




20 October 2023

National and International News

<p>Wankhede Stadium to have Sachin Tendulkar statue</p> 	<p>Context The Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) will inaugurate a life-size statue of former India captain Sachin Tendulkar in the Wankhede Stadium premises</p> <p>About Stadium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wankhede Stadium is an international cricket stadium in Mumbai It is owned and operated by the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) and is the home ground of the Mumbai Indians. It houses the headquarters of MCA, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), and the Indian Premier League (IPL). The stadium has been host to numerous high-profile cricket matches in the past, most notably the 2011 Cricket World Cup Final, in which India defeated Sri Lanka and became the first country to win the Cricket World Cup on home soil. It hosted the last match of Sachin Tendulkar's international career.
<p>World Food Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Food Day is observed on 16th October. World Food Day 2023 will focus on the theme, 'Water is Life, Water is Food. Leave No One Behind'. The theme aims to highlight the critical role of water for life on earth and water as the foundation of our food.
<p>India's share of growth to rise to 18%</p>	<p>Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> India's contribution to global economic growth will rise by 2 percentage points in 5 years as the Indian economy is projected to grow faster in the coming years, as per an International Monetary Fund (IMF) senior official. <p>About IMF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an organization of 190 member countries each of which has representation on the IMF's executive board in proportion to its financial importance so that the most powerful countries in the global economy have the most voting power.



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<p>AI applications in ophthalmology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Retinal disease diagnosis: AI algorithms can analyze retinal images, such as fundus photographs and optical coherence tomography (OCT) scans, to detect and classify various retinal diseases ● Automated screening: AI-powered screening programs can assist in the early identification of eye diseases by analyzing large datasets of retinal images. This can be particularly useful in regions with limited access to ophthalmologists and in mobile medical camps. ● Glaucoma diagnosis and management: AI can aid in monitoring glaucoma progression by analyzing visual field tests and OCT scans. It helps ophthalmologists in making more informed decisions about the treatment and management of glaucoma patients. ● Customized treatment plans: AI can recommend personalized treatment plans for patients with conditions like AMD. AI can assist in tailoring treatment strategies to maximize effectiveness. ● AI is also being used regularly by ophthalmologists in surgical assistance. ● AI is also used to diagnose and stage Retinopathy of Prematurity(ROP), a blinding disease affecting premature & low birth weight babies, and in telemedicine ● AI is also being used to discover new drugs for ophthalmic conditions by analyzing vast datasets to identify potential therapeutic targets and compounds ● The smart vision glasses provide a range of features aimed at improving the visual experience for those with vision challenges.
<p>Drone delivers drugs across Himachal terrain</p>	<p>Context The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) successfully transported more than 100 units of essential medications for 20 kilometers in Lahaul and Spiti districts using a drone, reducing travel time from 120 minutes to 26 minutes.</p> <p>Key points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The feasibility study in Himachal Pradesh is part of the national mission to advance India's drone ecosystem to explore the transportation of vital medical resources. ● In this first high-altitude, low-temperature venture, the ICMR's endeavor in the long run is to streamline the distribution of essential medical provisions.
<p>Kartavya Path giant pitcher</p>	<p>Context In a grand finale to the 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' (My Country, My Soil) campaign, a giant pitcher containing soil collected</p>



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from across the country will be placed on Kartavya Path in New Delhi

Key points

- Approximately 8,000 urns carrying soil from all villages of the country are expected to arrive in New Delhi as part of the campaign.
- The soil will be blended and placed in the pitcher that symbolizes the unity and diversity of the nation.
- It will then be ceremoniously positioned in the 'Amrit Vatika' (Garden of Nectar) at Kartavya Path.

AIIMS to have integrated Health Study Centers

Context

The Ministry of Ayush, the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) have called for proposals to establish integrative health research centers at the All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) under its extramural program.

Key points

- The Ayush-ICMR Advanced Centre for Integrative Health Research scheme is aimed at harnessing the mutual understanding and research environment between different systems of medicine.
- The proposal comes against the backdrop of the Centre's bid for traditional Indian medicine to be included on the WHO list.
- The inclusion of Ayurveda and related systems on the WHO list will provide them access to a common language that allows health professionals to share standardized information.

EU human rights prize



Context

Mahsa Amini, a Kurdish-Iranian woman who died in police custody in Iran last year, sparking worldwide protests against the country's conservative Islamic theocracy, was awarded the European Union's top human rights prize

About Award

- The EU award was created in 1988 to honor individuals or groups who defend human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- It was named for Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov
- Sakharov was a Nobel Peace Prize laureate



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IT hardware 'licensing' put on hold

Context

The Union Government's licensing requirement for imports of IT hardware will not come into force until **September next year** capping weeks of uncertainty and after significant pushback from hardware manufacturers.

Key points

- Import Management System' would be put in place to process these authorizations
- This is to ensure that all provide the kind of data and information needed to make sure a completely trusted digital system.

Kerala Regional News

Navratri-Diwali gift; dearness allowance of central government employees increased



In News: Navratri-Diwali gift; dearness allowance of central government employees increased

- Central government has increased the dearness allowance of employees from **42 percent to 46 percent.**

Key Points:

- More than **one crore central employees will benefit** from this.
- The benefit of pensioners has also been enhanced in a similar manner.
- Non-Gazetted Railway employees, Group D, Group C, and certain category employees of Group B will also be eligible.
- Eligible employees of central, paramilitary, and armed forces will also get bonuses.
- It was **decided to pay 78 days' salary as a bonus.**
- About 11.07 lakh employees will benefit from this.

Govt announces cash awards for winners of Asian Games

In News: Govt announces cash awards for winners of Asian Games, other cabinet decisions

- The cabinet announced cash awards for the winners of Kerala who bagged medals in the Asian Games.

Key Points:

- A **gold medal winner will get Rs 25 lakh, Rs 19 lakh for silver, and 12.5 lakh for bronze medalists.**
- The Asian Games is a multi-sport event **held every four years** among athletes from all over Asia.
- It is the **second largest multi-sport event in the world after the Olympic Games.**



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- The first Asian Games were held in New Delhi, India in 1951.
- The 19th Asian Games will be held in Hangzhou, China in 2023.

Kerala Legislative Assembly Award for M T Vasudevan Nair

In News: Kerala Legislative Assembly Award for M T Vasudevan Nair

- The Chief Minister will present the '**Legislative Assembly Award**' to **MT Vasudevan Nair** for his comprehensive contributions in the fields of art, literature, and culture

Key Points:

- The award consists of **one lakh rupees, a sculpture, and a certificate.**
- Kerala CM will also inaugurate the second edition of the International Book Festival, which will be held at the Assembly complex from November 1 to 7.

About The Legislative Assembly Award:

- The Legislative Assembly Award is the highest civilian honor bestowed by the Kerala Legislative Assembly.
- It is awarded to individuals who have made outstanding contributions in the fields of art, literature, and culture.
- The award was **instituted in 2022** and is given annually.
- The recipient of the award is selected by a **committee consisting of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Leader of the House, and the Leader of the Opposition.**

Did you Know?

- **M. T. Vasudevan Nair** was the first recipient of the Legislative Assembly Award

Kerala govt. to constitute a commission for the welfare of senior citizens

In News: Kerala govt. to constitute a commission for the welfare of senior citizens, says Minister

- Minister of Higher Education and Social Justice R. Bindu said that the Kerala government plans to constitute a commission for addressing issues related to the welfare of the State's senior citizens

Key Points:

- She said this while distributing certificates to those who had completed the **Naipunya Nagaram programme, which has been implemented by the Ernakulam district administration** to impart digital literacy to the elderly free of cost.
- According to the '**India Ageing Report 2023**' published last month by the United Nations



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	<p>Population Fund, nearly 23% of the State's population will be senior citizens by 2036, as against the projected national average of 15%.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report also showed that the old age dependency ratio in 2021 was the highest in the nation's southern parts.
<p>The government expects an annual revenue of Rs 1000 crore through the treatment of e-waste in the state.</p>	<p>In News: Rs 1000 cr income expected from the e-recycling plant in Kuttipuram: Collection centers in three regions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government expects an annual revenue of Rs 1000 crore through the treatment of e-waste (electronic waste) in the state. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A treatment plan for managing e-waste is being implemented soon with the help of the Hyderabad-based Centre for Materials for Electronic Technology (C-MET). Centers will be set up in three regions namely South Region, Central Region, and Malabar to sort e-waste. Clean Kerala company is setting up an e-waste recycling plant at Kuttipuram in Malappuram district. The company will bear the cost of Rs 9 crore to set up the plant.

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