

09<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly

India will host the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly in New Delhi.

#### Key Points

- ❖ The WTSA 2024 is **being held for the first time in ITU's history of 150 yrs in India** from 14<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> October 2024
- ❖ For the first time, **this event is being organized in the Asia-Pacific region.**
- ❖ **Participants:** Over **190 nations** will gather to shape the future of global telecom standards, highlighting India's growing influence in the global telecom industry.
- ❖ **Aim:** The event aims to shape the future of technology standards in areas like 6G, artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, big data, cybersecurity, machine-to-machine communications, and quantum technologies.



#### About WTSA

- ❖ The WTSA is a quadrennial event and serves as the governing conference of the ITU (International Telecommunication Union) Standardisation Sector (ITU-T).
- ❖ It is one of the **three world conferences organized by the International Telecommunication Union**, an entity within the United Nations system.
- ❖ This event plays a pivotal role in setting global telecommunication standards, making India's hosting of the WTSA a significant milestone.

#### About WTSA side events:

- ❖ The WTSA 2024, will be accompanied by other notable events initiatives such as the **ITU Kaleidoscope conference (21-23 Oct 2024)**, **ITU exhibitions (14-24 Oct 2024)**, **Network of Women (17 Oct 2024)** and **AI for Good (18 Oct 2024)** to enrich the discourse and promote inclusivity in the sector.

#### International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

- ❖ It is a specialized agency of the United Nations.
- ❖ It is responsible for many matters related to information and communication technologies.
- ❖ It was established on **17 May 1865** as the International Telegraph Union, significantly predating the UN and making it the oldest UN agency.

### Red Panda Program

The Red Panda Program of Darjeeling's Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park has been selected as a finalist for the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) Conservation Award 2024.

#### Key Points

- ❖ For the first time, a **conservation-breeding programme of a zoo in India is one of three to be shortlisted as a finalist for the 2024 Conservation & Environmental Sustainability Awards, by the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA).**
- ❖ The Red Panda Conservation Breeding and Augmentation Programme of the **Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, popularly known as Darjeeling Zoo**, has reached the top three.

- ❖ The winner will be announced at the 79th WAZA Annual Conference at Taronga Zoo, Sydney, Australia on November 7.

#### About the Program

- ❖ The breeding programme began with four red pandas from the wild taken into the Darjeeling Zoo in 1990.
- ❖ The **augmentation started in 2022**. Between 2022 and 2024, nine captive-bred red pandas were released into Singalila National Park (SNP) in West Bengal. The births of five cubs were recorded in the wild.



- ❖ Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHZP) is taking several in-house and collaborative research works related to the red panda, with institutions like the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) and Wildlife Institute of India (WII).
- ❖ PNHZP's conservation efforts are further strengthened by its biobanking and genetic resource facility, wherein gametes, tissues, and DNA of red pandas and other endangered species will be preserved for future use. These initiatives will be further continued in the future for long-term augmentation and conservation of red pandas in their natural habitat.

#### About Red Panda:

- ❖ **Scientific Name:** Ailurus fulgens
- ❖ **Common Name:** Red Panda
- ❖ **Physical Appearance:** The red panda is slightly larger than a domestic cat with a bear-like body and thick russet fur. The belly and limbs are black, and there are white markings on the side of the head and above its small eyes. Red pandas are very skillful and acrobatic animals that predominantly stay in trees.
- ❖ **Habitat:** It is found in the forests of India, Nepal, Bhutan, and the northern mountains of Myanmar and southern China. It thrives best at 2,200-4,800m in mixed deciduous and conifer forests with dense understories of bamboo.
- ❖ **Conservation Status:** Listed as Endangered in the IUCN red list of Threatened Species and under Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the red panda has the highest legal protection.

#### About WAZA Conservation Award

- ❖ The World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) Conservation Award is awarded to institutions for excellent, thorough, and targeted conservation programs with clear goals and excellent conservation outcomes.
- ❖ WAZA's goal is to guide, encourage, and support zoos, aquariums, and like-minded organizations worldwide in animal care, welfare, environmental education, and global conservation.
- ❖ **The award was first granted in 2016.**

### International Medical Device Regulators Forum (IMDRF).

India became an affiliate member of International Medical Device Regulators Forum (IMDRF).

#### Key Points

- ❖ IMDRF is a voluntary group comprising medical device regulators from various countries.
- ❖ **Establishment:** The IMDRF was formed in 2011.
- ❖ The IMDRF includes regulatory authorities from the U.S., Australia, Canada, the European Union, Japan, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Russia, China, South Korea, Singapore, and the World Health Organization (WHO).

### Persons In News- Appointment

**Mr M. Rajeshwar Rao**



The Central Government has extended his tenure as **Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India** with effect from the 9th of October, 2024.

### Persons in News- Sports

**Dipa Karmakar**



Indian gymnast **Dipa Karmakar** announced her retirement.

In 2014, Karmakar won a bronze medal in the vault category at the **Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, becoming the first Indian woman to win in the gymnastic category.** She won another bronze medal at the Asian Championships in 2015. A landmark achievement in Dipa's career was her performance at the 2016 Rio Olympics. She made history as the first Indian female gymnast to qualify for the final vault event, where she secured an impressive fourth place.

### Important Days/Dates

**October 8**

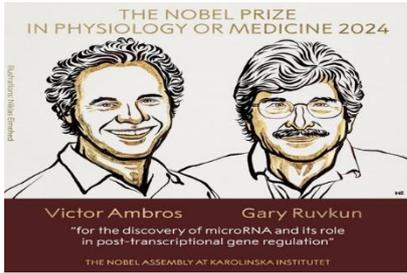
**Indian Air Force Day**



- ❖ Every year on October 8, India celebrates Indian Air Force Day.
- ❖ It is to recognise the servicemen and pilots who have given their lives for the country and commemorate the establishment of the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- ❖ **Theme for 2024:** 'Bharatiya Vayusena: Saksham, Sashakt aur Aatmnirbhar' (Potent, Powerful, and Self-Reliant).
- ❖ This theme emphasizes the IAF's commitment to self-reliance and modernisation, reflecting India's vision for a robust defence capability, with the date being consistently observed every year since the establishment of the IAF in 1932.

## Awards/Prizes

### Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2024



- ❖ The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the year 2024 has been awarded to scientists **Victor Ambros** and **Gary Ruvkun**.

- ❖ They have been awarded for their **discovery of microRNA and its role in post-transcriptional gene regulation.**
- ❖ MicroRNA is a fundamental principle governing how gene activity is regulated.
- ❖ The winners will receive a sum of 1.1 million dollars.
- ❖ This year's award is the 115th Nobel prize to be presented in physiology or medicine since 1901. Of the 229 winners, only 13 have been women.



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