



## 1. International Day of Older Persons observed on 01 October

- International Day of Older Persons is observed globally on 1st October every year. The year 2020 marks the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations and the 30th Anniversary of the International Day of Older Persons.
- The day is an opportunity to highlight the important contributions that older people make to society and raise awareness of the opportunities and challenges of ageing in today's world.
- 2020 theme: Pandemics: Do They Change How We Address Age and Ageing?



## 2. BrahMos missile with indigenous booster successfully test-fired

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test-fired the BrahMos surface-to-surface cruise missile with an indigenous booster and air frame sector, along with other sub-systems made within the country. The supersonic missile is one of the prime precision-strike missiles used by all three forces, the Army, Navy and the Air Force.



- BrahMos surface-to-surface supersonic cruise missile features indigenous Booster and Airframe Section along with many other 'Made in India' sub-systems. The BrahMos Land-Attack Cruise Missile was cruising at a top speed of Mach 2.8. It is one more major step in enhancing the indigenous content.
- The missile weighs around 2.5 tonnes and has a strike range of approximately 300 km. It is the fastest supersonic cruise missile in the world.

**Foot Notes:**

**About DRDO:**

**Headquarters:** New Delhi

**Founded:** 1958

**Chairman:** Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy

### **3. South Eastern Railway launches 'Operation My Saheli' to enhance security of women passengers**

- The South Eastern Railway has launched a project to boost the security of women passengers in trains during their entire journey. 'Operation My Saheli (friend) gives security to women passengers from the originating point to the destination.
- Since 18th September 2020, The pilot version of the project "Operation my Saheli" has been introduced in 3 trains: Howrah-Yesvantpur Durgam Special, Howrah- Ahmedabad Special and Howrah-Mumbai Special.
- "Operation my Saheli" is executed under the Framework of "Nirbhaya Fund" and no additional expenditure is provided by the Head of Railways.



**Foot Notes:**

**Minister of Railways:** Piyush Goyal

### **4. China to send first-ever 'asteroid mining robot' into space this November**

- China will send out the world's first mining robot into space by November this year. A private Beijing company, Origin Space, will send out the world's first mining robot — termed as an 'asteroid mining robot' — into space by November 2020.
- The robot will, however, not do any actual mining. The mission will be a preliminary assessment of the asteroid mining robot's capabilities of identifying and extracting valuable resources, aimed at the eventual mining of asteroids.



- The 30-gram spacecraft, NEO-1, is likely to be launched as a secondary payload on a Chinese Long March rocket, which will enter at an orbit around the earth at 500-kilometre altitude.

**Foot Notes:**

**About China:**

**Capital:** Beijing

**President:** Xi Jinping

**Currency:** Renminbi

## 5. US Announces Fresh Sanctions against Syrian Organisations, Individuals to pressurise President Assad

- United States administration announced imposing fresh sanctions on organisations and individuals in Syria, September 30 in an effort to put pressure on Syrian President Bashar Assad and his inner circle.
- The sanctions were announced following intense clashes in southern Syria. As per reports, dozens were killed or wounded in the clash between the Russia-backed Syrian troops and local fighters from the Druze sect.
- According to reports, the sanctions are a result of legislation known as the Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act. The Russian-backed 5th Corp of the Syrian army was among those sanctioned by the US Treasury Department and State Department. The 5th Corp was established in March 2011 when the fighting first broke out in the country and includes rebels who initially fought the Syrian President but later joined his service.



**Foot Notes:**

**About US:**

**President:** Donald Trump

**Capital:** Washington, D.C.

**About Syria:**

**Capital:** Damascus

**President:** Bashar al-Assad

**Currency:** Syrian pound



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## 6. Indian Bank launches another Green-Tech Initiative, 'IB-eNote'

- Indian Bank, a premier Public Sector Bank, launched an green initiative, 'IB-eNote' that enables a totally paperless working environment. The IB e-Note is a tool that enables processing and tracking of notes put up by various offices digitally.
- This green initiative is expected to improve Turnaround Time considerably, besides saving on cost of paper, printing and other administrative expenses. For this Bank has customised SharePoint, which is one of the features of Microsoft Office.
- Microsoft is a leading technology company that has pioneered many industry-firsts.



### Foot Notes:

#### About Indian Bank:

**Headquarters:** Chennai

**CEO:** Padmaja Chunduru

## 7. Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju launches new logo of Sports Authority of India

- Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju launched the Sports Authority of India's (SAI) new logo at Delhi's Major Dhyan Chand Stadium. The event was attended by Sports Secretary Ravi Mital, Indian Olympic Association President Narinder Batra and Director General SAI Sandip Pradhan, at the stadium.
- SAI has been the pivot of the sports ecosystem in the country since its establishment in 1982 and has been instrumental in identifying and developing grassroot talents across the country.
- The new logo signifies SAI's journey of metamorphosis from identifying and nurturing grassroot level sporting talent to creating sporting excellence in the country.



### Foot Notes:

#### About SAI(Sports Authority of India):

**Founder:** Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

**Founded:** 1982

**Headquarters location:** New Delhi

**Director-General:** Sandip Pradhan

## 8. Vakrangee gets RBI nod to set up Bharat Bill Payment unit

- Vakrangee Ltd said the Reserve Bank has granted in-principle approval to set up Bharat Bill Payment Operating Unit (BBPOU) to handle payment services related to bills.
- Vakrangee (VL) has received in-principle authorisation to set up and operate BBPOU under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), it said in a release.
- The company offers banking, insurance, money transfer services, e-commerce, e-governance and other digital services on behalf of its partner banks, insurers, government agencies, e-commerce players among others through its branches mostly located in rural and semi-urban area.



**Foot Notes:**

**About RBI:**

**Governor:** Shaktikant Das

**Headquarters:** Mumbai

**Founded:** 1 April 1935, Kolkata

## 9. India establishes Air Bubble arrangement with Kenya & Bhutan

- India has established Air Bubble arrangement with Kenya and Bhutan. Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Purisaid, in order to further boost bilateral international air connectivity, Air Bubble arrangements are now in place with the two countries.
- Now Indian carriers will be able to operate to these countries.
- Carriers of these countries will also be able to fly to India.
- Air Bubble is the term coined during COVID-19 times. It refers to transport and people connectivity between specific regions in the world. Especially between those regions where COVID-19 has been contained to similar levels.



**Foot Notes:**

**About Kenya:**

**Capital:** Nairobi

**Currency:** Kenyan shilling

**President:** Uhuru Kenyatta

**About Bhutan:**

**Capital:** Thimphu

**Prime Minister:** Lotay Tshering

**Currency:** Bhutanese ngultrum

## 10. Sonu Sood honoured with SDA Special Humanitarian Action Award by UNDP



- Bollywood actor, Sonu Sood has been conferred the prestigious SDG Special Humanitarian Action Award by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- He has received the award for selflessly extending a helping hand and sending lakhs of migrants, stranded students across geographies abroad, back to their homes.
- Besides that, he has also been providing free education and medical facilities to young children and has been creating free employment opportunities to the needy in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic with this prestigious honour, Sood joins the likes of Angelina Jolie, David Beckham, Leonardo DiCaprio, Emma Watson, Liam Neeson, Cate Blanchett, Antonio Banderas, Nicole Kidman and Priyanka Chopra who have been similarly honoured by different UN bodies.



**Foot Notes:**

**About UNDP(United Nations Development Programme):**

**Headquarters:** New York, United States

**Head:** Achim Steiner

**Founded:** 22 November 1965, United States

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