



CURRENT AFFAIRS
14 October 2020

Today's Important News

India among top three FDI destinations in near future



1. World Standards Day: 14 October

- World Standards Day or International Standards Day is observed globally on 14 October every year. The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of standardisation to the global economy among the consumers, regulators and industry.
- 14 October was specifically chosen to mark the date, in 1946, when delegates from 25 countries first gathered in London and decided to create an international organization focused on facilitating standardization.
- The 2020 theme is “Protecting the planet with standards”.



2. India among top three FDI destinations in near future

- India has emerged as one of the top three choices for investments in the next two to three years, with more than two-thirds of respondents in a survey of multinational companies (MNCs) citing the country as their number one choice for future investments.
- Recent reforms in the country such as corporate tax cuts, 'Ease of Doing Business' measures, simplification of labour laws, FDI reforms, and focus on human capital have emerged as the top drivers for fresh investments.



3. PM Modi to release commemorative coin to mark 75th Anniversary of FAO

- On the occasion of 75th Anniversary of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on 16 October 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will release a commemorative coin of Rs 75 denomination to mark the long-standing relation of India with FAO.
- Prime Minister Modi will also dedicate to the Nation 17 recently developed biofortified varieties of 8 crops.
- It will be witnessed by Anganwadis, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Organic and Horticulture Missions across the country. Union Agriculture Minister, Finance Minister and WCD Minister will also be present on the occasion.



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| <p>Foot Notes: About FAO: Headquarters: Rome, Italy Head: QuDongyu Founded: 16 October 1945, Quebec City, Canada</p> | <p>About Ministry of Agriculture: Minister: Narendra Singh Tomar</p> |
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4. Haryana govt launches mobile water testing labs

- The Haryana government has launched a mobile water testing laboratory van, fully equipped with a multi-parameter system containing analysers, sensor, probes and instruments meant for assessing water quality, the Jal Shakti Ministry said.
- Water quality in Haryana is mainly affected by constituents like total dissolved solids (TDS), fluoride, nitrate, iron and alkalinity.
- The work under the Jal Jeevan Mission, which aims to provide tap water to rural households by 2024, is being done on a war footing and it gives a lot of emphasis on water quality surveillance and monitoring, the ministry said in a statement.



Foot Notes:

About Haryana:

Capital: Chandigarh

Governor: Satyadev Narayan Arya

Chief Minister: Manohar Lal Khattar

5. National Shooting Camp for core Olympic shooters to take place at Dr.Karni Singh Shooting Range for two months starting from Oct 15

- National Shooting Camp for core Olympic shooters will be taking place at Dr.Karni Singh Shooting Range, New Delhi for a period of two months starting 15th of October. In order to maintain a secure bio-bubble whereby the athletes can train safely and to prevent a Coronavirus outbreak, the responsibility of maintaining the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be shared by the Sports Authority of India and the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI).
- The NRAI will make boarding and lodging arrangements at a hotel nearby the venue, for which SAI will provide support as per existing norms. From the hotel to the entry to the shooting range, it will be the responsibility of the NRAI to maintain the SOP in order to keep a secure bio-bubble.



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| <p>Foot Notes: About NRAI: Headquarters: New Delhi President: Anurag Katriar</p> | <p>About SAI: Founder: Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Founded: 1982 Headquarters location: New Delhi</p> |
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6. Axis Bank collaborates with Google Pay, Visa to launch a new ACE Credit card

- Axis Bank announced the launch of its ACE Credit Card in India in collaboration with Google Pay and Visa. The card meant to help with digital payments.



- From application to issuance, with the entire user journey for the credit card application will be done digitally.
- For essential use cases, including mobile recharges and bill payments made via Google Pay, users can earn a cashback of 5 per cent.
- There is also an unlimited 2 per cent cashback on other transactions.

Foot Notes:

About Axis Bank:

CEO: Amitabh Chaudhry

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 1993, Ahmedabad

7. Indian-origin Philanthropist Harish Kotecha Wins Lifetime Award In US For Help To Children

- Indian-origin philanthropist Harish Kotecha has been conferred the prestigious Sandra Neese Lifetime Achievement Award for his efforts in meeting the needs of homeless children and youth in the United States.
- The National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) presented the lifetime achievement award to Kotecha, who is the founder and President of Hindu Charities for America (HC4A), at its 32nd annual conference.
- Sandra Neese Lifetime Achievement Award is rewarded annually to honour the individuals who have worked tirelessly to ensure that children are given basic amenities such as safety, shelter, and a future.



8. Kaumudi Munshi, The Nightingale Of Gujarat passes away at 93

- Legendary singer Kaumudi Munshi, known as the ‘Nightingale of Gujarat’, passed away. Her contribution to make ‘Sugam Sangeet’ popular to the masses will be remembered by generations of music lovers.
- She tested positive for Covid-19 and was hospitalized
- Some of her songs in Gujarati that are popular even today are ‘Sachi re maari satre bhavani maa’, and ‘koi aghe aghe thi venu vai che’



9. NITI Aayog announces governing structure of India Energy Modelling Forum

- NITI Aayog has announced the governing structure of the India Energy Modelling Forum (IEMF) following its constitution in July. The Forum was jointly launched by NITI Aayog and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the US–India Strategic Energy Partnership.
- Part of the Sustainable Growth pillar of the US–India Strategic Energy Partnership (SEP), IEMF aims to engage Indian researchers, knowledge partners, think tanks and national and international government agencies and departments for modelling and long-term energy planning.
- The governing structure of IEMF will consist of an inter-ministerial and a steering committee. The inter-ministerial committee will be convened by NITI Aayog and headed by its CEO, and comprise senior officials from the ministries of petroleum and natural gas; power; new and renewable energy; coal; environment, forest and climate change; and department of science and technology.



Foot Notes:

About NITI Aayog:

Chairman: Amitabh Kant

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chairperson: Narendra Modi

10. E-Sanjeevani rapidly gaining popularity amongst patients & doctors

- Health Ministry's telemedicine initiative - E-Sanjeevani is rapidly gaining popularity amongst patients and doctors. It has recorded five lakh teleconsultations in a short span of time and the last one lakh consultations were completed in a record time of 17 days.
- As a digital modality of health care services delivery, e-Sanjeevani is gradually shaping into a parallel stream for the Indian healthcare delivery system with the number of teleconsultations per day on the platform touching 8,000 mark in the last few days.
- At present, 26 states are using e-Sanjeevani's two variants of telemedicine namely - doctor to doctor (e-SanjeevaniAB-HWC) and patient to doctor (e-SanjeevaniOPD).



Foot Notes:

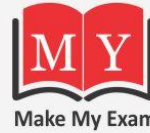
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare:

Minister: Harsh Vardhan

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