



CURRENT AFFAIRS

25 October 2020

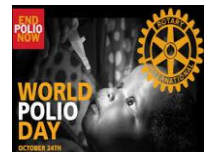
Today's Important News

India gets chairmanship of ILO governing body after a gap of 35 years.



1. World Polio Day is observed on 24 October

- The World Polio Day is celebrated annually on October 24, to raise awareness for polio vaccination and eradication of polio. World Polio Day provides an opportunity to highlight global efforts toward a polio-free world and honour the tireless contributions of those on the frontlines in the fight to eradicate polio from every corner of the globe.
- The Day was established by Rotary International to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. 2020 theme for World Polio Day is “A win against polio is a win for global health.” As of August 2020, Afghanistan and Pakistan are the only two nations which remain with the continued transmission of wild poliovirus.



2. Lt Gen Nanda Kishore Sahoo, the first Odia Officer to be appointed DG Dental Services

- Lieutenant General Nanda Kishore Sahoo, VSM has assumed charge as Director General Dental Services and Colonel Commandant of Army Dental Corps. He is the first Odia officer to hold this post.



- His earlier appointments include Command of a unit in Kashmir Valley, Command Advisor of Western, Central, and Southern Commands.

Foot Notes:

About Indian Army:

Chief of General Staff: Manoj Mukund Naravane

Chief of Defence Staff: General Bipin Rawat

3. Punjabi version of 'Age Appropriate Fitness Protocols' launched

- To make people aware about the health issues and fitness mantra, Punjab Sports and NRI Affairs Minister Rana Gurmit Singh Sodhi launched Punjabi version of 'Age Appropriate Fitness Protocols' for all age groups under fit India movement under the initiative of Sports Authority of India (SAI) and National Institute of Sports (NIS) Patiala.
- These will provide vast knowledge about fitness throughout the country. The mission inspires fitness among all age groups, is a great initiative of the Ministry of Sports and Sports Authority of India.
- Also, they appreciated the efforts, for designing the age-wise specific fitness protocols as it will help people of all ages to follow these and test their fitness levels accordingly.



Foot Notes:

About Punjab:

Capital: Chandigarh

Governor: V. P. Singh Badnore

Chief Minister: Amarinder Singh

4. India gets chairmanship of ILO governing body after a gap of 35 years

- After a gap 35 years, India has assumed the Chairmanship of the Governing Body of International Labour Organization (ILO).
- Apurva Chandra, Secretary, Labour and Employment, has been elected as the Chairperson of Governing Body of ILO for the period October 2020- June 2021.
- The Chairperson of ILO's Governing Body is a position of international repute. The Governing Body (GB) is the apex executive body of the ILO which decides policies, programmes, agenda, budget and elects the Director-General. Currently, ILO has 187 members. Chandra will be presiding over the upcoming meeting of the Governing Body to be held in November 2020.



Foot Notes:

About ILO:

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Head: Guy Ryder

Founder: Paris Peace Conference

Formation: 11 April 1919

5. US approves sale of weapons systems worth around 1.8 billion dollar to Taiwan

- The US State Department has approved the sale of weapons systems worth around 1.8 billion dollar to Taiwan. The deal comprised three weapons systems, including rocket launchers, sensors and artillery.
- Taiwan welcomed the decision and said the weapons will help improve its defensive capabilities to deal with the enemy threat and new situation.
- China said that the arms deal will likely have a major impact on its relationship with the US.



Foot Notes:

About US:

President: Donald Trump

Capital: Washington, D.C.

Currency: US Dollar

About Taiwan:

Capital: Taipei

President: Tsai Ing-wen

Currency: New Taiwan dollar



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6. AYUSH Minister inaugurates Regional Raw Drug Repository at AIIA

- AYUSH Minister Shripad Yesso Naik inaugurated the Regional Raw Drug Repository at All India Institute of Ayurveda in New Delhi through a virtual function.



- This RRDR is the second in the series of repositories proposed by the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB).
- There is an increased demand for the natural healing and herbal products across the globe which has been further pushed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- In order to document the diversity in the genetics and chemistry of medicinal plants, eight RRDR and one NRDR have been proposed by the Ministry of AYUSH.

7. Saad al-Hariri reappointed as Lebanon Prime Minister

- Former Lebanese Prime Minister, Saad al-Hariri has been re-appointed to the post, after winning a slim majority of votes in parliament election. Hariri received 65 parliamentary votes out of 118, giving him the mandate to form his new government.
- In October 2019, Hariri announced his resignation amid 2019-20 mass-protests. Previously he had served as Prime Minister of Lebanon from 9 November 2009 to 13 June 2011 and then from 18 December 2016 to 21 January 2020. Hariri is the third person to be tasked with forming a government this year, after academic Hassan Diab, who succeeded in forming a government but resigned and then diplomat Mustafa Adib.



Foot Notes:

About Lebanon:

Capital: Beirut.

Currency: Lebanese pound

8. Mastercard partners with Atlantis to expand Digital First Program in India

- Mastercard has entered into a partnership with Atlantis to expand the Digital First Program in India.
- The partnership aims to provide the users of Mastercard, a technology solution that enables them to enjoy a best-in-class digital banking experience.
- After the launch in India, the partnership will expand to Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. The partnership allows the users of the Mastercard to have immediate account access and convenient payments.



Foot Notes:

About Mastercard:

Headquarters: New York, United States.

President: Michael Miebach.
CEO: Ajay Banga

9. Mizoram schools to remain closed as it observes 'COVID-19 - No Tolerance Fortnight'

- Mizoram state government has decided to observe 'COVID-19 -No Tolerance Fortnight.' It is going to begin from October 26 as a containment measure to flatten the curve of Covid-19 in the state.
- The Mizoram government has accorded zero-tolerance policy to flouting any COVID-19 containment measures being implemented and enforced. All Unlock Guidelines, all Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) and all sections of the Mizoram Containment and Prevention of COVID-19 Ordinance, 2020 will be enforced very strictly.
- The meeting expressed concern over the opening of some classes (Class X and XII) in schools and also the increased vehicular traffic in Aizawl city and suggested that these need to be reviewed in a more detailed manner. State Executive Committee under Mizoram State Disaster Management Authority is expected to issue a notification concerning COVID-19-No Tolerance Fortnight.



Foot Notes:

About Mizoram:

Capital: Aizawl

Governor: P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

Chief Minister: Zoramthanga

10. Prime Minister Modi to inaugurate National Conference on Vigilance and Anti Corruption

- The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will inaugurate the National Conference on Vigilance and Anti-Corruption, on the theme सतर्क भारत, समृद्ध भारत (Vigilant India, Prosperous India) at 4:45 PM on 27th October, 2020 via video conferencing.
- The Central Bureau of Investigation organizes this National Conference coinciding with 'Vigilance Awareness Week', which is observed in India every year from 27th October to 2nd November. Activities in this conference would be focused on Vigilance issues aimed at raising awareness and reaffirming India's commitment to promotion of integrity and probity in public life through citizen participation.



- The three day conference would discuss the Challenges in investigation in foreign jurisdictions; Preventive Vigilance as a Systemic Check against Corruption; Systemic improvements for financial inclusion and prevention of bank frauds; Effective Audit as an Engine of Growth; Latest amendments to the Prevention of Corruption Act as an impetus to the fight against corruption; Capacity Building and Training; Multi Agency Coordination-an enabler for faster and more effective Investigation; Emerging Trends in Economic Offences, Cyber Crimes and Transnational Organized Crime-measures to Control and Exchange of Best Practices among Criminal Investigative Agencies.

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