



### Today's Important News

Kerala becomes first state to go digital in public education.

## **1. International Day for Disaster Reduction observed on 13 October**

- The United Nations International Day for Disaster Reduction is observed annually on 13 October since 1989. The day is celebrated to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction and also celebrates how people and communities around the world are reducing their exposure to disasters and raising awareness about the importance of reining in the risks that they face.
- Theme of 2020 International Day for Disaster Reduction is 'Disaster risk governance'.



### **Foot Notes:**

#### **About United Nations:**

**Headquarters:** New York, United States

**Founded:** 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States

**Secretary General:** António Guterres

## **2. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announces LTC cash voucher scheme, special festival advance**

- To stimulate consumer demand, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced an LTC cash voucher scheme and a special festival advance of Rs 10,000 to all government employees, saying the Covid-19 pandemic had adversely affected the economy.
- Addressing a press conference, Sitharaman said the new proposals have been designed to stimulate demand in a fiscally prudent way by front-loading some expenditure.
- Under consumer spending, she announced proposals within two components: LTC cash voucher scheme and special festival advance scheme.



### 3. Ravi Shankar Prasad to host SCO meeting of law and justice ministers

- Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad will host the seventh meeting of Ministers of Justice of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) this week. The virtual meeting on October 16 will be attended by Law and Justice ministers of China, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyz Republic.
- The ministers during the meet will share the knowledge on creating conducive environment to promote dispute resolution mechanism, forensic activities and other legal services. Also, the ministers will discuss on the action plan of the working groups of experts on legal services and forensic activities.
- SCO is a part of India's policy of "multi alignments". RATS is regional Anti-terror structure of SCO. Accessing information and intelligent from RATS will help India learn about non-Pakistan centred Counter Terrorism.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About SCO(Shanghai Cooperation Organisation):

**Headquarters:** Beijing, China

**Founded:** 15 June 2001

**Deputy Secretaries General:** Sabyr Imandosov; Wang Kaiwen; Aziz Nosirov; Vladimir Potapenko

**Secretary General:** Vladimir Norov

### 4. Bangladesh's Cabinet approves death penalty in rape cases

- Bangladesh Cabinet approved a draft law to include death penalty as the highest punishment for rape.
- The decision to amend the Prevention of Women and Children Repression Act-2000 was announced after the Cabinet meeting



Chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

- The ordinance will be issued after getting approval of the President as Parliament is not in session.
- Currently, the highest punishment for rape is life imprisonment.

**Foot Notes:**

**About Bangladesh:**

**Capital:** Dhaka

**Currency:** Bangladeshi taka

**Prime Minister:** Sheikh Hasina

## 5. Kerala becomes first state to go digital in public education

- Kerala became the first state in the country to go completely digital in public education. Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE) has implemented the project which comes under the general education department.
- Over 3.74 lakh digital equipments were distributed in 16,027 schools for the smart classroom project.
- Apart from KIIFB fund, the asset development funds of public representatives and local government funds were also utilized for the project.



**Foot Notes:**

**About Kerala:**

**Capital:** Thiruvananthapuram

**Governor:** Arif Mohammad Khan

**Chief Minister:** Pinarayi Vijayan



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## 6. After Vishwanathan's resignation, RBI reallocates portfolios of deputy governors

- The Reserve Bank reallocated portfolios of deputy governors, with the Department of Regulation being entrusted to M K Jain. The move was necessitated as N S Vishwanathan demitted office on Tuesday, an RBI communique said.
- Among Vishwanathan's portfolios, regulation goes to Jain, a career commercial banker-turned-central banker, while inspection will be taken care of by B P Kanungo. Kanungo, a career central banker whose term was extended on Tuesday, will also oversee the coordination function, while risk monitoring will go to Jain.
- Jain will also take care of communication, while enforcement and secretary departments will be headed by Kanungo, the RBI said. Kanungo, Jain and the third DG Michael Patra will continue to hold their earlier portfolios.



### Foot Notes:

### About RBI:

**Headquarters:** Mumbai

**Founded:** 1 April 1935, Kolkata

**Governor:** Shaktikanta Das

## 7. Five players from Indian Judo Team to participate in Grand Slam 2020 competition

- Five players from the Indian Judo Team will be participating in the Grand Slam 2020 competition, an International Judo Federation event happening in Budapest, Hungary from 23rd to 26th this month.
- The five judokas, consisting of two women and three men players, will leave for the competition on 19th.
- The women's team includes 25-year-old Sushila Devi 48 kg from Manipur and 22-year-old Tulika Mann 78 kg of Delhi.
- The men's team comprises former Olympian and 28-year-old Avtar Singh 100 kg, 22-year-old TOPS developmental group athlete Jasleen Singh Saini 66 kg from Punjab and 24-year-old Vijay Yadav 60 kg.



## 8. PM Modi Releases Autobiography of Dr Bala saheb Vikhe Patil, Renames Rural Education Society After Him

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the autobiography of Dr Bala saheb Vikhe Patil and renamed Pravara Rural Education Society as 'Loknete Dr Bala saheb Vikhe Patil Pravara Rural Education Society'.
- Dr. Bala saheb Vikhe Patil served as Member of Lok Sabha for multiple terms. His autobiography is titled 'Deh Vechwa Karani' which means 'dedicating one's life for a noble cause'.
- Pravara Rural Education Society was established in 1964 at Loni in Ahmednagar district, with the aim to provide world class education to the rural masses and empower the girl child. The Society is currently serving with the core mission of educational, social, economical, cultural, physical and psychological development of students.



### 9. Microsoft, AICTE to skill students in next gen technologies

- The All India Council For Technical Education (AICTE) announced that it has partnered with Microsoft to empower students and educators with future-ready skills.
- As part of this partnership, over 1500 course modules from Microsoft will be made available to students and educators free of cost through AICTE's e-learning portal, ELIS.
- Microsoft's learning resource centre, Microsoft Learn, has been integrated with the ELIS platform to provide access to personalized learning paths and resources for students, covering a broad range of technologies including AI, IOT, data science and cloud computing among others.



#### Foot Notes:

##### About AICTE:

**Founded:** November 1945

**Headquarters:** New Delhi

**Chairperson:** Anil Sahasrabudhe

##### About Microsoft:

**CEO:** Satya Nadella

**Founded:** 4 April 1975

**Headquarters:** United States

**Founders:** Bill Gates, Paul Allen



### 10. Nagaland Environment Minister C M Chang passes away

- Nagaland Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Justice and Law C.M. Chang passed away.
- State Health officials confirmed that Chang died of COVID-19. He was the sitting MLA of NDPP from 51-Noksen Assembly Constituency.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About Nagaland:

**Capital:** Kohima

**Governor:** RN Ravi

**Chief Minister:** Neiphiu Rio

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