



Weekly Current Affairs

12th November-18th November, 2023

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NATIONAL NEWS

1.BJP's Raja Singh confident of 'hat-trick victory' from Goshamahahal seat in Hyderabad

- In August last year, Raja Singh was suspended from the party following his alleged controversial remarks against "Islam and Prophet Mohammed".
- BJP leader T Raja Singh expressed confidence of winning from the Goshamahahal constituency in the city for a third time in the upcoming Telangana assembly elections.

2.CM Baghel's ₹15,000 annual assistance sop for women

- Earlier on November 5, the Congress launched its poll manifesto titled 'Bharose ka Ghoshna Patra 2023-28' for the upcoming elections.
- Chhattisgarh chief minister Bhupesh Baghel assured an annual financial assistance of ₹15,000 to women under the 'Chhattisgarh Gruha Lakshmi Yojana' if Congress retains power in the state. This comes as a counter to the BJP's promise in its poll manifesto of giving ₹12,000 per year to married women.

3.Karnataka BJP leader Ravi says BY Vijayendra too is haunted

- The BJP appointed Vijayendra, the younger son of Yediyurappa, as its state unit president. He was earlier state vice president of the party.
- With BJP facing "dynasty politics" criticism, following the appointment of veteran leader B S Yediyurappa's son B Y Vijayendra as its Karnataka unit president, party's senior leader C T Ravi tried to dodge related questions, and in a cryptic remark said he too is being haunted by certain "questions".

4. Languishing share of GST revenue in GSDP

- States continue to have a high level of committed expenditure, and persistent revenue deficit. Increase in non-merit subsidies, reversal of pension reforms, and poor financial conditions of state-owned discoms are some of the key challenges for state finances, the report said.
- With the GST compensation grants having ended in June 2022, there has been an adverse impact on some states, it said, adding that increasing the level of GST revenue may require rationalisation in tax slabs.

5.Amit Shah to Rahul Gandhi, covering the last mile in MP poll campaign

- With the Madhya Pradesh polls and the second phase of the Chattisgarh elections days away, senior BJP and Congress leaders are putting every ounce of effort into the last leg of the campaign in these states.

- Both parties have planned several rallies, public meetings, and roadshows. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who is on a two-day visit to the state, will also be in Vidisha. He will address a rally in Tikamgarh district as well. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge is scheduled to go to Sevda and Sheopur districts.

6. Bihar Assembly Unanimously Passes Resolution to Raise Reservation Quota from 50% to 65% for Scheduled Tribes (ST), Scheduled Castes (SC), and Backward Classes

- The Bihar Legislative Council unanimously passed the amendment bill on Friday related to increasing the quota of reservation in the state government jobs for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Extremely Backward Caste and other Backward Castes from 50% to 65%.
- It was passed unanimously by Lower House of the State Legislature. Like State Assembly the opposition BJP also supported the amendment bill in Upper House. The Bill will be now sent to Governor for consent and after the nod of the Rajbhavan it will become an act.

7. Centre for Advanced Financial Research and Learning Unveils Inaugural India Finance Report (IFR) Centered on Non-Bank Financial Companies (NBFCs) Sector

- The Centre for Advanced Financial Research and Learning (CAFRAL), an independent body established by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), releases the first edition of the India Finance Report (IFR) focusing on the non-bank financial companies (NBFCs) sector.
- The report provides a comprehensive evaluation of the NBFC sector, commonly known as the shadow banking sector, highlighting ongoing improvements and identifying emerging risks.

8. Icrisat joins hands with Assam Millet Mission

- The International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (Icrisat) and the Government of Assam have joined hands to collaborate on climate-resilient and nutritionally enhanced food systems through the Assam Millet Mission.
- The collaboration would focus on the State's target to boost the cultivation, production and consumption of three native millet crops – finger millet, foxtail millet, and proso millet.

9. Data from Caste Survey Reveals 94 Lakh Bihar Households Living on Rs 6,000 per Month

- The chief minister announced a one-time benefit of Rs 2 lakh to the 94 lakh families that earn less than Rs 6,000 a month. He also declared plans to increase

reservations for SCs, STs and OBCs to 65%, which the Supreme Court has capped at 50%.

- The chief minister also said that Rs 2 lakh will be provided as a one-time financial assistance to the 94 lakh families who earn less than Rs 6,000 per month. The state government will spend Rs 2.5 lakh crore over the next five years for the economically poor, he said. Of these families, those who are homeless will be provided an additional Rs 40,000.

10.Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurates Viksit Bharat Yatra from Khunti, Jharkhand to ensure saturation of flagship government schemes

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi released the 15th instalment of over Rs 18,000 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme from Khunti, Jharkhand.
- This significant release aims to provide financial support to farmers across the country. The instalment was released on the birthday of the ‘father of the land’ Shri Bhagwan Birsa Munda, which is celebrated as the JanJaatiya Gaurav Divas every year.



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11. 7 changes in Senior Citizens Savings Scheme rules: More people can invest, more time for retirees, stricter penalty

- The Finance Ministry has introduced changes to the Senior Citizen Savings Scheme in a notification dated 7 November. The Centre has allowed the spouses of the deceased government employees to open Senior Citizen Saving Scheme (SCSS) accounts.
- Earlier, the spouses of deceased government employees were not allowed to open SCSS accounts. The spouse of the government employee can open an account under the scheme, if the government employee who has attained the age of 50 years has died in harness.

12. 33rd Conference of WOA Regional Commission explores ways to fight infectious animal disease

- The 33rd Conference of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) Regional Commission for Asia and Pacific started in New Delhi.

- Delegates from 36 countries are participating in the conference. Senior officers from regional and international organizations and representatives from the private sector and private veterinary organizations are participating in the conference.

13. Uttarakhand is set to become the first state to implement a Uniform Civil Code

- Uttarakhand is reportedly set to become the first state in the country to implement the Uniform Civil Code next week. A report will be submitted to Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami in the next couple of days by a committee formed under the leadership of Justice (retired) Ranjana Desai, India reported citing sources.
- The UCC is a proposal to formulate and implement personal laws which will apply uniformly to all citizens regardless of their religion, gender or sexual orientation. The code comes under Article 44 of the Constitution.

14. MoU between India and USA to Enhance Innovation Ecosystems through an Innovation Handshake under the framework of India – U.S. Commercial Dialogue

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on “Enhancing Innovation Ecosystems through an Innovation Handshake” under the framework of India – U.S. Commercial Dialogue was signed between the two countries on the 14th of November 2023 in San Francisco.
- India Business Council (USIBC) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and supported by National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) and Startup India, CEOs from major ICT companies, executives from venture capital firms, and founders of startups in the critical and emerging technology space discussed how to enhance U.S.-India technology collaboration.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1. India-Australia JWG Meeting on Cooperation in Water Resources held

- The 6th India-Australia Joint Working Group Meeting on Water Cooperation between Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India and Department of Climate Change, Energy and Water, Government of Australia was held on 8th November, 2023.
- The event brought together representatives from both Indian and Australian Governments for a productive discussion on enhancing cooperation in water sector and charting the way forward with respect to various ongoing and proposed activities.

2. Israel offers to evacuate babies from main Gaza hospital amid war

- Israel's military said it was ready to evacuate babies from Gaza's largest hospital on Sunday, where Palestinian officials said two newborns died and dozens more were at risk after fuel ran out amid intense fighting in the area.
- As the humanitarian situation worsened, Gaza's border authority said the Rafah crossing into Egypt would reopen for foreign passport holders after closing.

3.WHO loses communication with its contacts in Gaza's Al Shifa hospital, expresses 'grave concern'

- The World Health Organization said it has lost communication with its contacts in Al Shifa hospital in northern Gaza, and expressed "grave concerns" for the safety of everyone trapped there by the fighting while calling for an immediate ceasefire.
- The spokesperson for the Gaza health ministry said that operations in Al Shifa hospital complex, the largest in the Palestinian enclave, were suspended after it ran out of fuel.

4.Former Prime Minister David Cameron appointed U.K. Foreign Secretary

- James Cleverly replaces Suella Braverman as U.K. Home Secretary; ex-PM David Cameron back in govt as new Foreign Secretary. Returning from Deepavali celebrations in his hometown of Southampton, U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak kicked off the week by reshuffling his Cabinet on morning, sacking controversial Home Secretary Suella Braverman .
- Resurrecting the political career of former U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron, whom he appointed Foreign Secretary. Former (outgoing) Foreign Secretary James Cleverly was appointed Home Secretary.

5.Ranil presents Budget aimed at aiding economic recovery in Sri Lanka

- The largest component of government expenditure went towards public sector salaries, pensions and public welfare, and payment of interest on the government's debt.
- Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe on Monday unveiled the country's Budget for the fiscal year of 2024, outlining a significant increase in expenditure while setting ambitious revenue targets as he attempts to steer the island nation out of last year's debilitating economic crisis.

6.Norway to Support India's 'Hunger Project' for Women Leaders, Environmental Protection, and Food Security in Uttarakhand

- Norway commits to providing financial support for India's 'Hunger Project' aimed at strengthening women leaders, environmental protection, and promoting food security in Uttarakhand. The duration of the project would be 3 years, until September 2026 with a budget of ₹44.7 million.

- The Hunger Project is primarily focused on building the capacity of elected women representatives (EWRs) and federations. These women play a vital role in strengthening local governance and, in turn, improving food security and livelihood opportunities for marginalized households. The project's emphasis on strengthening van panchayats, or forest councils, is key to achieving these objectives.

7.Union Minister Anupriya Patel inaugurates the 42nd edition of India International Trade Fair 2023 in New Delhi

- The 42nd edition of the India International Trade Fair -2023 was inaugurated at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. The fair will continue till 27th of this month.
- Inaugurating the Trade Fair, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Anupriya Patel said that the participation of over 3500 exhibitors shows the confidence of the world in India. She said, the 42nd edition of the India International Trade Fair will facilitate trade and investment which will further promote economic growth and development of the country.



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8.India's overall exports in October 2023 were estimated at USD 62.26 Billion; an increase of 9.43 percent over USD 56.90 Billion in October 2022.

- Merchandise Exports in October 2023 registered 6.21 percent growth at USD 33.57 over USD 31.60 Billion in October 2022. The estimated services export for April-October 2023 is USD 192.65 Billion as compared to USD 181.37 Billion in April-October 2022, projecting to grow by 6.22 percent.
- Overall Trade Deficit during April-October reduces by 35.86 percent from USD 89.86 Billion in 2022 to USD 57.64 Billion in 2023; Merchandise Trade deficit also improves from USD 167.14 Billion in April-October 2022 to USD 147.07 in April-October 2023.

9.APEDA Facilitates Inaugural Shipment of Fresh Bananas to Netherlands

- In a significant boost to the prospects of fresh fruit exports, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), operating under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has facilitated the export of the first trial shipment of fresh bananas to the Netherlands, by Inl Farms, via a sea route.

- The first export consignment of one container of bananas to the Netherlands was flagged off yesterday (9th November, 2023) by APEDA Chairman Shri Abhishek Dev from Baramati, Maharashtra.

10. Japan gets a new island after undersea volcano erupts

- Japan, famed for its numerous islands, including those that have been created through volcanic processes, has once again witnessed something remarkable. This remarkable event offers an intriguing insight into the Earth's dynamic and ever-changing geological processes.
- If reports are to go by, a new island has now emerged within the vicinity of Japan's Ogasawara island chain, after the eruption of an underwater volcano in late October 2023

BANKING

1. RBI governor Das pitches linking fast payment platforms of India, Japan

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Shaktikanta Das suggested linking fast payment platforms of India and Japan for easy cross-border transfers.
- India's UPI (unified payments interface) has spurred development of new payment-related products and services, Das said, adding that linking the UPI with fast payment systems of other countries is being undertaken.

2. Regulators should balance innovation in non-banks, mitigate risks in banks

- There are adequate reasons for regulators and policymakers to adopt a balance between supporting growth and product innovation in the non-bank sector, and mitigating risks in the traditional banking system, said a report by the Centre for Advanced Financial Research and Learning (Cafral).
- "The quality of the underwriting processes and third-party lending practices among NBFCs and FinTech companies warrant that regulators exercise high vigilance and active and continuous surveillance," it said

3. Govt looks to offload 5-10% in some public sector banks

- The government is keen to take advantage of the sharp rally in share prices of public sector banks (PSBs) that are riding on much-improved financial performance and fundamentals.
- The stake sale can be conducted through the offer-for-sale route for lenders that are not inclined toward a rights issue, said people aware of the deliberations.

4. ICICI Bank receives RBI nod to make ICICI Securities a wholly owned subsidiary

- ICICI Bank received approval from the Reserve Bank of India for making ICICI Securities a wholly-owned subsidiary. “We would like to inform you that the bank has received approval from Reserve Bank of India for making ICICI Securities a wholly owned subsidiary, subject to certain conditions,” the bank said in an exchange notification.
- The bank on June 26 had said that it would consider a proposal for delisting of its institutional and retail broking arm ICICI Securities.

5.Shreyas Iyer tweaked his technique against bouncers and smashed a hundred against Netherlands

- Unlike his innings at the Eden Gardens, this was Shreyas Iyer at his free-flowing best. The only thing that he had to ensure was not throw away his wicket like Shubman Gill, Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli had done.
- Shreyas’ problem against short-pitched deliveries is well documented. Since his comeback after the injury, once at the Asia Cup against Pakistan and twice at this World Cup against New Zealand and England, Shreyas had fallen to the short ball. At Mumbai’s Wankhede stadium, before the Sri Lanka game, he spent long hours with head coach Rahul Dravid at the nest to overcome this issue.

6.India’s Inaugural MSME Economic Activity Index in Partnership with SIDBI

- Jocata said that a team of credit experts, data scientists and senior economists have built and tracked the Index over the past four years ensuring its ability to accurately represent the MSME economy and capture the impact of macroeconomic conditions.
- Prashant Muddu, Managing Director & CEO at Jocata said Sumpoorn will address the MSME knowledge gap and empower financial institutions, policymakers, economists and researchers to strategize credit flow and create tailored policies for the sustainable growth of MSMEs across the country.

7.NHAI Accepts First Insurance Surety Bond as Bid Security for NHAI TOT Bid for Monetization

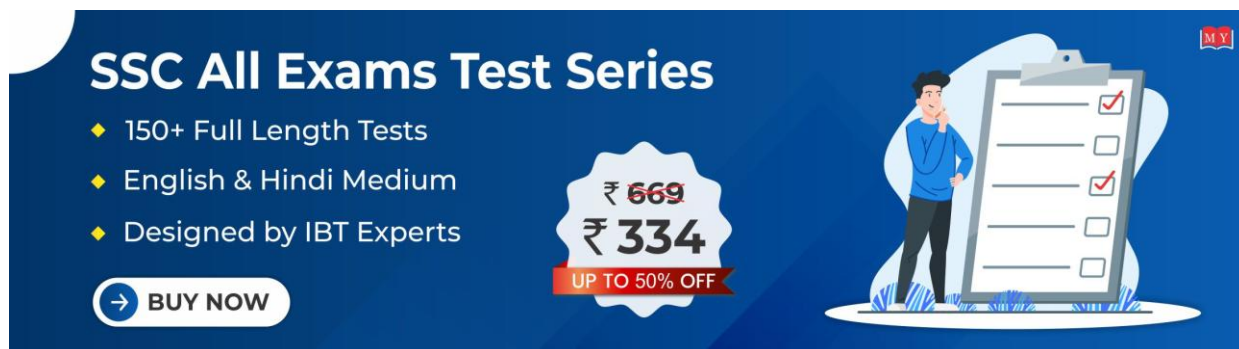
- To boost liquidity and capacity of bidders, National Highways Authority of India(NHAI) has accepted Insurance Surety Bond for the monetization program of the upcoming bid of Toll Operate Transfer (TOT) Bundle 14.
- This will be the first time this innovative instrument is being utilised as a Bank Guarantee (BG) in the road infrastructure sector for monetization of bids.

8.Punjab National Bank Launches Digital Gold Loan for Convenient Credit Access

- Punjab National Bank (PNB), the nation's leading public sector bank, celebrated a one-day Digital Mahotsav at its Head Office in Dwarka, New Delhi. At the event, PNB unveiled a plethora of products and services, including the Digital Gold Loan.
- Individuals can apply for a loan ranging from Rs 25,000 to Rs 25 lakhs for their personal needs, and persons engaged in agriculture or allied activities can apply for a loan ranging from Rs 10,000 to Rs 2 lakhs.

9. PayGlocal Receives Regulatory Approval from RBI for Payment Aggregator License

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given approval to PayGlocal for a payment aggregator license. It has received in-principle approval from RBI for Payment Aggregator (PA) license
- After completion of the process, PayGlocal will be able to onboard merchants onto its platform for online payment processing.



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10. Deloitte Report Highlights Indian Banks Outperforming Global Peers in Digital Maturity Scores

- As per a survey-based report by Deloitte India called “Digital Banking Maturity (DBM)” In terms of digital maturity score, Indian banks are outperforming their international counterparts relative to the global average.
- The report indicates that Indian banks not only outperform global averages but also have the opportunity for further growth, positioning them to become “Digital Champions.”

11. RBI Report Indicates Forex Reserves Import Cover at 10.2 Months as of June-end 2023

- India's forex reserves cover of imports on balance of payments basis has grown to 10.2 months as at June-end 2023. India's forex reserves cover of imports was at 9.6 months at end-March 2023.
- Trade-Based Indicator – Import Cover: Import cover, serving as a trade-based indicator, reflects the adequacy of reserves to cover the country's imports.

12. Government of India (GoI) and Asian Development Bank Ink \$400 Million Loan Agreement to Enhance Urban Services through Improved Infrastructure, Service Delivery, and Governance Systems

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$400 million policy-based loan to India for Subprogram 2 of the Sustainable Urban Development and Service Delivery Program.
- The program aims to support the government's urban reform agenda for improving the quality of urban life through the creation of high-quality urban infrastructure, assured public services, and efficient governance systems.

SCIENCE TECH & DEFENCE

1. InterGlobe Enterprises ties up with US-based Archer for air taxi service

- Come 2026 and IndiGo parent InterGlobe Enterprises plans to launch and operate an all-electric taxi air service in India, starting with Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru. It has tied up with a leading California-based electric air taxi company, Archer Aviation, that is backed by the likes of Boeing, United Airlines and auto major Stellantis.
- The partnership plans to finance the purchase of up to 200 of Archer's electric vertical take off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft — Midnight — for the India operations.

2. China and Pakistan Navies hold drills days after Russia's historic Andaman exercise

- The Chinese and Pakistani navies are holding weeklong drills in the Arabian Sea days after the Russian Pacific Fleet and Myanmar practised repelling attacks in their first maritime exercise, while India and the U.S. pledged security cooperation.
- At a naval base in Karachi on Saturday, the Chinese and Pakistani navies kicked off the exercise in the waters and airspace of the northern Arabian Sea in drills that include anti-submarine operations. The exercise will end on November 17.

3. IndiGo Parent InterGlobe To Operate Electric Air Taxis In India

- InterGlobe Enterprises, the parent company of IndiGo, has announced its intention to introduce an all-electric air taxi service in India by 2026. In connection with its plans to operate the air taxi service, IndiGo has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Archer Aviation – a company that deals in electric aircrafts, air taxis.
- Once launched, the InterGlobe-Archer flight will carry passengers from Connaught Place in the national capital to Gurugram in Haryana in approximately 7 minutes whereas by road, the 27-kilometre-long trip will take 60-90 minutes.

4. Wood Mackenzie Report Predicts India's Rise as the Second-Largest Solar Module Manufacturer by 2025

- According to the Wood Mackenzie report, India would become world's 2nd largest solar module manufacturer by 2025.
- India's ascent is attributed to the strong incentives provided under the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme. India and the United States have jointly announced plans for more than 200 gigawatts (GW) of module capacity since 2022.

5. Visakhapatnam Hosts the 4th Edition of BONGOSAGAR-23 and 5th Edition of CORPAT Between Indian and Bangladesh Navies

- The 4th edition of Bilateral Exercise between Indian Navy and Bangladesh Navy, BONGOSAGAR-23, and the 5th edition of Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) by the two navies was conducted in the Northern Bay of Bengal.
- Ships and aircraft from both navies undertook joint patrolling along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL), and subsequently conducted maritime exercises to enhance interoperability.

6. India is likely to become the second largest solar module manufacturer by 2025: Wood Mackenzie.

- In its latest report, Wood Mackenzie has forecasted that India will overtake Southeast Asia as the second-largest module production region by 2025. Wood Mackenzie said this will be driven by India's strong PLI incentives.
- It added India and the US have announced over 200 gigawatts (GW) of planned module capacity since 2022. Earlier, ICRA said India's solar photovoltaic (PV) module manufacturing capacity to increase to more than 60 GW by 2025 from the current level of around 37 GW.

7. 9th India International Science Festival (IISF) 2023 to be held at Faridabad, Haryana from January 17th-20th, 2024

- The 9th edition of the India International Science Festival (IISF) 2023 will be held at Faridabad, Haryana from January 17th-20th, 2024, Ministry of Science and Technology informed in a press release.
- The press release further stated that the science festival will be held at the Campus of Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) and Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB) of Department of Biotechnology in Faridabad.

8. Russia Agrees to Supply Igla Anti-Aircraft Missiles to India and Allows Local Production

- Russia has signed a deal to supply Igla-S hand-held anti-aircraft missiles to India. As part of the deal, Russia will also allow production of the Igla in India under licence.
- According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Russia accounted for 45% of India's arms imports between 2018 and 2022, with France providing 29% and the United States 11%.

9. "Chandigarh Smart City Introduces AI-Powered Chatbot 'BIRBAL' to Enhance 'Ease of Living'"

- Chandigarh Smart City Limited (CSCL) has launched an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-driven interactive chatbot named 'BIRBAL' to enhance citizen-centric services.
- CSCL chief executive officer (CEO) Anindita Mitra launched the interactive chat-based interface that merged all major citizen services provided by the UT administration and municipal corporation (MC) into one seamless platform.

10. Highly Awaited Joint Exercise 'Trishakti Prahar' Commences Near Western Border in Rajasthan's Jaisalmer

- Much anticipated joint military exercise 'Trishakti Prahar' begins on western front of Rajasthan. The joint military exercise involving over 25000 troops is aimed to showcase the operational preparedness in the backdrop of the Russia Ukraine and Israel Palestine wars.
- The much-anticipated joint military exercise 'Trishakti Prahar' has commenced near the western border of Rajasthan in Jaisalmer.

BOOKS & AWARDS

1. Public screening of 69th National Film Award-winning films of 2021 to take place in Delhi

- The much-anticipated Public Screening of the 69th National Film Award winning films of 2021 is set to captivate audiences in Delhi from 14th – 25th November, 2023. There are 30 Feature Films and 27 Non-Feature Films from 18 Languages which will be screened during the 12-day screening at Siri Fort Auditorium II.
- The public screening of the films will showcase the selection of the most compelling and noteworthy films honored at the 69th National Film Awards. All the films carry English subtitles. Entry will be from Gate No. 5 and will be free on first-come-first-served basis with a valid photo identity.

2. United Kingdom to Add India to its List of Safe Countries

- The United Kingdom (UK) has decided to include India in its list of safe states. Apart from India, Georgia has also been included in the list of safe states of the UK.
- Other nations deemed safe by the UK include Albania, Switzerland along with European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) states. This decision was announced by the UK Home Office to streamline immigration procedures and enhance border control measures.

3. 54th International Film Festival of India Scheduled for November 20th to 28th in Goa

- The 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is scheduled to take place in Goa from November 20 to 28, 2023 as announced by Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Shri Anurag Thakur.
- The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India through National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), jointly with the State Government of Goa through its Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG), is organizing 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) from 20 to 28 Nov, 2023 at Goa.


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4. India ranked 117th among 129 nations in the inclusiveness index by the US varsity

- Bangladesh has been ranked 106th in the list of 129 countries in the world in the inclusiveness index published by the Othering and Belonging Institute (OBI) at California University, United States.
- This is higher than larger countries like India and Russia who ranked 117th and 120th respectively, according to the list published on OBI website.

5. Uttarakhand is set to become the first state to implement a Uniform Civil Code

- Uttarakhand is reportedly set to become the first state in the country to implement the Uniform Civil Code next week. A report will be submitted to Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami in the next couple of days by a committee formed under the leadership of Justice (retired) Ranjana Desai, India reported citing sources.

- The UCC is a proposal to formulate and implement personal laws which will apply uniformly to all citizens regardless of their religion, gender or sexual orientation. The code comes under Article 44 of the Constitution.

SPORTS

1.Netherlands punch above their weight in World Cup 2023, deliver resounding wake-up call to ICC

- Netherlands' promising performance at the World Cup should pave the way for more exposure by the ICC.Netherlands first qualified for the 50-over World Cup in 1996, jointly staged by India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. They then played in every World Cup between 2003 and 2011, but coming into the 2023 edition, they had only two victories in 20 matches – against Namibia in 2003 and Scotland four years later.
- They have since doubled their tally of wins following their conquests of South Africa in Dharamsala and Bangladesh in Kolkata. An unlikely win against India on Sunday in Bengaluru will help them avoid the wooden spoon in the 10-team tournament, a massive shot in the arm for a nation with only a handful of professional cricketers.

2.Ganguly's striking 'IPL' remark in comparing India, Pakistan's WC run

- India and Pakistan have incurred contrasting journeys at the World Cup. And the legendary Sourav Ganguly explains it whyIndia and Pakistan have incurred extremely contrasting journeys at the 2023 World Cup. India still remain the only unbeaten side in the tournament, where they have won all eight of their league games to qualify for the semifinal for the fourth straight time.
- Pakistan, on the other hand, lost five of their league games, the first time ever at a single World Cup edition, which included an array of four straight losses, to finish fifth in the points table. This was the third straight time in 11 years that Pakistan failed to make the semifinals of a World Cup. (India vs Netherlands Live Score, Cricket World Cup 2023)

3.For father who chanted ‘Saachin, Saachin’, it’s time for ‘Raachin, Raachin’

- The software engineer, who migrated to New Zealand in the '90s, was at M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru when Rachin, playing Pakistan, smashed his third century of the tournament.
- Ravi Krishnamurthy, 53, can't get a chant out of his head since the time he returned to his home in Wellington after the short trip to India to watch his son Rachin Ravindra play the World Cup.

4.ICC Board suspends Sri Lanka Cricket’s membership of ICC with immediate effect

- Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) has been suspended by the ICC with immediate effect because of extensive government interference in the board's administration.
- Though the ICC has termed the sanction a "suspension", in reality, it is a warning as the ICC seeks to prevent further government interference in the running of SLC.

5.ICC Hall of Fame welcomes De Silva, Edulji and Sehwag as Class of 2023 inductees

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced new names to be included in its Cricket Hall of Fame. With these 3 more additions, there will now be 112 cricketers to be on the ICC Hall of Fame list.
- The new names announced by the ICC are India's legendary opener Virender Sehwag, former Indian Women Test skipper Diana Edulji and Sri Lanka's iconic star Aravinda de Silva.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1.Children's Day in India is celebrated every year on 14th November

- Children's Day in India is observed on the 14th of November 2023.Jawaharlal Nehru was born to a Kashmiri Brahmins Royal family on November 14th, 1889.Later he moved to Delhi and completed his Scholarship.
- His father's name was Motilal Nehru.Jawaharlal was the eldest of four children, two of whom were girls.A sister, Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, later became the first woman president of the United Nations General Assembly.

2.International Day for Tolerance is observed every year on 16th November

- International Day for Tolerance 2023 is observed on the 16th of November 2023.In 1993, at the initiative of UNESCO, the United Nations proclaimed 1995 as "The Year for Tolerance".
- UNESCO's 1995 Declaration of Principles on Tolerance was that tolerance is respect, acceptance, and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world's cultures, our forms of expression, and our ways of being human.

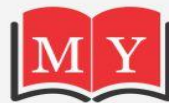
3.International Students Day is observed every year on 17th November

- International Students Day 2023 is observed on the 17th of November 2023.When Adolf Hitler came to power in 1933, the Third Reich started aggressive claims over territories outside Germany's borders.
- The Nazis first captured Austria in 1938, Hitler's home country. Next, they forced Czechoslovakia to surrender half of its territories. Germany occupied the Czech regions, forcing Slovakia to split into a satellite state.

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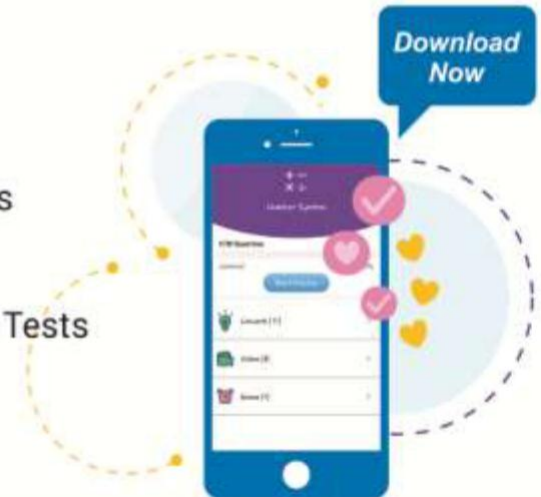
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