



**CURRENT AFFAIRS**  
19 October 2020

**Today's Important News**

Union Bank of India MD & CEO  
Rajkiran Rai is new chairman of IBA.



## 1. J&K Lt-Governor Manoj Sinha announces 'My Town My Pride' programme

- Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Manoj Sinha announced the 'My Town My Pride' programme, starting from October 19, as a part of the public outreach initiative "in J&K's towns to deliver services at doorsteps to the urban population".
- Its main objectives are public outreach in towns, strengthening grassroots democracy, and service delivery at doorsteps
- The programme will also ensure on-the-spot grievance redressal, instant delivery of services to the masses, and on the ground speedy execution of people-centric projects.



### Foot Notes:

#### About J &K:

**Capital:** Srinagar (May-October); Jammu (November-April)

**Lt. Governor:** Manoj Sinha

## 2. Supreme Court appoints Former Justice M B Lokur as one-man panel to prevent stubble burning

- The Supreme Court has appointed Justice (ret'd) Madan B Lokur, a former judge of the apex court, as a one-man monitoring committee to prevent stubble burning in the states of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.
- These states are known as the main source of pollution in Delhi-national capital region (NCR).The new committee will monitor the stubble burning and take preventive steps.
- The panel shall submit its report on stubble burning within 15 days to the apex court.



### 3. Union Bank of India MD & CEO Raj kiran Rai is new chairman of IBA

- Indian Banks' Association (IBA) said Union Bank of India's MD and CEO Raj kiran Rai G has been elected as the association's chairman for the term 2020-21.
- State Bank of India's Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara has been elected as the deputy chairman of the association.
- IBA is an association of banks and other entities in the banking ecosystem in India catering to its members.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About IBA:

**Headquarters:** Mumbai

**Founded:** 26 September 1946

### 4. Vishal V Sharma appointed as India's next permanent representative to UNESCO

- Vishal V Sharma has been appointed as the next permanent representative of India to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).Sharma has succeeded Jawed Ashraf.
- Sharma is expected to take up the assignment shortly.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About UNESCO:

**Headquarters:** Paris, France.

**Founded:** 16 November 1945

**Head:** Audrey Azoulay

## 5. Michael Irani appointed as International weightlifting federation Interim President

- The International Weightlifting Federation announced the appointment of Michael Irani as its interim president.
- Irani is chair of the IWF Medical Committee and a former chair of the IWF Anti-Doping Commission.
- He has extensive experience of the fight against doping and in safeguarding athlete welfare.
- Prior to this, Michael Irani was serving as the chairman of the IWF Medical Committee.



### Foot Notes:

### About IWF:

**Headquarters location:** Budapest, Hungary

**President:** Ursula Papandrea (acting)

**Founded:** 1905



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## 6. Shashi Tharoor announces ‘solidly researched & passionately-argued work’, new book titled “The Battle of Belonging”

- Renowned Author and Politician, Shashi Tharoor is set to release his new book titled “The Battle of Belonging” is set to be released in November 2020. The book is published by Aleph Book Company.



- Shashi Tharoor described this book as his “magnum opus” on the Theory, evolution and practice of Nationalism across the globe and especially in India. The book appears to be an extension of his book “Why I Am a Hindu”.

### **7. India and Sri Lanka begin eighth edition of bilateral maritime exercise “SLINEX-20”**

- The 8th annual joint exercise between Indian and Sri Lankan navies - SLINEX-20 - will begin at Trincomalee coast. The 3-day exercise will continue till 21st of October.
- SLINEX-20 aims to enhance interoperability, improve mutual understanding and exchange best practices and procedures for multi-faceted maritime operations between both navies.
- SLINEX series of exercise exemplifies the deep engagement between India and Sri Lanka which has strengthened mutual cooperation in the maritime domain.



#### **Foot Notes:**

#### **About Sri Lanka:**

**Capitals:** Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

**Currency:** Sri Lankan rupee

**President:** Gotabaya Rajapaksa

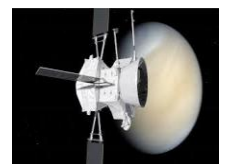
### **8. Mohun Bagan receive I-League trophy, 7 months after clinching title**

- More than seven months after Mohun Bagan clinched the 2019-20 I-League title, they were handed over the trophy. Bagan won it when they clinched a 1-0 win over Aizawl on March 10 this year.
- The I-League, is one of the two coexisting premier football leagues in India along with Indian Super League.



### **9. BepiColombo spacecraft swings past Venus on long road to Mercury**

- The BepiColombo SpaceCraft has crossed Venus in its journey towards Mercury. The spacecraft was launched jointly by Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency and European Space Agency to explore planet Mercury.
- This spacecraft mission has been launched to explore and study the mercury.
- It was launched on the Ariane 5 rocket and will arrive in Mercury in 2025.



**Foot Notes:**

**About JAXA:**

**Founded:** 1 October 2003

**Headquarters:** Chōfu, Tokyo, Japan

**About ESA:**

**Headquarters:** Paris, France

**Founded:** 30 May 1975, Europe

**CEO:** Johann-Dietrich Wörner

**10. Joseph Mar Thoma, head of Kerala's Malankara Mar Thoma Church, passes away at 89**

- Supreme head of the Mar Thoma Christian church Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan died at the age of 89 in Kerala.
- The 21st metropolitan of the Mar Thoma church was undergoing treatment for cancer for sometime. His conditioned became critical a few days back and he breath his last by early hours of Sunday at a private hospital in Pathanamthitta.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in his condolence message that the metropolitan was a remarkable personality who served humanity and worked hard to improve the lives the poor and downtrodden.



**Foot Notes:**

**About Kerala:**

**Capital:** Thiruvananthapuram

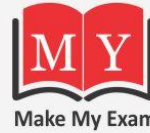
**Governor:** Arif Mohammad Khan

**Chief Minister:** Pinarayi Vijayan

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