

18th October 2024

UP- Israel Leader's Meet

The Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister met the Ambassador of Israel, Reuven Azar in Lucknow.

Key Points

- ❖ Both the leaders discussed ways to further strengthen relations between the two countries, with a special focus on Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ **Mahakumbh 2025:** UP has sought Israel's help for making Mahakumbh 2025 (to be held in Prayagraj) **more secure, as well as for police modernisation and the use of anti-drone technology.**
- ❖ **Skill Manpower:** Both leaders spoke about increasing the availability of skilled manpower from UP for Israel. Currently, over 5,000 people from UP are working in Israel.
- ❖ **Drip irrigation:** Discussions on collaborating in the areas of drip irrigation and drinking water were also held. At present, UP and Israel are working together on groundwater and drinking water in two locations in UP.
 - Efforts are being made **to provide drinking water in Agra in collaboration with Israeli technology and companies.**
- ❖ **Centre of Excellence:** Currently, **two Centres of Excellence are operational in Basti and Kannauj with Israeli support.** The Basti centre focusses on fruits, while the Kannauj one is related to vegetables.
 - Furthermore, setting up **centres of excellence for fruits in Kaushambi** and for vegetables in Chandauli were also discussed.

Maharishi Valmiki Jayanti

On 17th October 2024, Valmiki Jyanti was observed.

Key Points

- ❖ Valmiki Jayanti is celebrated on the full moon night, or Purnima, of the Ashwin month, as per the Hindu calendar.
- ❖ The day is known as Pragat Diwas.
- ❖ It is a Hindu religious festival **commemorating the birth anniversary of Maharishi Valmiki** the author of Ramayana. He was an influential Hindu scholar and sage who wrote one of Hinduism's most significant epics, the Ramayana.
- ❖ He is also called 'Adi Kavi' which translates to the first poet of the Sanskrit language.
- ❖ **Thiruvanniyur, Chennai,** has one of the most well-known temples devoted to the Maharishi Valmiki. The 1,300-year-old temple was believed to be where Valmiki slept after composing the Ramayana, which has 24,000 shlokas and 7 cantos.

AROHA-2024

All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi organized its first-ever international conference Advancements of Research & Global Opportunities for Holistic Ayurveda (AROHA-2024) recently.

Key Points

- ❖ It was centered on the theme **"Advancements in Research and Global Opportunities for Holistic Ayurveda".**
- ❖ The event was inaugurated by **Dr. Justice Dhananjaya Yeshwant Chandrachud, Hon'ble Chief Justice of India.**

- ❖ The scholars, industry leaders, and Ayurveda experts from Japan, Colombia, Australia, Germany, Sri Lanka, and Argentina participated in the event.

The All-India Institute of Ayurveda has been conceived as an **Apex Institute for Ayurveda**. It aims at bringing a synergy between Traditional Wisdom of Ayurveda and Modern tools and technology.

International Conference of Telecom Regulators Conference

An International Conference of Telecom Regulators conference was organized by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in New Delhi.

Key Points

- ❖ The theme of the conference was **‘Emerging Trends in Regulation.’**
- ❖ The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) was **established in 1997** by an Act of Parliament, called the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.
- ❖ It is to regulate telecom services, including fixation/revision of tariffs for telecom services which were earlier vested in the Central Government.

Samarth

The government of India has extended “Samarth” (Scheme for Capacity Building in Textiles Sector) till March 2026.

Key Points

- ❖ It is a **demand-driven and placement-oriented umbrella skilling program** of the Ministry of Textiles.

- ❖ It has been **extended for two years (FY 2024-25 and 2025-26)** with a budget of Rs. 495 Crore to train 3 lakh persons in textile-related skills.
- ❖ **Aims:** The scheme aims to encourage and support the industry in creating jobs in the organized textile and related sectors, covering the entire value chain of textiles, excluding Spinning and Weaving.
- ❖ **Implemented:** The scheme is implemented through Implementing Partners (IPs) comprising Textile Industry/Industry Associations, Central/State government agencies, and Sectoral Organizations of the Ministry of Textiles like DC/Handloom, DC/Handicrafts, Central Wool Development Board, and Central Silk Board.

International Festival on Indian Dance

The first-ever International Festival on Indian Dance was held in New Delhi.

Key Points

- ❖ It was a six-day festival being **hosted by Sangeet Natak Akademi**.
- ❖ It was inaugurated by **Culture and Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**.
- ❖ The event brings together artists, scholars, and students to celebrate and explore the diversity and richness of Indian dance forms.



Sangeet Natak Akademi

- ❖ It is the apex body in the field of performing arts in the country.
- ❖ It was set up in 1953 for the preservation and promotion of the vast intangible heritage of India's diverse culture expressed in forms of music, dance and drama.

Lady Justice Statue

The Supreme Court of India has unveiled a new Lady Justice statue.

Key Points

- ❖ The new Lady Justice statue at the Supreme Court no longer wears a blindfold, and instead of holding a sword, she now holds the Constitution.
- ❖ It symbolizes that the law in India is neither blind nor focused on punishment.



What are the new changes?

- ❖ **No Blindfold on Lady Justice:** Removing the blindfold from Lady Justice's eyes symbolizes a new era of justice. It sends a clear message that the law is not blind; it considers all evidence before making decisions.
- ❖ **Replacing the Sword with the Constitution:** The sword has been replaced with the Constitution to show that Lady Justice is not about punishment or violence. Instead, she believes in delivering justice to everyone based on the principles outlined in our Constitution, which is the foundation of democracy.

- ❖ **Unchanged Scales of Justice:** The scales that Lady Justice holds in one hand remain the same. They represent equality before the law, showing that courts consider both sides of an argument before making a decision.

Samarthak

India launches first indigenous multi-purpose vessel 'Samarthak'.

Background

- ❖ In 2022, the Ministry of Defence and L&T Shipyard signed the contract for two multi-purpose vessels.
- ❖ These vessels will serve a range of functions, including towing other ships, launching and recovering targets, operating unmanned autonomous vehicles, and testing indigenous weapons and sensors under development.



Key Points

- ❖ Samarthak meaning "**Supporter**," reflects the versatile role envisioned for the platform.
- ❖ With a length of **106 meters** and a width of **16.8 meters**, the vessel can achieve a **maximum speed of 15 knots**.
- ❖ The launch of Samarthak reinforces the Indian Navy's commitment to strengthening indigenous shipbuilding capabilities.

Short News- Uttar Pradesh

- ❖ The union cabinet has approved the **construction of Varanasi-Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya multitracking**; it included a new Rail-cum-Road Bridge across Ganga River. The multi-tracking project will ease operations and reduce congestion, providing the much-required infrastructural development on the busiest sections across Indian Railways. The project traverses through **Varanasi and Chandauli districts in Uttar Pradesh**.
- ❖ The **Uttar Pradesh government is planning to penalise spitting in food** with imprisonment up to 10 years, a punishment usually reserved for heinous crimes such as attempted murder or rape.

Person In News- Appointment

BJP leader Nayab Singh



He was **sworn-in as Chief Minister of Haryana** for the second consecutive term today.

Important News- Other States

Manipur

Mera Hou Chongba festival was held in Imphal. It is an annual festival observed in the state of Manipur. It symbolises strengthening the cordial bond between the indigenous communities living in hills and valley people.

Important News- Worldwide

Singapore	The First ASEAN-India Track 1 Cyber Policy Dialogue was held in Singapore. The Dialogue was co-chaired by Joint Secretary, Cyber Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Amit A. Shukla.
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Miscellaneous

- ❖ The **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India celebrated its 31st Foundation Day.**

<p>The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India was established on 12 October, 1993. It was set up by an Act of Parliament under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 for the protection and promotion of human rights.</p>
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- ❖ Over 446 butterfly species have been spotted at the **Kaziranga National Park making it the second highest in the country** with the highest number of butterflies.
 - **Namdapha National Park in Arunachal Pradesh has the highest number of butterflies**

