

26 October 2024

## India, China to undertake 'coordinated patrolling'



### Key Points:

- ❖ India and China will undertake “coordinated patrolling” in [Depsang and Demchok](#) along the [Line of Actual Control \(LAC\)](#) in Eastern Ladakh to avoid face-offs, as disengagement in both the areas was expected to be completed by October 29, Army sources said.
- ❖ They added that the patrols were set to resume by the “month-end”.
- ❖ **The Line of Actual Control (LAC)** is the demarcation that separates Indian-controlled territory from Chinese-controlled territory.
- ❖ India considers the LAC to be 3,488 km long, while the Chinese consider it to be only around 2,000 km. It is divided into three sectors: the eastern sector which spans Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, the middle sector in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, and the western sector in Ladakh.
- ❖ The armies of India and China have started retreating from the eastern Ladakh border from Friday, 25 October.
- ❖ According to news agency ANI, both the armies have removed their temporary tents and sheds at Demchok and Depsang points in eastern Ladakh. Vehicles and military equipment are also being taken back.
- ❖ According to army sources, by 28 and 29 October, both the countries will completely withdraw their armies from Depsang and Demchok.
- ❖ A limited number of soldiers has been fixed for patrolling. Information about this number has not been revealed yet. Information about the retreat from Depsang and Demchok came out on 18 October.
- ❖ It was told that from here both the armies will return to the position before April 2020. Also, they will patrol in the same areas where they used to do before April 2020. Apart from this, commander level meetings will continue to take place.
- ❖ There was tension in Depsang and Demchok since the Galwan clash between Indian and Chinese soldiers in 2020. After about 4 years, a new patrolling agreement was signed between the two countries on 21 October.
- ❖ Foreign Minister S Jaishankar had said that its purpose is to prevent clashes like Galwan in Ladakh and create the situation like before.
- ❖ On 15 June 2020, China had gathered troops in the border areas of Eastern Ladakh on the pretext of exercise.
- ❖ After this, incidents of infiltration took place at many places. The Indian government also deployed soldiers in this area in equal numbers as China.
- ❖ The situation became so bad that bullets were fired on the LAC. During this time, 20 Indian soldiers were martyred in a clash with the Chinese army in the Galwan Valley on 15 June.
- ❖ Later, India also gave a befitting reply to this. About 60 Chinese soldiers were killed in this.
- ❖ The agreement on Depsang Plains and Charding Nullah in Demchok assumes significance since the Chinese side, until a year ago, showed reluctance to even discuss them while it agreed on disengagement at other friction points.
- ❖ There are seven friction points in eastern Ladakh where Indian and Chinese troops have had confrontations since May 2020.

- ❖ These include PP 14 (Galwan), PP 15 (Hot Springs), PP 17A (Gogra), north and south banks of Pangong Tso, Depsang Plains (the Chinese had cut off Indian access to the PPs there) and Charding Nullah.
- ❖ The Depsang Plains is significant not just because it is 30 km southeast of the strategically important Daulat Beg Oldie post near the Karakoram Pass in the north, but also because in the midst of mountainous terrain, it offers a flat surface which can be used by either of the two countries to launch a military offensive, similar to the Spanggur Gap in the Chushul sub-sector

**Depsang:** According to the Indian Army, soldiers will now be able to go to patrolling points 10, 11, 11-A, 12 and 13 in Depsang for patrolling.

**Demchok:** Patrolling Point-14 i.e. Galwan Valley, Gogra Hot Springs i.e. PP-15 and PP-17 are buffer zones.

Reports have quoted sources as saying that patrolling here will be considered later. Buffer zone means an area where both the armies cannot come face to face. These zones separate the opposing armies



**India-China patrolling agreement in 3 points**

1. The agreement was finalized before PM Modi's BRICS visit. Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping met at BRICS. Modi said here that it is important to maintain peace at all costs.

2. China and India agreed to restore the situation of April 2020 on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh. That is, now the Chinese army will withdraw from those areas where it had encroached.

3. Indian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Vikram Misri had said that a proposal has been prepared to resolve the issues raised after 2020 with patrolling in the India-China border areas. Both countries will take steps on this.

- ❖ Prime Minister Modi and the Chinese President meet after 5 years Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping met at Kazan during the BRICS summit meeting.
- ❖ It was after five years that the Indian prime minister was holding a bilateral meeting with the Chinese president.
- ❖ The last time the two leaders met was at the BRICS Summit in Brasilia in November 2019. It was also the first meeting between the two leaders after the clash between the two armies at Galwan in 2020.
- ❖ Both the leaders agreed that the Special Representatives on the India-China boundary question will meet at an early date to resolve the border issues.
- ❖ The two leaders welcomed the agreement between their countries on patrolling along the Line of actual control (LAC).

**Vietnam appoints Army General Cuong as new President after long turmoil**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ Vietnam elected Luong Cuong, a military general, as its new president, the fourth official to fill the role in 18 months. Cuong, 67, was elected by the National Assembly to replace To Lam, who remained president even after he was formally appointed as the general secretary of the ruling Communist Party in August.

- ❖ The role of the general secretary is the most powerful position in Vietnam while the presidency is largely ceremonial.
- ❖ Cuong, who has served in the Vietnamese army for over four decades, has been a Politburo member since 2021.
- ❖ Vietnam's leaders are next due to convene a Communist Party Congress in early 2026.

### Ferrari's Leclerc wins US Grand Prix



#### Key Points:

- ❖ Ferrari's Charles Leclerc clinched his third Formula One race of the season as he finished ahead of teammate Carlos Sainz to win the United States Grand Prix.
- ❖ Monaco native Leclerc helped Ferrari finish the race one-two as Spaniard Sainz was placed second, 8.562 seconds behind Leclerc's winning time of 1:35:09.639 in a memorable race at the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas.
- ❖ Leclerc had also won the Monaco Grand Prix and Italian Grand Prix this year.

### 31st India Singapore maritime SIMBEX exercise begins at Visakhapatnam



#### Key Points:

- ❖ The 31st edition of the Singapore-Indian Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) commenced at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, on 23 October 2024.

- ❖ The Eastern Naval Command of the Indian Navy is hosting the 2024 SIMBEX exercise at its base in Visakhapatnam. The exercise will be held in two phases, from 23 to 29 October 2024.
- ❖ The opening ceremony of the 31st edition of SIMBEX24 was held onboard the Indian Naval Ship (INS) Shivalik on 24 October 2024.
- ❖ India and Singapore, which enjoy close political and defence relationships, held their 6th India-Singapore Defence Ministerial Dialogue 2024 in New Delhi on 22 October 2024.
- ❖ It was attended by Singapore's defence minister, Dr Ng Eng Hen. The Indian Air Force and the Republic of Singapore Air Force are also conducting their 12th edition of the India-Singapore Joint Military Training exercise at the Kalaikunda Air Force Station in West Bengal from October -November 2024.

#### History of the SIMBEX

- ❖ The Singapore-Indian Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) started in 1994 as Exercise Lion King. It is the longest continuous bilateral maritime exercise conducted by the Indian Navy with any foreign Navy. Underlining the importance attached by the two countries in the defence field, the naval exercise was held even during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ The exercise is held annually and hosted alternately by the Singapore Navy and the Indian Navy.
- ❖ The 30th SIMBEX was hosted by the Singapore Navy from 21-28 September 2023 in Singapore.

#### Features of the 31st SIMBEX 2024

- ❖ The 31st edition of the Simbex will be held in two phases: the Harbour and Sea phases.

- ❖ The harbour phase will be held at the Indian Navy base in Visakhapatnam from 23-25 October 2024. This phase of the naval exercise aims to foster close ties and friendship bonds between the personnel of the two navies. During this phase, cultural and various sports activities are held.
- ❖ The Sea Phase will be held in the Bay of Bengal on 28 to 29 October 2024. Both navies will use the exercise to sharpen their skills in naval warfare and interoperability. The Navies will use live weapons and conduct anti-submarine warfare (ASW), anti-surface and anti-air operations, seamanship evolutions, and various naval tactical manoeuvres.
- ❖ The Singapore Navy has deployed its RSS Tenacious Naval ship with helicopters on board.

### 16th BRICS Summit and first BRICS Outreach Dialogue in Kazan, Russia



#### Key Points:

- ❖ Russia hosted the 16th BRICS summit meeting and the first BRICS Outreach/BRICS plus summit meeting at Kazan from 22 to 24 October 2024.
- ❖ Russian President Vladimir Putin hosted the meeting, which was attended by the bloc's leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Brazil will host the next 17th BRICS summit meeting in 2025.

#### About BRICS and BRICS Plus

- ❖ The acronym BRIC was coined by Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neill in 2001 when he said that Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRIC) will drive the global growth in the coming decade.

- ❖ As per his prediction, the share of these four countries in the global output increased from 8 per cent in 2000 to 11 per cent in 2011.
- ❖ The first foreign minister meeting of the BRIC was held in New York in 2006 on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly meeting.
- ❖ The first summit meeting of the four countries' leaders was held in Yekaterinburg, Russia, in 2009.

#### About BRICS and BRICS Plus

- ❖ South Africa joined the group in 2011 during the third summit meeting held in Sanya, China. The name of the group was changed to BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa).
- ❖ At the 15th BRICS summit held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 22-24 August 2024, six countries were invited to become a member of the BRICS.
- ❖ Iran, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Ethiopia joined the group on 1 January 2024. However, Argentina declined to join the BRICS after Javier Milei's government came into power in the country.
- ❖ BRIC plus refers to the newly added five members of Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates and the original BRICS member.. The first BRICS summit meeting with the extended membership was held in Kazan.

#### Who attended the BRICS Summit meeting?

- ❖ The summit meeting hosted by the Russian President Vladimir Putin was attended by Chinese President Xi Jinping, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el Sisi, United Arab Emirates President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, South African President Cyril

Ramaphosa, Ethiopian President Abiy Ahmed,.

- ❖ Saudi Arabia was represented by its foreign minister, Prince Faisal bin Farhan and Brazil was represented by its foreign minister, Mauro Luiz Lecker Vieira.
- ❖ The meeting was also attended by the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and the President of the New Development, Dilma Rousseff.
- ❖ The New Development Bank has been set up by the BRICS countries as a multilateral development bank.

**Theme of the BRICS Summit meeting**

- ❖ The theme of the 16th BRICS summit meeting was "Strengthening Multilateralism for Fair Global Development and Security,"

**BRICS Outreach/BRICS Plus Dialogue**

- ❖ The BRICS Outreach/BRICS Plus dialogue was held on 24 October 2024 at Kazan, Russia. The BRICS Outreach refers to the countries which are not members of the BRICS but are interested in joining it in the future.
- ❖ The theme of the BRICS Outreach/BRICS Plus dialogue was "BRICS and Global South: Building a Better World Together.
- ❖ 36 countries from Asia, Africa, Latin America attended the BRICS Outreach meeting. 22 countries were represented by their head of state and others by their foreign ministers.
- ❖ The Indian side was led by the External Affairs Minister, Dr S Jaishankar. The BRICS Outreach meeting was hosted by Russian President Vladimir Putin

**BRICS Partner Country**

- ❖ At the Kazan summit ,13 countries were made the partner countries of the BRICS,however they are not full members of the BRICS.
- ❖ These countries are Algeria, Uganda,Nigeria from Africa. Belarus and

Turkiye from Europe, Latin American countries of Bolivia, Cuba and the Asian countries of Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Thailand, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam.

**Kazan Declaration**

- ❖ At the end of the BRICS Summit meeting a joint declaration was issued called the Kazan Declaration "Strengthening Multilateralism For Just Global Development And Security".
- ❖ The main points of the joint declaration are:
- ❖ The BRICS countries will be encouraged to use local currencies to settle financial transactions between the member countries.
- ❖ Discussing to be held to set up an independent cross-border settlement and depository infrastructure, BRICS Clear.
- ❖ They welcomed the Russian initiative to establish BRICS Gairn Exchange. It is a grain trading platform which will be expanded to include other agricultural commodities.

**21st Livestock Census launched to count 16 species of livestock**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ The central government launched the centrally sponsored 21st Livestock Census operation on 25 October 2024.
- ❖ Simultaneously, the government launched a \$25 million Pandemic Fund Project to strengthen the country's animal health infrastructure.
- ❖ The Livestock census operation and the Pandemic Fund Project were launched by the Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Rajiv Ranjan Singh, in New Delhi.

- ❖ The 21st Livestock census operation will be conducted nationwide from October 2024 to February 2025.

### Who conducts the Livestock Census in the country

- ❖ The 21st Livestock Census is conducted by the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying in partnership with the respective state government/Union Territories Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department.

### Interval of the Livestock Census

- ❖ The first livestock census in the country was held between 1919 and 1920, and since then, it has been held every five years. The 20th Livestock Census was held across the country in 2019.

### Feature of the 21st Livestock Census

- ❖ The basic unit for the livestock stock census enumeration is the household.
- ❖ The Livestock Census will be conducted in all the districts of all States and Union Territories of the country, including all rural and urban households, non-households, enterprises, and Institutions.
- ❖ All defence, para-military forces and state police establishments will be covered under the census.
- ❖ The 21st Livestock Census will also include the sex-wise number of stray cattle.
- ❖ The field staff of the State Department of Animal Husbandry is used for the Livestock Census.
- ❖ The census is 100 per cent funded by the central government, and the total outlay for the 21st Livestock Census is Rs 200 crore.
- ❖ The census will focus on 219 indigenous breeds of 16 species.
  - 15 species of livestock-- Cattle, Buffalo, Mithun, Yak, Sheep, Goat, Pig, Camel, Horse, Ponies, Mule, Donkey, Dog, Rabbit and Elephant will be counted.

- ❖ The census will also count the poultry birds-- Fowl, Duck, Turkey, Geese, Quail, Gini Fowl, Ostrich and Emu.
- ❖ It is the first livestock census in the country in which data on livestock holding by pastoralists will be available independently.
- ❖ It is the second census which is being done digitally through smartphone/tablet.

### Benefits of the Livestock Census

- ❖ It will provide details on livestock population, breed, sex, age and use for 16 species in rural and urban areas.
- ❖ It will help in gathering comprehensive data on the livestock population across India.
- ❖ The data helps in the proper planning, formulation, implementation and monitoring of programs meant to improve the livestock sector.
- ❖ It will help the government in framing the right policies for the growth of this sector and animal health security

### Indian Women's Hockey Legend, Rani Rampal Announces Retirement



#### Key Points:

- ❖ Indian women's hockey legend Rani Rampal officially announced her retirement from international hockey on Thursday, marking the end of an illustrious career that spanned over 15 years.
- ❖ Indian women's hockey legend Rani Rampal officially announced her retirement from international hockey on Thursday, marking the end of an illustrious career that spanned over 15 years. Known as the "Queen of Indian Hockey,"
- ❖ Rani played 254 international matches and scored 120 goals, leading India to numerous milestones, including the famous fourth-place finish at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics

**Venezuelan Opposition Leaders Awarded EU Parliament's Human Rights Honor**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ The European Parliament has awarded its prestigious Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought to Venezuelan opposition leaders María Corina Machado and Edmundo González.
- ❖ This esteemed honor recognizes their unwavering commitment to representing the Venezuelan people in their struggle to restore freedom.
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**Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought Establishment**

- ❖ Awarded for the first time in 1988 to Nelson Mandela and Anatoli Marchenko. Purpose
- ❖ The Sakharov Prize is the highest tribute paid by the European Union to individuals and organizations dedicated to protecting freedom of thought and human rights

**Significance**

- ❖ The prize honors those who have made outstanding contributions to safeguarding freedom of expression, rights of minorities, and the rule of law.
- ❖ Through the prize and its associated network, the EU provides assistance and

empowerment to laureates in their efforts to defend their causes.

**Presentation**

- ❖ The award, accompanied by a €50,000 endowment, is presented at a formal plenary session in Strasbourg towards the end of each year.

**Reliance and Nvidia Partner to Build AI Infrastructure in India**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ Reliance Industries, led by Mukesh Ambani, has partnered with Nvidia to develop AI infrastructure in India, announced at the Nvidia AI Summit 2024 in Mumbai.
- ❖ This collaboration aims to establish India as a leading intelligence market by leveraging the country's vast IT talent.
- ❖ Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries has teamed up with US chipmaker Nvidia to establish AI infrastructure in India, announced during the Nvidia AI Summit 2024 in Mumbai.
- ❖ This collaboration aims to position India as a leading intelligence market, with plans to deploy Nvidia's GB 200 supercomputer technology for large-scale AI capabilities.
- ❖ The initiative emphasizes India's vast IT talent, digital data, and a youthful population, aligning with Prime Minister Modi's vision of self-sufficiency in AI development.

### Bihar CM Unveils Rs 7,160 Cr for Panchayat Development



#### Key Points:

- ❖ Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for a range of development projects totaling Rs 7,160 crore. Among these initiatives are 2,615 panchayat government buildings spread across various blocks in the state and a new panchayat resource center in Sonapur.
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### Dr. Neena Malhotra Appointed Ambassador to Sweden



#### Key Points:

- ❖ Dr. Neena Malhotra, a 1992 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, has been appointed as India's Ambassador to Sweden.
- ❖ Currently an Officer on Special Duty in the Ministry of External Affairs she has previously served as Ambassador to Italy the Republic of San Marino and at the United Nations in Rome.

- ❖ The Government of India has appointed Dr. Neena Malhotra as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Sweden. Currently serving as an Officer on Special Duty in the Ministry of External Affairs, Dr. Malhotra is an esteemed Indian Foreign Service officer from the 1992 batch.

### ADB Approves \$434M Loan for 500 MW Solar Plant in Assam



#### Key Points:

- ❖ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has sanctioned a USD 434.25 million loan to support Assam's renewable energy ambitions by constructing a 500 MW grid-connected solar photovoltaic (PV) facility in the Karbi Anglong district.
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- ❖ The Assam Solar Project aims to significantly enhance the state's renewable energy capacity, bolstering energy security and promoting sustainable energy development in the region

#### About Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- ❖ It is a multilateral development bank established on 19th December 1966.
- ❖ It is the principal international development finance institution for the Asia-Pacific region.
- ❖ It envisions a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty in the region.

**Indian Football Team Climbs to 125th in FIFA Rankings**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ The Indian men's football team has risen to 125th in the latest FIFA rankings after a 1-1 draw against Vietnam in a recent friendly.
- ❖ Under new coach Manolo Marquez, the team has yet to secure a win, with one loss and two draws, resulting in a total of 1133.78 points.
- ❖ The Indian men's football team has made a modest advancement in the FIFA rankings, moving up one spot to 125th, as per the latest update released on Thursday.
- ❖ This progress is attributed to their resilient performance in a recent international friendly against Vietnam, where they managed a 1-1 draw

**Hindalco Industries Ltd. Joins the International Copper Association (ICA) as Newest Member**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ The International Copper Association (ICA) is a prominent global industry body that brings together major copper producers worldwide.
- ❖ Representing 50% of the world's copper production, ICA is a not-for-profit trade association comprising 33 member organizations spanning six continents.

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- ❖ Representing 50% of the world's copper production, ICA is a not-for-profit trade association comprising 33 member organizations spanning six continents.
- ❖ With its headquarters in Washington, D.C., the ICA has operational footprints across the United States, Europe, Asia, and Latin America, advocating sustainable and responsible copper production practices.

**Hindalco Industries Ltd. – A Leader in Copper and Aluminum Production**

- ❖ Founded in 1958 as the metals flagship company of the Aditya Birla Group, Hindalco Industries Ltd. is a renowned global leader in copper and aluminum production.
- ❖ With a well-established presence in both domestic and international markets, Hindalco's copper division primarily produces copper cathodes and continuous cast copper rods.
- ❖ These products are critical in various industrial applications, including electrical engineering, automotive manufacturing, telecommunications, and consumer electronics.

**Sharapova, Bryan Brothers Inducted into 2025 Tennis Hall of Fame Class**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ Maria Sharapova and twins Bob and Mike Bryan have been selected for the International Tennis Hall of Fame's 2025 class, recognizing their historic careers. Sharapova, the first Russian woman to

reach world No. 1, achieved a career Grand Slam and inspired fans despite a career setback in 2016.

- ❖ In a prestigious recognition, Maria Sharapova and twins Bob and Mike Bryan were named to the International Tennis Hall of Fame's Class of 2025.
- ❖ The induction ceremony will be held on August 23 in Newport, Rhode Island, where they will be celebrated for their trailblazing achievements and contributions to tennis.

**Nepal's Urmila Chaudhary wins Global Anti-Racism Championship Award 2024**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ Urmila Chaudhary of Nepal won the Global Anti-Racism Championship Award 2024 which was presented by Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken.
- ❖ This award honours six civil society leaders for their exceptional courage, leadership, and commitment to advancing racial equity, justice, and human rights.

**IFFI 2024 celebrates Australia's Rich Film Traditions and Vibrant Cinema Culture**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has announced that Australia has been nominated as the "Country of Focus" at the 55th edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), to be held in Goa from 20th November to 28th November 2024.

- ❖ This special recognition aims to celebrate the dynamic contributions of Australian cinema to the global film industry, highlighting its rich storytelling traditions, vibrant film culture and innovative cinematic techniques.
- ❖ India & Australia are already parties to an Audio Visual Co-production Treaty. Founded in 1952, the International Film Festival of India is one of Asia's most significant film festivals, serving as a platform for filmmakers worldwide to present their works. Held annually in Goa, IFFI attracts directors, producers, actors, and film enthusiasts to celebrate the finest in world cinema.

**Country of Focus at IFFI**

- ❖ The "Country of Focus" segment is a key feature of IFFI, offering a dedicated showcase of a nation's best contemporary films.
- ❖ Australia's diverse cultural background and globally acclaimed filmmakers have had a lasting impact on cinema, making it a fitting selection for this year. This inclusion reflects the strengthening collaboration between the Indian and Australian film industries

**Cabinet approves two Railway projects with estimated cost of Rs 6,798 crore and will be completed in 5 years**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by PM Narendra Modi, has approved Two Railway projects of the Ministry of Railways with total estimated cost of Rs.6,798 crore (approx.).

- ❖ Two approved projects are –
- ❖ (a) the doubling of Narkatiaganj-Raxaul-Sitamarhi-Darbhangha & Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur Section covering 256 kms and,
- ❖ (b) construction of new line between Errupalem and Namburu via Amaravati covering 57 kms.
- ❖ The doubling of Narkatiaganj-Raxaul-Sitamarhi-Darbhangha & Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur Section will strengthen the connectivity to Nepal, North-east India and Border areas and facilitate movement of passenger trains along with goods train resulting in the socio-economic growth of the region
- ❖ The new rail line project Errupalem-AmaravatiNamburu traverses through NTR Vijayawada and Guntur districts of Andhra Pradesh and Khammam district of Telangana.
- ❖ The Two projects covering 8 Districts in 3 States i.e., Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Bihar will increase the existing network of Indian Railways by about 313 Kms.
- ❖ The Union cabinet also approved setting up of a Rs 1000 crore VC fund dedicated to the space sector, under the aegis of IN-SPACe.
- ❖ The deployment period of the proposed VC fund is planned to be up to five years from the actual date of start of the fund operations.
- ❖ The average deployment amount could be Rs 150-250 crore per year, depending on the investment opportunities and fund requirements. IN-SPACe was established by the Centre in 2020 to bolster private sector participation in the space sector.

**Department of Posts issues a Commemorative Stamp to mark 200 Years of Kittur Vijayotsava**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ On the 200th anniversary of Kittur Vijayotsava a commemorative Postage stamp was released at the historic Kittur Rani Channamma Stage, Kittur Fort Premises.
- ❖ This grand event commemorated Rani Channamma's glorious victory on 23rd October, 1824 against the British rule.
- ❖ Surrounding her image are forts symbolizing the rich heritage of Kittur and the historic battle of Kittur.
- ❖ The commemorative stamp designed by Shri Brahm Prakash features a striking portrait of Rani Channamma, on her horse drawing a sword, fighting against the British, embodying her strength and bravery.

**24 October – United Nations Day**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ United Nations Day is celebrated every year on October 24 to mark the anniversary of the entry into force of the UN Charter in 1945, which followed the end of World War II.
- ❖ This day offers an opportunity to reflect on the global body's efforts to maintain peace,

promote human rights, and foster social and economic development across the world.

- ❖ As a founding member of the United Nations, India has played a vital role in supporting the UN's mission and continues to contribute to its various initiative.

- ❖ The UN was established by 51 countries after the Second World War. The UN's six official languages are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

