



CURRENT AFFAIRS 19th October 2022

National News

1. PM Modi launches Mission DefSpace in Gujarat; says Space technology of India is helping many developing countries



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi begins his 2-day visit to Gujarat. On the first day of the visit, PM launched Mission DefSpace at DEFEXPO 2022 today at Gandhinagar in Gujarat.
- While addressing the DEFEXPO he said this Defence expo is a symbol of new beginnings.
- It is the first Defence expo where only Indian companies are participating with Made in India Defence products.
- Space technology in India is helping many developing countries. SAARC satellite is an example of this.
- Space technology is supporting maritime trade and activities.
- AIR correspondent reports that special incentives are being offered to MSMEs involved in defence production.
- Technologies development fund and iDEX have spurred the R&D in defence sector. National security is the primary priority for the government.

- DefExpo is introducing Indian defence manufacturing capabilities to the world. Here, we are seeing a glimpse of immense future possibilities in the Indian defence manufacturing sector.
- 53 African countries are standing shoulder to shoulder with India. Indian laborers were instrumental in laying the first railway line in Africa.
- Now, increasing Defence cooperation with giving new heights to India-Africa relations.
- The construction of Deesa airfield would improve National security and also provide impetus to the local economy.
- Mission DefSpace would give opportunity to the private sector to show its strength and capabilities.

2. India, France re-elected as President and Co-President of International Solar Alliance



- India and France have been re-elected as President and Co-President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- Talking to reporters in New Delhi yesterday, ISA Director General Ajay Mathur said, Union Power and New and Renewable Energy Minister R K Singh has been re-elected as the President of International Solar Alliance.
- He said, France Minister of State for Development Chrysoula Zacharopoulou has been re-elected as Co-President.
- AIR correspondent reports that the four - day International Solar Alliance began this Monday under India's presidency.

- Participants from 110 countries will share their experiences towards a low-carbon economy through promotion of solar energy.

3. Bangladesh: Youth from 70 countries to take part in Global Youth Climate Summit



- Youth from 70 countries will participate in a Global Youth Climate Summit to be inaugurated on Thursday in Khulna, Bangladesh.
- The three day summit between October 20-22 will bring together 650 youth in a hybrid format with 150 youth participating in person and 500 online.
- The youth will explore how they can lead the fight against climate change.
- Elaborating the purpose of the summit, Ejaj Ahmad, the CEO of the Global Youth Leadership Centre (GYLC) which is organising the programme, said that the GYLC is being launched as a global organisation to mobilise youth especially from the Global South to tackle the climate crisis.
- The mission of GYLC is to expand youth's knowledge about climate science, equip them with leadership skills to take individual and collective action, and enable them to

launch businesses that contribute to climate mitigation or adaptation.

- Ejaj Ahmad said that Khulna has been chosen as the inaugural venue of the GYLC as it is one of Bangladesh's most climate vulnerable regions.

4. SARANG – The Festival of India in Republic of Korea' enthalls art, music lovers in South Korea



- Indian Embassy in Seoul, South Korea organized its much sought-after annual flagship cultural program 'SARANG – The Festival of India in Republic of Korea' which enthralled the South Korean art and music lovers with a fusion of Indian and Korean dance and music in a grand spectacle running over two weeks.
- After a two-year COVID hiatus, South Korean audiences enjoyed captivating performances by Indian and Korean musicians, dancers and artists at the 8th edition of the festival which was held from 30 Sept. – 14 Oct. 2022 at various locations across the country.
- Through this festival, the rich cultural diversity of India is showcased through various art forms including dance, drama, music, films and cuisine to the people of Korea to promote understanding and friendship among the peoples of the two countries.
- The festival which attracted huge and enthusiastic crowd of India lovers, began on September 30 with a curtain

raiser at the historical Hwaeom-sa Temple which hosted the Indian Classical Music and Odissi Dance performance.

- The Cultural performances were also held at Gimhae (Oct 1), Busan (Oct 2), Seoul (Oct 4-5), Cheongju (Oct 6), Yeongdong (Oct 7), Nami Island (Oct 8-9) and Incheon (Oct 13-14).

5. Beetle named after Novak Djokovic by Serbian scientists



- Serbian scientists have named a new species of beetle after the tennis player Novak Djokovic, a Serbian tennis player due to its speed, strength, flexibility, durability and ability to survive in a difficult environment.
- The new species of beetle belongs to the Duvalius genus that is present in Europe. It was discovered several years ago in an underground pit in western Serbia.
- The insect is a specialised underground Coleoptera beetle, a predator which lost its eyes living deep underground.
- The insect, which belongs to the Duvalius genus of ground beetles that are present in Europe, was discovered several years ago in an underground pit in western Serbia.
- It is named Duvalius Dokovici, the Tanjug news agency quoted researcher Nikola Vesovic.
- A new species was a specialised underground Coleoptera beetle, a predator which had lost its eyes living deep underground.

6. 22nd World Blockchain Summit begins in Dubai



- **World Blockchain Summit in Dubai is taking place on Oct. 17 and 18, 2022 at Atlantis, The Palm.**
- **It is one of the most elite gatherings of the global crypto and blockchain ecosystem.**
- **The 22nd global edition of the World Blockchain Summit will bring together some of the world's leading crypto influencers, policymakers, key government delegates, media, family offices, HNIs and other curated investors, among others, to foster the crypto and blockchain community across the globe.**
- **Blockchain technology is a technology that leads to a chain of blocks, containing digital information stored in a public database.**
- **It is a distributed database existing on multiple computers at the same time, which constantly grows as new sets of recordings or blocks are added to it.**

7. Karim Benzema and Alexia Putellas win Ballon d'Or awards



- Real Madrid's Karim Benzema, a professional French footballer, has won the Men's Ballon d'Or (Golden Ball Award) 2022 and becomes the 5th Frenchman to win the prize.
- Barcelona's Alexia Putellas, a Spanish professional footballer, has won the Women's Ballon d'Or award or Ballon d'Or Féminin Award for the 2nd time.
- The 66th edition of the Ballon d'Or Ceremony (2022) was held on 17th October 2022 at the Théâtre du Châtelet.
- Paris, France. Karim Benzema becomes only the 2nd player aside from Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo to win the award since 2008.
- Notably: The most number of Ballon d'Or was received by Lionel Messi. He tops the list with 7 awards followed by Cristiano Ronaldo with 5 awards.

By Sameer Singhal

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