



CURRENT AFFAIRS 12th October 2022

National News

1. PM Narendra Modi addresses UN World Geospatial International Congress



- Addressing the Second United Nations World Geospatial International Congress via video message, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that steps taken by India over the past few years has been of empowering the “last person at the last mile”, reflecting the theme of this year’s conference — ‘Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind’.
- Welcoming the international delegates to India, the Prime Minister said, “We have been working on a vision of Antyodaya which means empowering the last person at the last mile, in a mission mode.
- 450-million unbanked people, a population greater than that of USA, were brought under banking net and 135-million people, about twice the population of France, were given insurance.

- Sanitation facilities were taken to 110-million families and tap water connections to over 60-million households. India is ensuring no one is left behind.”
- The PM further pointed out that technology and talent are the two pillars that are key to India’s development journey.

2. Those visiting Europe can make payments via UPI



- Pay in Europe using UPI soon: NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) and European payment services provider Worldline established a corporation due to which Indians will soon be able to make payments through UPI (United Payments Interface) across Europe.
- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)’s international division is called NIPL .
- The aim of the collaboration between NIPL and Worldline is to increase the adoption of Indian payment methods in Europe.
- Worldline will increase convenience for Indian clients in the European markets as part of the cooperation by enabling point-of-sale (POS) systems at businesses to accept payments from UPI (United Payments Interface).
- Later, customers from India will also be able to pay with their RuPay debit or credit cards in Europe.
- Indian clients currently use international card networks to make payments.
- UPI enables access to various bank accounts via a single mobile application.

- This will ultimately improve customer experience while providing new business opportunities for retailers.
- Due to an increase in foot traffic and expenditure from Indian tourists, this will result in a variety of customer-related merchant benefits, according to NPCI and Worldline's announcement.

3. Two Chief Justices for High Courts of Rajasthan, Karnataka, J-K, and Ladakh



- **Two Chief Justices for High Courts:** The central government announced the appointment of two judges as chief justices of the high courts in Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, and Karnataka.
- It also announced the transfer of the chief justice of the J&K high court to the Rajasthan high court.
- Notifications were released by the law ministry's Department of Justice, in this regard.
- According to the Constitution's provisions, Justice Prasanna B. Varale has been named the Karnataka High Court's Chief Justice.
- Justice AM Magrey has been named the Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.
- Justice Pankaj Mithal has been appointed Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court, according to Kiran Rijju.
- The Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court, Justice Prasanna B. Varale, and the Chief Justice of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court, Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey,

were both recommended for elevation by the Supreme Court collegium during its meeting on September 28.

4. Ananth Narayan Gopalakrishnan assumes charge as whole-time member at Sebi



- **Former banker Ananth Narayan Gopalakrishnan took charge as the fourth whole time member (WTM) in the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi).**
- **Narayan, who has been a member of various advisory committees of Sebi and RBI, has been appointed for an initial period of three years.**
- **Before assuming charge, Narayan was an associate professor at SP Jain Institute of Management & Research. He has over two and half decades of experience in the banking and financial markets, during which he held the position of Regional Head of Financial Markets for ASEAN and South Asia at Standard Chartered Bank.**
- **He has strong expertise in foreign currency, interest rates, derivatives and debt capital markets. Narayan has also worked with Deutsche Bank and Citibank.**

5. Centre extends ethanol subsidy scheme till March 2023



- **The Centre has extended the timeline for disbursement of loans up to March 31 under the ethanol blending programme interest subsidy scheme, notified first in 2018, to facilitate entrepreneurs to complete their projects while availing of government support.**
- **The Food Ministry issued a notification on October 6 stating the applicants who have submitted their applications to DFPD after the date of notification of the scheme but within the cut-off date prescribed in the notification.**
- **Loans were disbursed to them prior to the in-principle approval of DFPD, and will also be eligible for interest subvention under the scheme.**
- **The applicants have been asked to complete their projects within two and half years after receiving their first installment, said the notification.**

6. Union Minister Anurag Thakur inaugurates Water Sports Center in Himachal Pradesh



- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated a Water Sports Center in the Koldam Barmana, Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh.
- The Water Sports Center, the very first of its kind in Himachal Pradesh, has been jointly initiated by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC).
- The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also exchanged between SAI and NTPC during the event.
- The center will be dedicated to training athletes in water sports like Rowing, Canoeing and Kayaking.
- Anurag Thakur said that this water sports centre at NTPC Koldam would be a big sports facility for the children of Himachal Pradesh in future.
- He said that this water sports center has a straight range of 3 km, which is found in some places.
- Many of our water sports athletes will come here to learn. Good coaches have also been arranged. There are very good facilities here.

- The Union Minister further said, “40 players will be selected who will take part in rowing, kayaking and canoeing.
- There are state-of-the-art equipment and hostels and training facilities for boys and girls. We are hopeful that the center will also hold national competitions.

7. EU parliament approved adoption of world's first single charger rule



- According to a new law passed by the European Union parliament, all new smartphones, tablets and cameras will have a single standard charger from late 2024.
- The law was adopted with a vote of 602 in favour, and 13 against.
- It mandates smartphone, laptop and camera manufacturing companies to adopt a standard charger, at least in Europe.
- Makers of laptops will have extra time, from early 2026, to also follow suit.
- EU policymakers say the single charger rule will simplify the life of Europeans, reduce the mountain of obsolete chargers and reduce costs for consumers.
- It is expected to save at least 200 million euros (\$195 million) per year and cut more than a thousand tonnes of EU electronic waste every year.
- The European Union's 27 countries are home to 450 million people who count among the world's wealthiest consumers.

- **Regulatory changes in the bloc often set global industry norms in what is known as the Brussels Effect. The EU move is expected to ripple around the world.**

By Sameer Singhal

PLUTUS ACADEMY