



## CURRENT AFFAIRS 17th October 2022

### National News

1. **New Delhi: 5th Assembly of International Solar Alliance to begin today under India's presidency**



- The 5th Assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA) will begin today in New Delhi under India's presidency.
- Participants from 109 countries will be sharing their experiences towards a low-carbon economy through promotion of solar energy at the 4-day event.
- The Assembly is the apex decision-making body of the International Solar Alliance that makes decisions concerning the implementation of the ISA's Framework Agreement.
- The Assembly meets annually at the ministerial level at the ISA's seat.
- Talking to AIR, ISA Director General Ajay Mathur outlined the priorities and focus areas of the global meet.
- He said one of the key focus areas of the meeting is streamlining the solar sector investments in the countries where investments are not flowing at present.

- He said the assembly will also deliberate on creating a Risk Mitigation Facility for solar projects with a Payment Guarantee Mechanism.

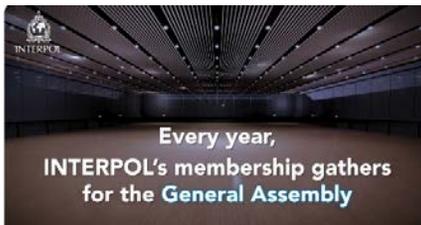
## 2. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurates India's First Aluminum Freight Rake at Bhubaneswar Railway Station



- On 16th October, Sunday, Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated India's First Aluminum Freight Rake at Bhubaneswar Railway Station in Odisha.
- The indigenously built rake will reduce carbon footprint due to lower consumption of fuel.
- A single rake can reduce 14,500 tonnes Carbon dioxide emissions during its lifetime, said the Minister.
- AIR correspondent reports that Union Minister MR Vaishnaw who is also the minister for Communications and Electronics & Information has said that high-speed 5G internet service will be rolled out in a few cities of Odisha by March 2023.
- Speaking to media persons in Odisha capital Bhubaneswar today the Union Minister said, In the first phase of rollout, 200 cities of India will be connected with the 5G network.
- In this phase, all big cities of Odisha will also receive a 5G network by the end of March 2023.

- By the end of 2023, under phase II, around 80 percent of the State will be covered under the high-speed internet service, the minister revealed.

### 3. India to host 90th General Assembly of INTERPOL from 18 to 21 Oct



- India is hosting the 90th General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Organization, INTERPOL from 18th to 21st of October in New Delhi.
- The General Assembly is INTERPOL's supreme governing body, comprising representatives from each of 195 member countries. It meets once a year.
- India is one of the oldest members of Interpol and joined the organization in 1949.
- All member countries of INTERPOL have agreed to ensure and promote the widest possible assistance between all criminal police authorities in the prevention and suppression of ordinary law crimes.
- The role of INTERPOL is to enable police around the world to work together to make the world a safer place.

#### 4. PM Modi to inaugurate PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022 in New Delhi on Oct 17



- On 17th October, Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the PM Kisan Samman Sammelan 2022 at Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi.
- More than 13 thousand farmers from across the country and around one thousand five hundred Agri Startups will participate in the conference.
- More than one crore farmers, from various institutions are also expected to attend the event virtually. The conference will also witness participation of researchers, policy makers and other stakeholders.
- The Prime Minister will also release the 12th installment amount of 16 thousand crore rupees under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi through Direct Benefit Transfer.
- Under the scheme, eligible farmer families are provided a benefit of six thousand rupees per year in three equal installments of two thousand rupees each.

- AIR correspondent reports that Prime Minister will also inaugurate the Agri Startup Conclave and Exhibition.
- About three hundred startups will showcase their innovation related to Precision Farming, Post-Harvest and Value Add Solutions, Allied Agriculture and Supply Chain Management among others.

#### 5. Home Minister Amit Shah lays Foundation stone of new terminal building of Gwalior airport



- In Madhya Pradesh, Union Home Minister Amit Shah laid the Foundation stone for the new terminal building of Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia airport in Gwalior on 16th October 2022.
- This new terminal will be ready constructed at a cost of 446 crore rupees .
- On this occasion, Shri Shah said that it will be the best airport in the country. This will go a long way in improving air connectivity and promoting tourism in Gwalior.
- Shri Shah also laid the foundation stone and inaugurated Jal Jeevan Mission projects worth Rs 43 hundred crore for 3 thousand 143 villages.
- The Union Home Minister also handed over 256 urban and 1 thousand 202 rural houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana to the beneficiaries.

## 6. India rejects Global Hunger Index Report 2022, says attempt to taint Country's image



- India has rejected the Global Hunger Index Report 2022, which has ranked India at 107 among 121 countries.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development said in a statement, the index is an erroneous measure of hunger and suffers from serious methodological issues.
- It said, consistent effort is yet again visible to taint India's image as a Nation that does not fulfill the food security and nutritional requirements of its population.
- The Ministry said, the report is not only disconnected from ground reality but also chooses to deliberately ignore efforts made by the Government to ensure food Security for the population, especially during the Covid Pandemic.

## 7. Indian grandmaster Arjun defeats five time world Chess champion Magnus Carlsen



- On 16th October 2022, 19-year-old Indian grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi defeated the reigning five-time World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen in round seven of the preliminaries of the Aimchess Rapid online chess tournament.
- This is the first victory of Erigaisi over Norwegian Carlsen. Erigaisi had earlier lost to Carlsen in the Julius Baer Generation Cup final in September.
- Erigaisi, who had gone down to compatriot Vidit Santosh Gujrathi to make a losing start in the event, is currently in fifth place after eight rounds.
- Another Indian D Gukesh is in sixth place with 12 points after mixed fortunes on the second day of the preliminaries.

- The other Indian players in the fray, Gujrathi, Aditya Mittal, and Harikrishna, are in the 10th, 11th, and 15th spots after eight rounds of the 15-round preliminary phase.

#### 8. Japan to scrap remarriage restrictions on pregnant women



- Japanese cabinet ministers on Oct 14 approved the scrapping of a law that stipulates women pregnant at the time of a divorce must wait 100 days before marrying again.
- The law, in place for more than a century, does not apply to men and was originally intended as a way to aid the identification of the father who is financially responsible for a newborn baby.
- Critics have campaigned for a withdrawal of the 1896 law – which had banned remarriage for six months until being revised in 2016 – calling it outdated and discriminatory.
- The change will also remove a rule that grants parents the right to “discipline children to whatever necessary extent”.
- Japan consistently ranks low in the World Economic Forum’s annual Global Gender Gap report, which takes political empowerment into account as well as health, education and economic participation.

- In 2022, the country was placed 116th out of 146 ranked. Two years ago, the government delayed an almost two-decade-old target for at least 30 per cent of leadership positions in business and politics to be held by women.
- A new five-year plan said efforts would be made to meet the target by 2030 instead of the end of 2020.

#### 9. Center approves India's 1st cable-cum-suspension bridge across Krishna river



- The central government has approved the construction of an iconic cable stayed-cum-suspension bridge across the Krishna river connecting Telangana and Andhra Pradesh and passing through the Nallamala forest range.
- The decision was announced by the union minister for road transport and national highways Nitin Gadkari.
- Gadkari said the iconic bridge will have several unique features like the longest glass pedestrian walkway across a river, gopuram-like pylons, signature lighting and a large navigational span.
- The three-km-long bridge will reduce the distance between Hyderabad and Tirupati by 80 km

- The bridge begins at Somasila at Kollapur in Telangana's Nagarkurnool district and Atmakur in Andhra Pradesh's Kurnool district.
- At present, the people from Telangana are forced to travel for a long distance via Kurnool to reach pilgrim centres like Mahanandi, Ahobilam, Tirupati.
- The only other option is to travel by boat across the river from Somasila to reach these places.
- River travel remains riskier due to the flow of the Krishna river. A boat capsizes incident that took place on this route on January 18, 2007, resulted in the death of nearly 60 people.

**By Sameer Singhal**

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