

Category
<u>Awards and Honours</u>
<u>Appointments</u>
<u>Banking & Finance</u>
<u>Indian Affairs</u>
<u>State Affairs</u>
<u>International Affairs</u>
<u>Business News</u>
<u>Ranks</u>
<u>Foreign Relation</u>
<u>Defence News</u>
<u>Science and Tech News</u>
<u>Books News</u>
<u>Sports News</u>
<u>Obituary News</u>
<u>Important Days and Themes</u>

Click the below buttons to Download Day Today GK's Free PDFs

[Current Affairs PDF](#)

[Current Affairs Quiz PDF](#)

[Math Tricks PDF](#)

[GK World PDF](#)

[GK India PDF](#)



Awards and Honours

Awardee Name	Award Name	Extra Information
Katalin Karikó and Drew Weissman	Nobel Prize 2023 In Medicine or Physiology	The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet has today decided to award the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.
Sudha Murty	First Woman to get 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.
Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L’Huillier	Nobel Prize in Physics 2023	Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L’Huillier “for experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electron dynamics in matter”.
Moungi G. Bawendi, Louis E. Brus, and Alexei I. Ekimov	Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2023	These tiny nanoparticles have far-reaching applications in various fields, from electronics to medical diagnostics.
Jon Fosse	Nobel Prize in Literature 2023	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.
Professor Dr. Joyeeta Gupta	Dutch Spinoza Prize for Climate Change Research	Dr. Joyeeta Gupta, an Indian-origin professor at the University of Amsterdam, has been awarded the prestigious Dutch Spinoza Prize for her groundbreaking work in the field of climate change.



CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER 2023

Claudia Goldin	Nobel Prize 2023 in Economic Sciences	The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2023 was awarded to Claudia Goldin “for having advanced our understanding of women’s labour market outcomes”.
NTPC	World’s Best Employers 202	India’s largest integrated energy conglomerate, NTPC Limited, has been recognized as one of the “World’s Best Employers 2023” in the Forbes World’s Best Employers List 2023 released on 10th Oct 2023.
MRPL	Best Innovation in Refinery’ Award For 2022-23	Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) has once again clinched the prestigious ‘Best Innovation in Refinery’ award for the year 2022-23, bestowed by the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas at the 26th Energy Technology Meet 2023.
Sivasankari	Saraswati Samman 2022	Tamil writer Sivasankari was honored with the prestigious ‘Saraswati Samman’ in 2022 for her memoirs, “Surya Vamsam.”
Michael Douglas	Satyajit Ray Excellence in Film Lifetime Award	ICICI Bank has recently launched ‘iFinance,’ a revolutionary feature set to change how millions of customers, including retail clients and sole proprietors, manage their finances.
Nita Ambani	USISPF Global Leadership Award for Philanthropy and Corporate Social Responsibility	Nita Ambani, Founder and Chair of Reliance Foundation, was honored with the 2023 USISPF Global Leadership Award for Philanthropy and Corporate Social Responsibility.



CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER 2023

Lionel Messi	eighth Ballon d’Or 2023	Lionel Messi and Aitana Bonmati have been honored as the 2023 Ballon d’Or recipients. Messi secures his eighth Ballon d’Or, setting a new record, thanks to his pivotal role in leading Argentina to their first World Cup victory since 1986.
--------------	-------------------------	--

Appointments

Name	Designation Name	Extra Information
Raghu Srinivasan	BRO Chief	Srinivasan is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy in Khadakwasla and the Indian Military Academy in Dehradun, where he was commissioned into the Corps of Engineers in 1987.
Tarun Sobti	Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff	Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti, AVSM, VSM, took over as the Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff, marking a significant transition in the leadership of the Indian Navy.
Anirban Mukherjee	Global CEO - PayU	This move signals a strategic shift within PayU to concentrate on its Indian operations and adapt to the rapidly evolving digital payments landscape in the country.
Sachin Tendulkar	Global Ambassador’ for ODI World Cup 2023	The International Cricket Council (ICC) has made an exciting announcement on Tuesday, designating the legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar as the ‘Global Ambassador’ for the highly anticipated Cricket World Cup 2023.
Aditya Puri	Deloitte As Senior Advisor	Former managing director and CEO of HDFC Bank



CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER 2023

		Aditya Puri joined Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP as a senior adviser.
Muneesh Kapur	RBI - Executive Director	The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the appointment of Muneesh Kapur as an Executive Director (ED) starting on October 3, 2023.
MS Dhoni	Reliance JioMart - Brand Ambassador	Reliance Retail's JioMart has signed up Mahendra Singh Dhoni, India's most iconic cricketer, as its brand ambassador. Dhoni's association comes alongside the rebranding of their festive campaign JioMart to "JioUtsav, Celebrations Of India," which is scheduled to launch on October 8, 2023.
Ramaswamy N	Chairman and Managing Director of GIC Re	GIC Re welcomed Ramaswamy N as its new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) with effect from October 1, 2023. This appointment signifies a pivotal change in leadership within the organization.
Navneet Munot	Chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)	The Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) has recently elected Navneet Munot, the Managing Director and CEO of HDFC Asset Management, as the Chairman during a Board meeting.
VJ Kurian	South Indian Bank – Chairman	VJ Kurian has been appointed as the non-executive part-time chairman of the South Indian Bank, based in Thrissur. His appointment is set to take effect from November 2, 2023, and will continue until March 22, 2026.
Neeraj Chopra	Laureus Ambassador	Asian Games gold medalist and reigning Olympic and



CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER 2023

		World Champion in men's javelin, Neeraj Chopra, has been honored as a Laureus Ambassador, pledging his support to the Laureus Sport for Good initiative.
B K Mohanty	Director Of Finance At IREDA	Dr Bijay Kumar Mohanty officially assumed the role of Director (Finance) at the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA).
Siddharth Mridul	chief justice of Manipur High Court	Justice Siddharth Mridul was appointed as the chief justice of Manipur High Court three months after the Supreme Court Collegium recommendation.
Arindam Bagchi	India's Ambassador to UN in Geneva	Arindam Bagchi, currently serving as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as India's next Ambassador/Permanent Representative to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva. This significant appointment marks a key change in India's diplomatic representation in Geneva.
Sanjay Kulshreshtha	Chairman and Managing Director of HUDCO	Sanjay Kulshreshtha has joined as the Chairman & Managing Director of the HUDCO from 16th October 2023. He is an electrical engineer with over 32 years of expertise in Infrastructure Financing, Hedging, Risk Management, ALM, thermal power plant management, Power Sector Project Financing, etc.
Ashok Vaswani	Kotak Mahindra Bank CEO	Kotak Mahindra Bank, one of India's leading private sector banks, has welcomed Ashok Vaswani as its next Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.



CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER 2023

Sanjay Kumar Jain	Chairman and Managing Director - Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation	His appointment comes after a vacancy in the position since the retirement of Mahendra Pratap Maal in January 2021. The recommendation for his appointment was made by the Search-Cum-Selection Committee (SCSC) and subsequently approved.
Mohammed Shami	Brand Ambassador – Puma	In an exciting development for sports enthusiasts and fans, Puma, the renowned sports brand, has announced the inclusion of Mohammed Shami, a prominent Indian fast bowler, as its brand ambassador.
Ipsita Dasgupta	Senior Vice President & MD for India – HP	Hewlett-Packard (HP) has announced a significant leadership change with the appointment of Ipsita Dasgupta as the Senior Vice President and managing Director for its India market.
Mahendra Singh Dhoni	Brand Ambassador – Lays	Harnessing Dhoni’s universal appeal, the campaign emphasizes truth, a match without Lay’s is simply unthinkable for true fans.
Chetan Bhagat	Brand Ambassador For Edtech startup	Henry Harvin Education stands as a prominent provider of training and advisory services, marking its inception in July 2013.
Amol Muzumdar	Head Coach of India Women	In a significant development in Indian women’s cricket, Amol Muzumdar, the former Mumbai batsman, has been named as the head coach of the India women’s national team.
Rajkummar Rao	Election Commission - National Icon	Actor Rajkummar Rao, celebrated for his portrayal of a principled government clerk in the Hindi film “Newton,” tasked with conducting elections in the



		Naxal-affected areas of Chhattisgarh, is set to be inducted as a National Icon by the Election Commission (EC).
Katrina Kaif	Global Brand Ambassador - Swiss Watchmaker	Luxury Swiss watch brand, Rado, a brand known for its excellence in watchmaking has welcomed none other than Bollywood sensation Katrina Kaif as its Global Brand Ambassador.
MS Dhoni	SBI - Brand Ambassador	The State Bank of India (SBI), the nation's largest lender, has appointed the legendary cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni as its official Brand Ambassador.

Banking & Finance

Fintech Unicorn Slice To Merge With North East Small Finance Bank

In a groundbreaking development, Indian fintech unicorn Slice has officially confirmed its merger with North East Small Finance Bank (NESFB).

This announcement comes following the approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), marking a rare feat in the financial technology sector.

The collaboration between Slice and NESFB aims to revolutionize banking services and expand financial inclusion in India.

YES Bank Becomes The First Lender To Offer 'ONDC Network Gift Card'

YES Bank, a prominent financial institution in India, has taken a significant leap forward in the digital commerce space by introducing the ONDC Network Gift Card.

This move makes YES Bank the first bank in the country to issue such a card. In partnership with the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), this initiative aims to transform the shopping experience for Indian consumers.

Federal Bank Launched 'Mookkannoor Mission' Initiative At Its Founder's Village



On the occasion of the 106th birth anniversary of its visionary founder, K.P Hormis yesterday, the Federal Bank recently inaugurated the ‘Mookkannoor Mission,’ a groundbreaking initiative designed to drive change and progress in the village of Mookkannoor, located in the Ernakulam district of Kerala.

This initiative is a testament to the bank’s commitment to community development, environmental sustainability, and digital transformation, aligning perfectly with the ideals of its illustrious founder.

Fincare SFB to merge with AU Small Finance Bank

Fincare Small Finance Bank (Fincare SFB) is set to merge with AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB) starting from February 1, 2024, pending necessary approvals and regulatory endorsements.

This significant merger aims to create a robust financial institution with enhanced capabilities and a broader reach.

Under the merger agreement, shareholders of Fincare SFB will receive 579 shares in AU SFB for every 2,000 shares they hold in Fincare SFB.

Post-transaction, existing Fincare SFB shareholders are expected to maintain approximately 9.9% ownership in AU SFB.

RBI Approves MobiKwik’s Zaakpay To Operate As Payment Aggregator

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted in-principle authorization to Zaakpay, the secure payment gateway arm of MobiKwik to operate as a payment aggregator.

This authorization paves the way for Zaakpay to onboard new merchants onto its platform, facilitating quick and easy processing of online payments.

Zaakpay offers over 100 different payment methods, including UPI, debit and credit cards, net banking, and mobile wallets, catering to the evolving needs of consumers and businesses alike.

Zaakpay collaborates with various brands in e-commerce, mobility, and bill payments, making it a versatile solution for businesses across multiple sectors.

IDFC gets CCI nod for merger with IDFC First Bank

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has given its approval for the merger of the Infrastructure Development Finance Company (IDFC) and IDFC First Bank. This approval was communicated through a regulatory filing on October 17, 2023.

The merger had previously received the green light from the board of directors of both IDFC and IDFC First Bank on July 3. These include the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).



The merger also needs the consent of stock exchanges, as well as the agreement of shareholders and creditors of both IDFC and IDFC First Bank.

Bharti Group To Acquire French Insurer AXA's 49% Stake In Bharti AXA Life Insurance Co.

In a significant development in the Indian insurance industry, the Bharti Group has announced its acquisition of French insurer AXA's 49% stake in Bharti AXA Life Insurance Co.

This move marks the consolidation of a venture that was jointly run for nearly two decades. While the details of the deal remain undisclosed, this acquisition raises questions about AXA's continued presence in the Indian insurance market.

Additionally, Bharti Group is exploring opportunities to scale up its business by partnering with other investors.

Asian Development Bank Invests \$181 Million to Improve Ahmedabad's Peri-urban Areas

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has given the green light for a \$181 million loan to enhance the quality of life in the peri-urban areas around Ahmedabad, a city in the state of Gujarat, India. The aim is to improve urban living conditions and mobility in these rapidly growing areas.

One of the main goals of this project is to control urban sprawl. This is a planning approach that could be used in other states as well. It helps manage the growth of cities and their surrounding regions.

Indian Affairs

'Swachhata Hi Seva' Campaign: Highlights Of A Garbage-Free India

The Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) campaign, which kicked off on September 15, reached its culmination on the eve of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary.

This nationwide initiative, also known as the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign, was led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and garnered widespread participation from citizens across India.

The campaign was not just a standalone effort but a precursor to the grand celebration of 'Swachh Bharat Diwas' or 'Swachhta Diwas,' observed on October 2 each year.

Supreme Court Declines to Recognize Same-Sex Marriages



A five-judge Constitution Bench, led by Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud, issued a unanimous verdict declining to recognize same-sex marriages and civil unions for non-heterosexual couples.

All five judges on the Bench, including the CJI, agreed that there is no fundamental right to marry under the Indian Constitution.

Interpretation of the Special Marriage Act, 1954 to allow same-sex marriage using gender-neutral language was deemed unfeasible.

Govt gives nod to Jamrani Dam multipurpose Project in Uttarakhand

The Indian central government has given the green light to include the Jamrani Dam Multipurpose Project in Uttarakhand under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana-Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (PMKSY-AIBP).

This decision was made during a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

APAAR: ‘One Nation, One Student ID’

The Union Education Ministry has recently advised all states to implement the Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR), also known as the ‘One Nation, One Student ID.’ This move aims to create a seamless educational ecosystem and facilitate better tracking of students’ academic journeys and achievements.

The National Educational Technology Forum (NETF) under the Ministry of Education initiated the concept to create a comprehensive educational ecosystem registry that includes students, teachers, schools, and colleges.

Govt To Invest ₹30,000 Crore To Expand Crop Insurance Portal Coverage

In a significant development for the agricultural sector in India, the government has unveiled plans to allocate ₹30,000 crore to enhance the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) portal.

The primary objective of this initiative is to transform the PMFBY into a comprehensive platform that will extend insurance coverage beyond crops to include a wide range of agricultural assets, such as ponds, tractors, livestock, and even palm trees.

India To Host World’s Largest Textiles Event, Bharat Tex 2024

The upcoming Bharat Tex 2024 Expo, scheduled to take place from February 26-29, next year, promises to be a groundbreaking event that will significantly impact India’s position in the global textile industry.

At a curtain raiser event, Union Minister Piyush Goyal expressed his optimism, emphasizing that this expo will establish India as a true global textiles powerhouse.



Bharat Tex 2024 Expo has been conceived as the largest textile fair in the world in terms of exhibition area. It is set to showcase India's capabilities as a reliable supplier of textile products, spanning the entire value chain, all under one roof.

The event will be hosted in the newly inaugurated Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi complexes, which themselves represent a leap forward in India's textile infrastructure.

India to Invest ₹143 Lakh Crore in Infrastructure by 2030

India is gearing up for a substantial infrastructure spending spree, with a plan to invest nearly ₹143 lakh crore between fiscal years 2024 and 2030. This represents more than double the ₹67 lakh crore spent on infrastructure over the past seven financial years starting from 2017.

The rating agency CRISIL shared this information in its Infrastructure Yearbook 2023, underlining the significance of this ambitious undertaking.

NLC India Green Energy Limited To Boost India's Green Energy Capacity

NLC India, a Navratna public sector company, has unveiled its latest venture into the renewable energy sector. On a mission to bolster India's green energy capacity, the company has established a wholly-owned subsidiary known as NLC India Green Energy Limited (NIGEL).

The subsidiary is set to play a pivotal role in the country's sustainable energy journey, focusing on expanding renewable energy projects and technological innovations.

State related Affairs

J&K Achieves 100% Open Defecation Free Plus Model Status

All 6,650 villages of Jammu and Kashmir have been declared Open Defecation-Free (ODF) Plus Model under the Swachh Bharat Mission.

Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Jammu and Kashmir has achieved a status that extends beyond constructing toilets; it encompasses the management of greywater and solid waste in each village.

UP wins award for using telecommunication technology in mental health and counseling

On October 10th, Uttar Pradesh was awarded the third prize for its outstanding efforts in operationalizing Telemanas, a tele-technology-based mental health and counseling service.

The award was presented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, and was received by Dr. Pinky Joval, the Mission Director of the National Health Mission in Uttar Pradesh. The award is a testament to UP's dedication to mental health and the invaluable service it provides to its citizens.



Tamil Nadu's AI-Powered Elephant Protection System Aims to Prevent Train Collisions

Tamil Nadu is nearing the completion of its pioneering artificial intelligence (AI)-based early warning system designed to safeguard wild elephants from train collisions.

This innovative project is being implemented along the Ettimadai–Walayar railway section, serving as an additional layer of protection for these majestic pachyderms.

Tamil Nadu's AI-based early warning system stands as a remarkable initiative to preserve the lives of wild elephants and reduce the risks associated with train collisions.

As the final stages of implementation are underway, it is anticipated that this system will play a pivotal role in safeguarding the precious wildlife in the Ettimadai–Walayar region, demonstrating the harmonious coexistence of technology and conservation.

Rajasthan govt launched the 'iStart Talent Connect Portal'

Rajasthan government unveiled the 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' at Jaipur's Techno Hub. This new portal is a significant addition to the state's flagship initiative, iStart Rajasthan, and is a collaborative effort with the Jaipur-based startup, HyreFox.

The 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' has been developed as a user-friendly platform to cater to the needs of both job providers and job seekers. It not only facilitates talent discovery but also allows companies to post job openings and connect with potential employees.

Tripura Becomes Fourth State To Implement E-Cabinet System

In a significant leap towards a more technologically advanced and environmentally responsible governance system, Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha recently introduced the state's e-cabinet system.

This move positions Tripura as the fourth Indian state, and the second in the Northeast region, to adopt an e-cabinet system after Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Arunachal Pradesh.

The introduction of this system signifies a commitment to paperless cabinet meetings, reducing the carbon footprint and promoting environmental sustainability through the use of digital tablets by ministers and bureaucrats.

Madhya Pradesh To Provide 35% Reservation For Women In Govt. Jobs

In an important development towards gender equality and women's empowerment, the Madhya Pradesh government has announced a groundbreaking policy to reserve 35% of all state government job positions for women, excluding the Forest Department.

This progressive amendment to the Madhya Pradesh Civil Services (Special Provision for Appointment of Women) Rules, 1997, comes just ahead of the upcoming state assembly elections.



Arunachal Pradesh's Yak Churpi' Receives GI Tag

Slightly sour and salty churpi, a naturally fermented cheese prepared from the milk of Arunachali yak, nurtured in the high-altitude areas of Arunachal Pradesh, has recently received the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

This recognition not only celebrates the culinary heritage of the region but also plays a vital role in the conservation of the yak population in the Himalayan region. Churpi, rich in protein, has been a lifeline for tribal yak herders in the harsh, vegetation-starved, cold, and hilly mountainous regions of the state.

Bihar govt announces 10% reservation for EWS in judicial services

In a significant move, the Bihar government has unveiled a 10% reservation quota for people falling under the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) category in the state's judicial services, as well as in government-run law colleges and universities.

This announcement comes on the heels of the release of the state's caste-based survey results. The decision was formally approved by the Bihar cabinet, as announced by Additional Chief Secretary (Cabinet Secretariat) S Siddhartha.

Assam Launches Orunodoi 2.0

Assam has introduced an upgraded version of its poverty alleviation scheme called Orunodoi 2.0. The new scheme was launched with the distribution of Orunodoi Cards to additional beneficiaries, marking a significant step in empowering disadvantaged sections of society.

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma personally initiated the distribution process of Orunodoi Cards to new beneficiaries. The event took place in Kokrajhar and included the presentation of cards to some of the newly enrolled beneficiaries.

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.

Jharkhand first state to take steps to ensure minimum wages for workers

Jharkhand is making history by becoming the first state in India to take steps towards including gig workers, such as Swiggy, Zomato, Ola, Uber, and Rapido employees, under the



ambit of minimum wages. This initiative is a significant move towards ensuring fair compensation for those in the gig economy.

Jharkhand's groundbreaking move to consider minimum wages for gig workers and review minimum wage standards for other laborers is a significant step toward ensuring fair compensation for workers in various sectors. It also highlights the state's commitment to both local employment and social justice.

Udaipur Set To Become 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.

According to recent reports, the city has been chosen as a potential Ramsar Convention site of International Importance, a recognition coveted by wetland-rich regions around the globe.

GI Tag for Goan Cashew

In a significant development, the Goan cashew, known for its long and cherished heritage, has been awarded a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

This recognition, granted by the Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai, establishes Goan cashew as a unique product originating from a specific geographical region.

The GI tag serves as a trademark, distinguishing it in the international market. The impact of this prestigious tag on the Goan cashew industry is substantial, as it aims to preserve tradition and authenticity.

International Affairs

Escalation of Israel-Palestine Conflict: "Operation Al-Aqsa Flood" Unleashed by Hamas Sparks Widespread Violence

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. The attacks were swift and intense, causing panic among Israeli citizens.

Reports indicated the use of unconventional methods, such as paragliders, and attacks on civilians on roads.

FATF Removes Cayman Islands From Its 'Grey List'



The Financial Action Task Force (FATF), an inter-governmental body responsible for setting international standards to combat money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing, has recently made headlines by removing several countries from its ‘grey list’ while adding another.

The FATF maintains a ‘grey list,’ which consists of jurisdictions that do not meet the organization’s anti-money laundering (AML), counter-terrorism financing (CFT), and proliferation financing standards.

Countries placed on this list are subject to increased monitoring until identified deficiencies in their regulatory frameworks are resolved.

Israel Declared “State of War” After Being Hit By 5,000 Rockets From Gaza

On October 7, Palestinian fighters launched a major attack on Israel, infiltrating southern Israel and firing a barrage of rockets from the Gaza Strip. This operation, named “Operation Al-Aqsa Storm,” marks one of the most substantial confrontations between the two sides in years.

The attack began with rocket fire from multiple locations in Gaza and included unexpected tactics such as paragliders and fighters inside Israel.

The Israeli military stated that Hamas executed a coordinated operation, involving rocket attacks and a terrorist infiltration into Israeli territory.

Kuwait’s Plan to Boost Fossil Fuel Production

Kuwait’s oil minister recently unveiled a bold strategy aimed at enhancing the country’s fossil fuel production capabilities. This strategy also involves preparations for the Durra gas field, which is jointly shared with Saudi Arabia, amidst a dispute with Iran over ownership claims.

The primary objective of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) is to raise its overall oil production capacity to a staggering 4 million barrels per day (bpd) by the year 2035.

Kuwait’s production capacity currently stands at approximately 2.9 million bpd and is projected to reach 3.2 million bpd by 2025 or 2026.

Sri Lanka to take over as Chair of the Indian Ocean Rim Association

The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) is an intergovernmental organization of 23 member states and 11 dialogue partners from Africa, West Asia, South Asia, South-East Asia, and Oceania. It was established in 1997 to promote regional cooperation and development.

The IORA Council of Ministers meeting is the highest decision-making body of the Association. It is held annually to discuss and decide on IORA priorities.

Israel imposes total siege on Gaza



Israel imposed a total siege on the Gaza Strip and cut off water supply following a surprise offensive by Hamas. The conflict has escalated, causing civilian casualties and displacement.

Hamas launched a surprise offensive, leading to Israeli airstrikes on Gaza. Dozens of Palestinians were killed and wounded, with over 570 casualties reported.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed a strong response, threatening to turn Hamas sites to rubble. Israel imposed a complete siege on Gaza, impacting 2.3 million people: with no electricity, food, water, or gas.

China Is Building World's Largest Ghost Particle Detector, 'Trident'

China is embarking on a groundbreaking endeavor by constructing an immense telescope in the western Pacific Ocean. The primary mission of this massive facility is to detect elusive particles known as "ghost particles" or neutrinos.

This ambitious undertaking will result in the world's largest neutrino-detecting telescope.

Neutrinos are a type of electron but, like neutrons, they do not have any charge. They are among the most abundant particles in our universe. With trillions of neutrinos passing through at any given second, they are also among the tiniest.

Neutrinos were long believed to be massless, until scientists found evidence that they do have a very small mass.

Foreign Relations

India And Saudi Arabia Tie Up For Green Hydrogen

India and Saudi Arabia have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on securing a green hydrogen supply chain and collaborating on power grid interconnection.

This significant agreement was formalized in Riyadh during the MENA Climate Week 2023, with Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, RK Singh, representing India and Saudi Minister of Energy, Abdulaziz bin Salman Al-Saud, representing Saudi Arabia .

This MoU sets the stage for multifaceted collaboration in the energy sector between the two nations.

'India, Tanzania to sign 15 agreements with an eye on USD 10 billion trade'

India and Tanzania are set to boost their bilateral cooperation as Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan visits India after an eight-year gap.

The visit aims to elevate their relations to a strategic partnership and enhance trade and investment ties. Tanzanian Foreign Minister January Yusuf Makamba anticipates the signing of 15 agreements covering various areas of cooperation.



India Launches Operation Ajay

Amid a full-blown war with the Hamas group in Gaza, India has launched “Operation Ajay” to facilitate the return of its citizens from Israel, where approximately 18,000 Indians reside.

The initiative aims to ensure the safety and well-being of Indian nationals abroad as the conflict escalates.

The Indian Embassy in Israel has already taken action by notifying the first group of Indian citizens who had registered to return home.

Business News

Air India Installs Massive Engineering Warehouse At Delhi Airport

Air India, one of India’s leading airlines, announced on Friday the inauguration of its state-of-the-art mega warehouse facility in Delhi.

This facility, spanning an impressive 54,000 square feet and strategically located near Terminal 3 at Delhi Airport’s cargo complex, marks a significant milestone in the airline’s commitment to enhancing aircraft maintenance operations.

JioSpaceFiber: India’s First Satellite-Based Gigabit Broadband Service

Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd, India’s leading telecommunications provider has introduced ‘JioSpaceFiber’ satellite broadband service.

This groundbreaking initiative was officially unveiled at the India Mobile Congress and represents the nation’s first satellite-driven giga fiber service.

The primary goal of this satellite broadband service is to extend high-speed internet access to previously underserved and remote regions in India.

Nokia Opens 6G Lab Facility In Bengaluru

Telecom giant Nokia has made a significant stride towards the future of wireless technology with the establishment of its state-of-the-art 6G lab at the company’s global R&D center in Bengaluru, India.

This “first-of-its-kind” project is set to revolutionize the way we perceive and interact with the digital and physical worlds.

Nokia’s 6G lab in Bengaluru is more than just a research facility; it’s a hub for innovation and collaboration among industry stakeholders.



The primary objective is to accelerate the development of fundamental technologies and innovative use cases that will shape the future of wireless communication.

QatarEnergy and Italy's Eni Ink 27-Year Natural Gas Deal

State-owned QatarEnergy recently announced a significant development in its efforts to expand its presence in the European gas market. The company has entered into a long-term agreement with Italy's Eni to supply liquefied natural gas (LNG) for a period of 27 years.

This deal follows similar agreements with the Netherlands, through Shell, and France, via TotalEnergies, signed earlier this month. The agreements mark a notable shift in Qatar's traditional gas export focus towards Asia, now strengthening its foothold in Europe.

Tata to Become India's First iPhone Manufacturer as Wistron Approves Factory Sale

The Tata Group has taken a significant step towards manufacturing and assembling Apple iPhones in India for domestic and international markets.

This move follows the acquisition of Wistron's operations in India, marking a groundbreaking development in the Indian electronics manufacturing sector.

Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar announced this major venture, highlighting the Tata Group's ambition to become a key player in the global electronics industry.

Google and Qualcomm partner to make RISC-V chip for wearable devices

The partnership between Qualcomm and Google to produce wearable devices based on RISC-V technology marks a significant step in the development of open-source hardware and its application in consumer electronics.

By utilizing RISC-V technology, Qualcomm aims to challenge the dominance of proprietary technologies, particularly those provided by British chip designer Arm Holdings.

The roots of open-source technology can be traced back to the early days of computing when programmers and developers often shared and collaborated on their work.

NLC India Ltd Secures 810 MW Solar PV Project In Rajasthan

NLC India Ltd. (NLCIL), a Navaratna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Coal, has recently achieved a remarkable feat in the renewable energy sector by securing an 810 MW solar photovoltaic power project.

This project is awarded by Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RRVUNL) and marks a significant step forward in NLCIL's commitment to clean and sustainable energy solutions.

Bridgestone Partners With Tata Power To Install EV Chargers For Four-Wheelers



Tyre manufacturer Bridgestone India has announced a significant collaboration with Tata Power to promote electric mobility in the country.

Under this partnership, Tata Power will install high-capacity DC fast chargers at Bridgestone dealerships across India, making it easier for electric vehicle (EV) owners to recharge their vehicles quickly and conveniently. This initiative represents a major step toward supporting the growing EV ecosystem in India.

Microsoft Completes \$69 Billion Acquisition of Activision Blizzard

Microsoft has successfully completed its acquisition of Activision Blizzard, the renowned developer behind popular video game franchises like Call of Duty and World of Warcraft.

This monumental deal, valued at \$69 billion, signifies Microsoft's largest-ever acquisition in its history, surpassing the \$26 billion purchase of LinkedIn in 2016 and the \$7.5 billion acquisition of Bethesda in 2021.

Notably, this acquisition also represents Microsoft's most significant foray into the gaming industry.

NSDC and Coca-Cola India Launch 'Super Power Retailer Program' to Empower Retailers

In a significant move to empower the retailer community in the states of Odisha and Uttar Pradesh, the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), operating under the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), has joined forces with Coca-Cola India.

Together, they have announced the launch of the 'Super Power Retailer Program' under the Skill India Mission, with its pilot phase initiated in Odisha. This collaborative initiative seeks to provide essential training to retailers, equipping them to expand their businesses and enhance consumer experiences, ultimately strengthening India's economy.

Zomato Introduces Maternity Insurance Plan for Women Delivery Partners

Zomato has taken a big step to support its women's delivery partners by introducing a maternity insurance plan. The goal is to make the Zomato community more welcoming and helpful for these women and their families during pregnancy. This initiative is the first of its kind in the industry.

Rakesh Ranjan, the CEO of Zomato's Food Delivery division, mentioned, "By launching Comprehensive Maternity Insurance for Gig Workers, we aim to provide additional support to our partners during their motherhood journey, strengthening our dedication towards their well-being and financial security."

Tata Motors Wins ₹766 Crore Arbitration Award in Singur Plant Dispute

Tata Motors has secured a significant ₹766 crore arbitration award from the West Bengal Industrial Development Corp. Ltd (WBIDC), concluding a prolonged dispute stemming from the closure of its Singur plant in 2008.



This plant was intended for manufacturing the Nano, the world's most affordable car.

Tata Motors initially invested in the Singur project to create the "people's car" at an affordable ₹1 lakh price tag.

Ranks

Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2023

India has been placed 111th out of 125 countries in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2023. This ranking has been challenged by the Indian government, which labeled it as "erroneous" and driven by "malafide intent". In 2022, India stood 107th out of 121 countries in the GHI.

With a score of 28.7, India's hunger situation is categorized as serious. Countries in the vicinity like Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka rank better at 102nd, 81st, 69th, and 60th respectively.

However, India's score is slightly better than that of South Asia and Africa South of the Sahara, both of which have scores of 27.

Mumbai Secures 19th Spot, Bengaluru 22nd And New Delhi 25th In The Knight Frank Index

London-based property consultant, Knight Frank, has recently unveiled its Global Prime Residential Index, providing insight into the performance of various cities across the world in the residential real estate market.

In the latest report for Q2 2023, Mumbai, Bengaluru, and New Delhi have showcased impressive growth, securing notable positions on the index.

With an astonishing annual percentage change of six percent, Mumbai has ascended 76 places to secure the 19th position on the index, a significant improvement from its 95th position in Q2 2022.

Kempegowda International Airport tops global on-time performance rankings

In a recent report published by aviation analytics firm Cirium, the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru, also known as the Bengaluru International Airport, has earned a remarkable distinction.

It has been recognized as the "world's most punctual airport" for the past three consecutive months. This accolade underscores the airport's exceptional commitment to on-time departures and an impressive travel experience for passengers.



Defence News

SAMPRITI-XI: Indian Army and Bangladesh Army commence joint military exercise

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.

Indian Air Force Set to Induct Astra BVR Air-to-Air Missile

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is making significant strides towards enhancing its air defense capabilities with the impending induction of indigenous Astra Beyond Visual Range (BVR) Air-to-Air Missiles.

The IAF has entered into contracts with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for these advanced missiles, marking a crucial step towards reducing import dependency and bolstering national security.

360 Degree Appraisal System Introduced In The Indian Navy

The Indian Navy, known for its commitment to excellence and continuous improvement, has embarked on a transformative initiative known as the ‘360 Degree Appraisal Mechanism.’

This initiative recognizes the invaluable contributions of both women and men in whites and aims to enhance their professional and personal development.

The Indian Navy has always prioritized its personnel as the cornerstone of its operational efficiency. The men and women who serve in white uniforms play a pivotal role in the Indian Navy’s ‘SHIPS FIRST’ approach.

First Mobile Tower Installed At Siachen Glacier By The Indian Army

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.

Union Minister Devusinh Chauhan shared the noteworthy achievement on the social media platform ‘X’.



What is 'IRON BEAM' Missile Defence System?

Israel tested its new laser-based 'Iron Beam' missile defence system. The system is designed to destroy short-range rockets, artillery, and mortar bombs. The system could also intercept unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). It has a range of up to 7 km.

Iron Beam constitutes the sixth element of Israel's integrated missile defense system, in addition to Arrow 2, Arrow 3, David's Sling, and Iron Dome. Iron Beam uses a fiber laser to generate a laser beam to destroy an airborne target.

The main benefits of using a directed energy weapon over conventional missile interceptors are lower costs per shot, an unlimited number of firings, lower operational costs, and less manpower. There is also no interceptor debris to fall on the area protected.

Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023

The Indian and Malaysian armies have kicked off their joint bilateral training exercise, known as "Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023," at Umroi Cantonment. This collaborative effort between the two nations seeks to strengthen their military capabilities and deepen the bonds of friendship.

The Malaysian Army contingent, comprising troops from the 5th Royal Battalion of the Malaysian Army, joins hands with the Indian contingent represented by a battalion of THE RAJPUT REGIMENT.

This exercise is a follow-up to the previous edition held in Pulai, Kluang, Malaysia, in November 2022.

Indian Navy Launches 25T Bollard Pull Tug 'MAHABALI' In Gujarat

Commodore Sunil Kaushik, launched the remarkable vessel, the 25T Bollard Pull Tug named 'Mahabali,' on the 28th of October 2023 at M/s Shoft Shipyard Pvt Ltd in Bharuch, Gujarat.

This launch not only represented a new addition to India's naval fleet but also a significant milestone in the 'Make in India' initiative of the Ministry of Defence.

Indian Army and Air Force Contingent Set Off for 'Exercise KAZIND-2023'

In a significant development, a contingent from the Indian Army and Indian Air Force, comprising 120 personnel, embarked on a mission to Kazakhstan today.

They aim to participate in the 7th edition of the Joint Military 'Exercise KAZIND-2023.' This collaborative endeavor will take place in Otar, Kazakhstan, from 30th October to 11th November 2023.

The Indian Army contingent, led by a Battalion from the DOGRA Regiment, consists of 90 personnel.



Alongside them, 30 Air Force personnel from both sides will also actively partake in this year's Exercise. This dynamic blend of Army and Air Force elements underscores the holistic nature of this bi-service exercise.

Science related Affairs

Miura-1 Rocket: Europe's First Private Rocket Launch

Spanish aerospace company PLD Space has achieved a significant milestone by successfully launching its recoverable Miura-1 rocket.

This achievement marks Europe's first fully private rocket launch and offers a glimmer of hope for Europe's space ambitions. The Miura-1 rocket, named after a fighting bull, conducted a suborbital test flight with the goal of gathering crucial data for future missions.

The Miura-1 is a single-stage rocket standing at an impressive 41 feet (12.5 meters) tall.

It has a payload capacity of approximately 220 pounds (100 kilograms) for suborbital space flights. The rocket is designed with the capability for recovery, making it a pioneering project in Europe.

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Safran to Make Aircraft Engine Parts

In a significant development for the aviation industry, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Safran Aircraft Engines, a leading French aero engine design, development, and manufacturing company, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at fostering industrial cooperation and collaboration.

This strategic partnership encompasses various key areas within the aviation sector and marks a pivotal moment in India's aerospace landscape.

Book News

Vivek Agnihotri launches his latest book "The Book of Life: My Dance with Buddha for Success"

Vivek Agnihotri, director of The Kashmir Files, has launched his latest book, "The Book of Life: My Dance with Buddha for Success" in Lucknow.

He also directed a medical drama film 'The Vaccine War' in 2023. Balram Bhargava is the writer of the book on which the movie is based. Bhargava's book, 'Going Viral – Making of Covaxin: The Inside Story', documents his experiences.

'Gadkari': The Biopic of 'Expressway Man of India'



A biographical film about Nitin Gadkari, who serves as the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, is scheduled for release on October 27th. Titled ‘Gadkari,’ the movie will explore different facets of his life. Actor Rahul Chopda has been cast to portray the role of Nitin Gadkari in this biopic.

The film celebrates his inspiring journey, from a common political worker to becoming a distinguished Cabinet Minister, who has left an indelible mark on the Indian infrastructure landscape.

Sports News

Name	Tournament & Title name	Extra Information
Avinash Sable	Asian Games 2023- Gold	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.
Jyothi, Aditi, and Parneet	Gold in Compound Archery at the Asian Games	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.
Dipika Pallikal, Harinder Pal Sandhu	Asian Games 2023 - 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.

Obituary News

Name	Associated Field
Anathalavattom Anandan	Veteran Communist Party Leader
Terence Davies	British Filmmaker
Michael Chiarello	Celebrity Chef And Former Food Network Star
Louise Gluck	Nobel Prize-Winning Poet
Martti Ahtisaari	Former Finnish President
MS Gill	Former Chief Election Commissioner
PV Gangadharan	Noted Malayalam film producer



CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER 2023

Bishan Singh Bedi	Legendary Indian spinner
Richard Roundtree	First Black Action Hero
Li Keqiang	Former Chinese Premier
Sarat Barkotoky	Assam Former minister, retired teacher

Important Days

Days	Date	Themes
Gandhi Jayanti	October 02	Ek Tareekh Ek Ghanta Ek Saath
International Day of Non-Violence	October 02	
National Wildlife Week	October 02 – 08	Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation
World Nature Day	October 03	Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet’.
World Animal Welfare Day	October 04	Great or Small, Love Them All
World Teachers Day	October 05	The Teachers We Need for the Education We Want: The Global Imperative to Reverse the Teacher Shortage
World Cotton Day	October 07	Making cotton fair and sustainable for all, from farm to fashion
Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day	October 09	
World Post Day	October 09	Together for Trust: Collaborating for a safe and connected future
World Sight Day	October 12	Love Your Eyes at Work
International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction	October 13	Fighting inequality for a resilient future
World Migratory Bird Day	October 14	
World Anaesthesia Day	October 16	Anaesthesia and Cancer Care
World Food Day	October 16	
International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	October 17	Decent Work and Social Protection
World Trauma Day	October 17	
United Nations Day	October 24	
World Development Information Day	October 24	
UN Disarmament Week	October 24 – 30	
Global Media and Information Literacy Week	October 24 -31	
World Polio Day	October 24	
Accession Day	October 26	



CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCTOBER 2023

International Day of Care and Support	October 29	
World Stroke Day	October 29	
Vigilance Awareness Week	October 30 – Nov 05	Say no to corruption; commit to the Nation

