




CURRENT AFFAIRS

12 October 2020

Today's Important News

Delhi teen, Chaitanya Venkateswaran,
spends day as British High Commissioner.



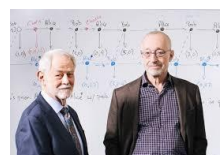
1. World Arthritis Day is observed globally on 12th October every year

- World Arthritis Day is observed globally on 12th October every year. The day is celebrated to raise awareness about arthritis, an inflammatory condition which causes pain and stiffness in joints which can worsen with age.
- There are more than 100 different types of arthritis, with different causes and treatment methods. The most common types are osteoarthritis (OA) and rheumatoid arthritis (RA).
- This day was started by Arthritis and Rheumatism International (ARI) in 1996 in order to spread awareness about arthritis and encourage policymakers to help reduce the burden of arthritis.



2. Paul R. Milgrom and Robert B. Wilson got Nobel Prize in Economics for their work on auction theory

- This year's Economic Sciences Laureates, Paul Milgrom and Robert Wilson, have improved auction theory and invented new auction formats, benefitting sellers, buyers and taxpayers around the world.
- The 2020 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in



Memory of Alfred Nobel has been awarded to Paul R. Milgrom and Robert B. Wilson “for improvements to auction theory and inventions of new auction formats.”

- The Economic Science Laureates have not just clarified how auctions work and why bidders behave in a certain way but used their theoretical discoveries to invent entirely new auction formats for the sale of goods and services.

Foot Notes:

About Nobel Prize:

Founder: Alfred Nobel

Nobel Prize for Medicine 2020: Harvey J. Alter, Michael Houghton and Charles M. Rice

Nobel Prize for Chemistry 2020: Emmanuelle Charpentier, Jennifer A. Doudna

Nobel Prize for Literature 2020 : Louise Glück

3. Delhi exempts road tax on battery-operated vehicles; CM Kejriwal says 'crucial step'

- Delhi government exempts road tax on battery-operated vehicles under its new Electric Vehicle Policy, Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot said.
- Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal termed the decision ‘another crucial step towards ensuring a pollution-free Delhi’
- People have been asked to give their suggestions on the exemption of the registration fees of electric vehicles, according to a Delhi government statement. It said an order to waive the fees will be issued in three days.



Foot Notes:

About Delhi:

Chief Minister: Arvind Kejriwal

Lt. Governor: Anil Baijal

4. Nadal beats Djokovic to win 13th French Open, equals Federer's Grand Slam record tally of 20

- Spaniard Rafael Nadal inflicted one of the most humiliating defeats on great rival Novak Djokovic in the French Open final, thrashing the world number one 6-0 6-2 7-5 to lift a record-equalling 20th Grand Slam men's singles title.



- The defeat in French Open for world number one Novak Djokovic has ended his hopes of winning the 18th Slam and also of becoming the first man since Rod Laver to win all the four majors twice in 1969.

Foot Notes:

About French open:

Dates: 21 Sep 2020 – 11 Oct 2020

Location: Stade Roland Garros, Paris, France

Winner: Rafael Nadal

5. DRDO successfully test-fires sub-sonic cruise missile Nirbhay

- In a major boost for defence, India on Monday successfully test-fired its first Sub-sonic cruise missile, Nirbhay. The launch was conducted from a test range in Odisha at 11.44 am.
- Nirbhay was the tenth missile to be fired by India in the last 35 days. This says that India is firing an average of one missile in every four days. This is a response to mobilisation of troops and support elements by China in the Ladakh region.
- The missile tested uses Manik Engine. It is a Turbo Fan Engine.



Foot Notes:

About DRDO:

Founded: 1958

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chairman: Dr G. Satheesh Reddy



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6. 8 Indian beaches awarded international 'Blue Flag' certification

- Eight beaches spread across five states and two union territories in India have been awarded the 'Blue Flag' certification, the environment ministry said.
- The eight beaches that have received the international 'Blue Flag' certification are Shivrajpur (Dwarka-Gujarat), Ghoghla (Diu), Kasarkod and Padubidri (Karnataka), Kappad (Kerala), Rushikonda (AP), Golden (Puri-Odisha) and Radhanagar (A&N Islands).
- Blue flag certification is a globally recognised label that has been accorded by a Denmark based International agency called the foundation for environment education. The blue flag tag is provided to beaches that adopt eco-tourism model.



Foot Notes:

Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change: Prakash Javadekar

7. India ranked 155th on the health spending index

- The survey data show India spent less than 4% of its budget on health and ranked 155th on the health spending index. “Its health budget is the fourth lowest in the world.
- Just half of its population have access to even the most essential health services,”
- Afghanistan and India set aside the same share for health in their budgets, 4%, just above a quarter of the recommended spending and one-third of what the second poorest country in the world, Burundi, did.



8. RBI to move to next generation treasury application for managing forex, gold reserves

- In a bid to improve its functioning, the Reserve Bank has decided to move to the Next Generation Treasury Application (NGTA) for managing the country's foreign exchange and gold reserves.
- The NGTA, according to the RBI, would be a web-based application providing scalability, maneuverability and flexibility to introduce new products and securities, besides supporting multi-currency transactions and settlements.
- The RBI said the objectives of the proposed system includes, dealing in various asset classes (like Fixed Income Securities, Forex, Money Market, Gold);



portfolio management; workflow management; reserve management; integration with various third party and in-house systems; and dashboards, reports, widgets.

Foot Notes:

About RBI:

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Bank rate: 4.00%

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

9. Delhi teen, Chaitanya Venkateswaran, spends day as British High Commissioner

- Chaitanya Venkateswaran from New Delhi had the unique opportunity to spend a day as the UK's senior-most diplomat in India under the mission's initiative aimed at empowering and highlighting the challenges faced by women across the world.
- The British High Commission has been organising the 'High Commissioner for a Day' competition annually since 2017, inviting young Indian women aged 18 to 23 years to take over as their most senior diplomat. Chaitanya is the fourth young woman to take over as the British High Commissioner in an annual competition run by the UK mission in celebration of International Day of the Girl Child on October 11.
- Chaitanya, an active volunteer, has worked to aid visually-impaired students, acid attack survivors and marginalised LGBT groups.



10. Rajnath Singh inaugurates 44 bridges built by BRO, lays foundation stone of Nechiphu tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated 44 bridges built by Border Road Organisation (BRO), and laid the foundation stone of Nechiphu tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh. The 44 bridges which are located in seven states and union territories will usher in a new era of connectivity and development especially in the far flung areas of the country.
- These bridges will prove immensely beneficial in terms of military and civil transport in the western, northern and north-eastern areas of the country.
- The defence minister also symbolically laid the foundation stone of the Nechiphu tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh at the virtual event. The nearly 290-km-long road will be crucial for the movement of troops and heavy weaponry into the frontier bases of the Ladakh region and will provide a crucial link to the Kargil region.



Foot Notes:

About Arunachal Pradesh:

Capital: Itanagar (Executive Branch)

Chief minister: PemaKhandu

Governor: B. D. Mishra.



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