welfare. It aligns with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and reflects India's proactive approach to global migration dynamics.
64. On **October 15, 2024**, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the first-ever telecom standards conference organized by the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in India**, alongside the eighth edition of the **India Mobile Congress (IMC) in New Delhi**. This event marks a significant milestone for India as it hosts the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) for the first time in the Asia-Pacific region, highlighting India's growing role in the global telecom landscape.

- 65. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** announced the establishment of three **Artificial Intelligence Centres of Excellence (AI-COEs)** focused on health, agriculture, and sustainable cities. These centres, located at AIIMS Delhi, IIT Ropar, and IIT Kanpur, will promote research, innovation, and economic development while addressing public welfare. Led by top educational institutions, industry partners, and startups, the centres aim to provide interdisciplinary research and scalable solutions. This initiative aligns with the **“Make AI in India, Make AI work for India”** vision from the 2023-24 Budget.
- 66. Islamabad** is set to host the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** Summit on October 15-16, 2024. This significant diplomatic event will see the participation of various regional leaders, including India’s External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Prime Ministers from China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Belarus, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Iran’s First Vice-President. The summit marks a critical milestone as it is the first high-level visit by an Indian official to Pakistan in nearly nine years, presenting an opportunity for Pakistan to showcase its diplomatic capabilities and strengthen ties with participating nations.
- 67.** In a significant development in the Indian banking sector, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has appointed Partha Pratim Sengupta as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Bandhan Bank for a period of three years. Sengupta’s appointment comes in the wake of the resignation of Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, the founder MD and CEO of the bank, who recently stepped down from the post.
- 68. Amit Kumar** has been selected by the **Public Enterprise Selection Board (PESB)** for the role of **Chairman & Managing Director (CMD)** of AI Assets Holding Limited (AIAHL), a Schedule ‘B’ Public Sector Undertaking (PSU). Currently serving as the Executive Director and Asset Manager at ONGC, Kumar was chosen from seven candidates. His appointment awaits necessary clearances and approval from the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC). This selection highlights ongoing efforts to fill key leadership positions within PSUs, as evidenced by the PESB’s recent advertisements for several critical vacancies across various organizations.
- 69.** A week after **Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu’s** first official visit to India following his election last year, which was marked by an **“India out”** policy, senior diplomat Aishath Azeema is set to take over as the Maldives’ ambassador to India, replacing Ibrahim Shaheeb. This move signals the island nation’s intent to restore and strengthen ties with one of its closest bilateral partners.
- 70. NASA’s Europa Clipper** spacecraft has embarked on a monumental journey to explore Europa, one of Jupiter’s moons that is believed to harbor a vast subsurface ocean beneath its icy shell. The mission, which launched on October 14, 2024, aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket, marks the beginning of an exciting scientific quest to determine whether this distant ocean world could support life.

- 71. The International Day** for the Eradication of Poverty is a significant global observance held annually on **October 17th**, aimed at raising awareness about the importance of eradicating poverty in all its forms. This day encourages collective efforts toward a more just, inclusive, and equitable world, with a particular focus on the plight of those living in extreme poverty.
- 72. Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, the Union Minister of Communications and Development of the North Eastern Region**, inaugurated the **International 6G Symposium alongside the ITU-WTSA24 and IMC 24 events**. He emphasized the transformative potential of 6G technology in driving economic growth and innovation, stating that the shift towards software-centric approaches offers a significant opportunity for India, which boasts a large pool of engineering and software talent. Scindia projected that India will contribute 10% of global 6G patents through the Bharat 6G Alliance, reinforcing the nation's ambition to lead in this new technological era.
- 73.** In a poignant ceremony, **Kaksar Bridge was renamed Capt. Amit Bhardwaj Setu** to honor the sacrifice of Capt. Amit Bhardwaj during the Kargil War. The event, attended by prominent military and civil officials, including CEC Dr. Mohd Jaffer Akhoun and Major General K. Mahesh, SM, celebrated Bhardwaj's bravery and dedication to his nation.
- 74.** In a significant move, the **Union Cabinet**, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved a **3% hike** in the dearness allowance (DA) for central government employees and pensioners, bringing the total DA to 53% of the basic pay. This increase is aimed at compensating employees against rising prices and is effective from July 1, 2024. The decision, announced by Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, will result in an annual cost of ₹9,448.35 crore to the exchequer, benefiting approximately 49.18 lakh employees and 64.89 lakh pensioners.
- 75. On October 16, 2024, Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari**, commemorated the **40th Raising Day of the National Security Guard (NSG)**, praising the bravery and dedication of its personnel. In a heartfelt message on social media platform X, he stated, "On the 40th Raising Day of National Security Guard, we salute the valor, dedication, and unwavering spirit of our brave soldiers. Their relentless efforts ensure the safety and security of our nation. We honor their service and commitment in defending India from all threats. Jai Hind!"
- 76. The traditional Lady of Justice**, often depicted blindfolded with scales and a sword, has undergone a symbolic transformation in the Supreme Court of India. Under the guidance of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, the newly commissioned statue **sheds the blindfold and replaces the sword with the Constitution**.
- 77. Senior IPS officer Praveen Vashista** has been appointed as the new **Special Secretary for Internal Security**. This key appointment underscores the government's focus on strengthening internal security in the country.
- 78. President Droupadi Murmu**, on her three-nation tour, received an **Honorary**

Doctorate in Political Science from Sidi Abdellah Science and Technology Pole University in Algiers on October 14. Expressing her gratitude, she stated, **“It is indeed a humbling experience for me to be honoured with the Honorary Doctorate. This is an honour for my country more than for me as an individual.”** She underscored the importance of education in reducing inequalities and urged Algerian students to engage with India’s educational initiatives.

79. Justice Sanjiv Khanna is set to become the **51st Chief Justice of India (CJI)**, following the recommendation by current CJI DY Chandrachud in a letter to the Union law ministry. Justice Khanna, the second-most senior judge of the Supreme Court, will take over the position after Justice Chandrachud’s retirement on November 10, 2024.

80. Kaziranga National Park, renowned for its iconic one-horned rhinoceros, has now gained recognition as **India’s second-largest butterfly diversity hub**. Following Namdapha National Park in Arunachal Pradesh, Kaziranga is home to an impressive 446 butterfly species. This newfound distinction highlights the park’s rich biodiversity.

81. Nayab Singh Saini was sworn in as Haryana’s Chief Minister for the second time, marking BJP’s third consecutive term in power in the state. Governor Bandaru Dattatreya administered the oath at a ceremony attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Ministers, and NDA leaders. Saini’s council of 13 ministers also took the oath. Saini, a Dalit leader from Kurukshetra, led the BJP to victory in the

October 5 Assembly elections, securing 48 seats in the 90-member house. Saini’s rise to the top post continues from his earlier roles in the BJP, including as Haryana BJP chief.

82. On October 15, 2024, India and the U.S. concluded a major defense deal worth \$3.5 billion for the procurement of 31 MQ-9B armed High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS). Manufactured by General Atomics, the MQ-9B systems are acquired through an inter-governmental agreement under the U.S. Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program.

83. South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), a Chhattisgarh-based subsidiary of Coal India, has opened its fourth **AMRIT (Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment) Pharmacy**, making it the first coal company to do so. This 216th AMRIT pharmacy, located at SECL’s Health Centre in Indira Vihar Colony, Bilaspur, will provide generic and life-saving medicines at highly subsidized rates, benefiting SECL employees, the general public, and underserved tribal and rural communities. This initiative aligns with the government’s Special Campaign 4.0 to promote inclusivity and improve access to healthcare.

84. The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit, held in Islamabad on October 15-16, 2024, gathered high-level officials from member states to address regional security, economic cooperation, and terrorism. India’s External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, along with leaders from China, Russia, Iran, and Central Asian countries, attended the event. Despite strained India-Pakistan relations and ongoing

China-India border disputes, the summit provided a platform for multilateral dialogue, but no bilateral talks were expected.

85. **HDFC Bank** has officially opened its first branch in Singapore as part of its strategy to expand its international operations. Granted a wholesale banking license by the **Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS)**, effective from October 15, 2024, the bank aims to offer a variety of financial products and services to residents of Singapore.
86. **International Abhidhamma Divas 2024: Date, History, Teachings, Celebrations, and Significance.** India, the birthplace of Buddhism, holds an enduring spiritual legacy as the land where Gautama Buddha attained enlightenment and shared profound teachings that continue to influence human thought and understanding. Central to this spiritual tradition is the Abhidhamma, a deep philosophical component of Buddhism that focuses on mental discipline, self-awareness, and ethical conduct.
87. **The International Abhidhamma Divas celebrates on 17th October, this rich philosophical tradition.** It highlights the relevance of Abhidhamma teachings in guiding mental and ethical discipline, while also emphasizing India's significant role in preserving and promoting the Buddhist legacy to the world. This celebration is a reflection of the deep connection between India and Buddhism, where sacred sites such as Bodh Gaya serve as living symbols of Buddha's journey toward Nirvana.
88. **World Anaesthesia Day is celebrated annually on October 16 to highlight the vital role of anaesthesia in modern**

medicine. It commemorates the first successful public demonstration of diethyl ether anaesthesia in 1846 and recognizes the contributions of anesthesiologists worldwide. The day serves as a reminder of how anaesthesia has transformed medical care by making surgeries painless, enhancing patient safety, and improving outcomes. The theme for World Anaesthesia Day 2024 is **"Workforce Well Being"**.

TUALCHHUNG:

1. Kut hnathawktute tuam hlawnma, **PM Kisan hnuai 18th instalment sum** chu October 5, Inrinni khan prime minister Narendra Modi chuan Washim, Maharashtra atangin kut hnathawktu mi nuai 940 chuang hnenah direct benefit transfer (DBT) kaltlangin a sem. Hamthatna dawngtu zingah Mizorama kut hnathawktu 1,10,279 an tel. PM Kisan 18th instalment sum semna hi Mizoram atangin online-in Agri- culture & Farmers Welfare secretary Ramdinliani hoa chhim a ni a; Agriculture & Farmers Welfare director, additional director, joint director leh district tina district agriculture officer-te an tel.
2. **Mizoram Journalist Association (MJA) Gen. Hqrs.** leh Home department tangkawp chuan 7th September khan Serchhip Press Club-ah **'Seminar on Cyber Crime'** an buatsaih a, a hawngtu chief minister Lalduhoma chuan sawisel duh neih chuan puitling takin, hmaikawr vuah loin sawisel mai ila a duhthu a sawi. Cyber Crime Addl. SP sawi danin, cyber crime hnuaihan hian thil tisualtute hremna atan Information Technology Act, 2000, BNS (Bharatiya Nagarik

Sanhita) section 351(3)(4), section 79, section 294(2)(a), 356(1), 351(2), Copyright Act Section 63 leh Cinematography Act section 7(1) hman theih a ni.

3. **Governor Indra Sena Reddy Nallu** chuan, Mizorama project tan tawh leh kalpui mek, engemaw rokhawlhna avanga tawp lailawkte chu chinfela, zawhfel thuai a ÷ul thu a sawi. Sairanga FCI kudam sak hna chawlh lailawk mek chungchangah nimin khan Governor chuan a kaihhnawih sorkar department - Land Revenue & Settlement, Environment, Forests & Climate Change (EFCC) leh Food Corporation of India (FCI) hotute chu harsatna awmte chinfel theih dan tur a sawipui a ni.
4. Mizoram sorkar chuan **Open Market Borrowing (OMB)** hmangin loan cheng vbc. 50 a pûk leh dawn. Sorkar kum kal mek 2024-25 chhunga a pûk tum rukna tur a ni a, OMB hmanga cheng nuai 592 a pûkna tur a ni. Sorkar sum kum kal mekah Mizoram sorkarin OMB hmanga sum a pûk tur zat ruahman chu cheng vbc. 1,170 a ni a; sorkar kum liam ta 2023-24 khan cheng vbc. 1,200 pûk tura ruahman niin, kum kal meka sum pûk tura ruahman hi 2023-24 aiin cheng vbc. 30-in a tlem zawk.
5. **Health & Family Welfare minister Lalrinpuii chuan** October 8 khan National Health Mission (NHM) hnuai hmalakna, National TB Elimination Programme leh Piramal Swasthya tangkawp buatsaih, '**TB Free Workplace Initiative**' a hawng. He hmalakna hnuai hian 'Portable digital X-ray machine' leh AI assisted diagnostic software hmangin TB vei leh vei loh hi

doctor-ten rang takin an endik nghal thei a ni.

6. **Sports and Youth Services Department** chuan October 9 khan April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024 chhunga infiammi ti thate incentive cash award an hlan a, award hi national leh international level-a infiammi medal la pha chinte hnenah an hlan. Sports minister Lalnginglova Hmar chu khuallian a ni. Dawrpui Multipurpose Centre-ah incentive cash award semna hi neih a ni a, infiammi 416 hnenah sum sem zat chu Rs. 1,10,92,000 a ni. Infiammi 416 atangin 276 chu mipa an ni a, hmeichhia 131 awmin contingent official mi pakua an awm bawk. Discipline hrang hrang 15 - badminton, basketball, belt wrestling, boxing, football, hockey, tennis, sepaktakraw, shooting, table tennis, taekwondo, volleyball, weightlifting, wrestling leh wushu ten national leh international level-ah medal an hlawh chhuak.
7. IWLFF Youth, Junior leh Senior National Weightlifting Championship neih laiah, Mizo tlangval **Laithanpuia** chuan **Mizoram tan gold medal a chhawi chhuak a**, Isak Malsawmtluanga'n bronze medal a la bawk. Himachal Pradesh, Nagrota Bagwan-a inelna neihah Laithanpuia hi 55kg huangah a khel. Mizoram aiawhtu hian snatch 99kg, clean & jerk 117, total-ah 216kg a chawi a, amah hnaih bertu Magesh Gamango (Odisha) chuan total-ah 204kg a chawitlung.
8. Health & Family Welfare minister Lalrinpuii chuan October 10 khan a pisaah National Health Mission, Mizoram hnuai National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) buatsaih '**Tobacco Free Youth Campaign 2.0**' a

tlangzarh a; E-cigarette siamchhuah, khawlkhawm, phurhchhuah, sawimawi, ram dang aṅanga lakluh leh zawrhte khap a nih thu tarlan a ni.

9. Regional Resource Training Centre (RRTC) for Senior Citizen, Mission Foundation Movement (MFM) chuan Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment hmalakna hnuaiah October 10 khan International Day of Older Person denchhenin Dawrpui Multipurpose Hall- ah Aizawla MUP unit hrang hrang member-te tan 'Empowering Senior Citizens on Digital Literacy & Health Support' an buatsaih.

10. Lunglei District Hub for Empowerment of Women, District Programme Officer office, Women & Child Development chuan Ocotber 11 khan DC conference hall-ah International Day of the Girl Child, 2024 kharna leh Jingles Competition lawmman semna hun an buatsaih a, additional DC James Miahlung-in a hmanpui. Jingles Competition-a pakhatna K Lalnunpuii, Class-IX, Serkawn Sikulpui-in Rs 5,500 a dawnga, pahnihna Leitlangpui High School-in Rs 3,500 leh pathumna B Lalremruati, Class-IX, Venglai High School-in Rs 2,500 a dawng bawk.

11. Union Defence minister Rajnath Singh chuan October 12, Inrinni khan Sikkim aṅangin India rama state/union territory 11-a cheng vbc. 2,236 senna Border Road Organisation (BRO) project 75 a hawng a; Mizoram Governor Dr Hari Babu Kambhampati-a'n Raj Bhavan aṅangin biakhmuhna kaltlangin a chhim. Defence Minister-in a hawn tak BRO project 75-te chu kawngpui 22, lei 51, helipad pakhat leh chenna hmun pakhat a ni a; Mizorama mi pakhat a tel. Project-te chu ram venhimna leh ramri dep hmun kilkhawr zawka inkalpawhna tihhmasawn nana ruahman a nih bakah, a vela chengte dinhmun chawikanna tura duan a ni. Mizorama project chu - Lawngtlai-Diltlang-Parva kawnga Ngengpuilui chung a lei dawh a ni a, metre 125-a thui a ni. Ngengpuilua lei dawh thar hi Parva leh a chhehvel Indo-Bangladesh leh Indo-Myanmar ramria inkalpawhna tha zawk pe thei tura beisei a ni. 71 RCC BRO-in Ngengpui lei an dawh thar hi October 10, 2024 khan adviser to CM Dr Lorrain Lalpekliana Chinzah, MLA chuan a hmunah a lo hawng tawh a; lei paltlangtu Lawnglai - Parva kawng hi km. 160-a thui a ni.