

Current Affairs: 25th October, 2024

1. United Nations Day Observed on October 24th



United Nations Day commemorates the official establishment of the UN, marking the entry into force of the United Nations Charter in 1945. This day celebrates the UN's role in international diplomacy, humanitarian efforts, and global development. Established after World War II, the UN promotes peace, security, and cooperation among nations. In April 1945, 50 representatives met in San Francisco to draft the UN Charter, adopted on June 25 and implemented on October 24, marking the founding of the United Nations.

2. Justice Sanjiv Khanna Appointed as Chief Justice of India



Justice Sanjiv Khanna has been appointed as the 51st Chief Justice of India, taking office on November 11, following the retirement of current CJI DY Chandrachud on November 10. Known for his meticulous and pragmatic approach, Justice Khanna has authored several landmark rulings emphasizing personal liberty, democratic participation, and individual autonomy. He was elevated to the Supreme Court in January 2019 and has served on multiple Constitution Benches.

3. UNESCO Report Highlights India's Education Expenditure



According to UNESCO's recent report, India's investment in education surpasses that of China and Japan. The report reveals that India allocated around 4.1% to 4.6% of its GDP from 2015 to 2024 for educational development, aligning with the UN Education 2030 Framework, which recommends that countries invest 4-6% of their GDP in education. This expenditure reflects India's commitment to educational growth and development.

4. Rs.1,000 Crore Venture Capital Fund for Space Sector



The Indian government, led by PM Narendra Modi, has approved a Rs.1,000 crore venture capital fund dedicated to the space sector under IN-SPACE. The five-year fund aims to support space startups with risk capital, boosting India's space economy from its current value of \$8.4 billion to a projected \$44 billion by 2033. The government-backed fund is designed to attract private capital and support early-stage space ventures, enabling them to scale and contribute to India's space industry growth.

5. Water Hyacinth Transformed into a Green Resource in Assam



Under the Swachh Bharat Mission, Assam's Borchila village women have turned invasive water hyacinth, a widespread weed in Assam, into eco-friendly handicrafts. Recognized for this innovation, the Kumbhi Kagaz initiative crafts biodegradable, chemical-free paper from water hyacinth, creating green employment and supporting nearly 40 women. This initiative has gained national attention, highlighting the potential of turning waste into valuable resources while enhancing health and sanitation.

6. Shillong Emerges as Top Travel Destination for 2025



As per Skyscanner's "Travel Trends Report," Shillong is the most popular destination for Indian travelers in 2025, surpassing Baku, Azerbaijan, and Langkawi, Malaysia. With 66% of Indians planning more travel, affordability remains key; Almaty, Kazakhstan, offers the best value due to a 44% airfare drop. Unique travel experiences, such as gaming-inspired and cosmic-themed trips, are in demand among younger travelers, showing a shift towards more immersive and experiential travel.

7. Global Deal on Genetic Information Use Discussed at COP16



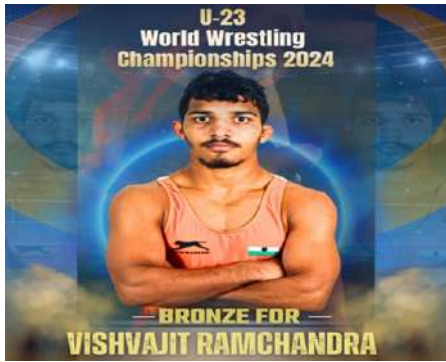
At COP16, countries are negotiating a global agreement on digital sequence information (DSI) to ensure fair compensation for nations rich in biodiversity. This genetic data is crucial in industries like pharmaceuticals and agriculture, generating \$1.6 trillion annually. Countries such as India and Brazil seek compensation for their genetic resources, with a proposed charge on DSI-related revenues to fund conservation and aid biodiversity-rich nations.

8. Deepika Kumari Wins Silver at Archery World Cup Final



Indian Olympian Deepika Kumari secured a silver medal in the women's recurve event at the 2024 Archery World Cup Final in Tlaxcala, Mexico, on October 20. Competing against China's Li Jiaman in the final, Kumari finished as the runner-up, marking another achievement in her distinguished career.

9. Vishvajit More Bags Bronze at Under-23 Wrestling Championship



Indian wrestler Vishvajit Ramchandra More won a bronze medal in the 55 kg Greco-Roman category at the Under-23 World Championship in Tirana, Albania, overcoming Adam Ulbashev with a score of 14-10. This medal marks India's first in the championship, with Iran's Ali Abdollah Ahmadi Vafa taking gold and Japan's Kohel Yamagiwa sharing the bronze.

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