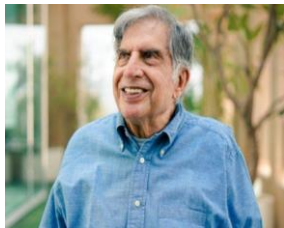


10 October 2024

## INDIA LOST ITS "RATAN"



### Key Points:

- ❖ Ratan Naval Tata (28 December 1937 – 9 October 2024) was an Indian industrialist who was chairman of Tata Sons.
- ❖ From 1990 to 2012, he served as chairman of the Tata Group, and then as interim chairman from October 2016 through February 2017.
- ❖ In 2008, he received the Padma Vibhushan, the second highest civilian honour in India, after receiving the Padma Bhushan, the third highest civilian honour in 2000.
- ❖ **Final Business Battle:** One of his last major achievements was the successful reacquisition of Air India in 2021, restoring it to the Tata Group nearly 90 years after it was nationalised.
- ❖ 2020: Acknowledged for his humanitarian efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic, with the Tata Trusts committing substantial resources to support healthcare initiatives.
- ❖ **Ratan Tata was renowned for his passion for cars, flying aircraft, and design. A devoted philanthropist, he dedicated a significant portion of his wealth to the Tata Trusts, which fund healthcare, education, and various social initiatives across India.**

## Prakash Man Singh Raut appointed as new Chief Justice of Nepal



### Key Points:

- ❖ Nepal's President Ramchandra Paudel appointed Prakash Man Singh Raut as the new Chief Justice of the country.
- ❖ Mr. Paudel administered the oath of office and secrecy to Chief Justice Raut at a special ceremony organised at Sheetal Niwas, the President's Office.
- ❖ His appointment comes after the retirement of outgoing Chief Justice Bishowambhar Prasad Shrestha, who reached the mandatory retirement age of 65.

## Bihar CM Nitish Kumar unveils logo, mascot for Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024



### Key Points:

- ❖ Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar unveiled the logo and mascot for the Women's Asian Champions Trophy-2024, which will be held in Rajgir from November 11-20. The mascot, named 'Gudiya', is inspired by the state bird of Bihar, Sparrow.
- ❖ The hockey stick in Gudiya's hand is the symbol of the hockey competition and the goalkeeper's glove in the hand, and the defensive posture reflect the strategic qualities of alertness.
- ❖ The design of the 'logo' of this competition is a symbol of the rich cultural heritage and allround progress of glorious Bihar. The Bodhi tree and hockey stick have been kept in the logo.
- ❖ The Bodhi tree is a symbol of knowledge, power, harmony, tolerance and development which connects people with the rich spiritual and cultural history of Bihar.

- ❖ The state cabinet recently sanctioned Rs 10 crore to Hockey India for the purpose. Six countries, including India, China, Thailand, Malaysia, South Korea and Japan, are participating in the championship.
- ❖ The Women's Asian Champions Trophy-2024 is a joint venture of Hockey India and the Bihar government and will be held at the newly developed Rajgir Hockey Stadium.

**Nepal, India, Bangladesh sign pact to facilitate cross-border electricity trade**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ India, Nepal, and Bangladesh have signed a trilateral agreement to export 40 megawatts of electricity from Nepal to Bangladesh via India's power grid.
- ❖ As per the agreement, Bangladesh will now import 40 megawatts of electricity from Nepal.
- ❖ The Indian side has also been involved in the trade deal, as Nepal's electricity will be transmitted to Bangladesh through the transmission infrastructure on the Indian territory.
- ❖ For now, Nepal will transmit the energy to India through the 400 KV DhalkebarMuzaffarpur cross-border transmission line before India transmits the equivalent to Bangladesh.
- ❖ The rate per unit of electricity has been fixed at 6.4 cents. From the export of electricity, Nepal will make an annual income of around \$ 9.2 million.

**RBI Monetary Policy Meeting 2024: RBI keeps repo rate unchanged at 6.5% for 10th time in row, stance changed to 'neutral'**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) newly reconstituted Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), which met from October 7-9, on Wednesday kept the key policy rate – repo rate – unchanged at 6.5 per cent for the tenth consecutive monetary policy review.
- ❖ While the six-member MPC changed the monetary policy stance from 'withdrawal of accommodation' to 'neutral' in the policy meeting, the panel kept the retail inflation and GDP growth forecasts unchanged at 4.5 per cent and 7.2 per cent for FY2025 respectively.
- ❖ The RBI's policy panel kept the Repo rate steady in a 5:1 majority decision.
- ❖ New MPC Member Nagesh Kumar, Director and Chief Executive, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, voted to reduce the Repo rate by 25 basis points.

Policy Rates	
Policy Repo Rate	: 6.50%
Standing Deposit	: 6.25%
Facility Rate	
Marginal Standing	: 6.75%
Facility Rate	
Bank Rate	: 6.75%
Fixed Reverse	
Repo Rate	: 3.35%

### Physics Nobel Prize 2024: AI pioneers John Hopfield & Geoffrey Hinton



#### Key Points:

- ❖ The Royal Swedish Academy of Science, Stockholm, Sweden, has chosen John J. Hopfield and Geoffrey E. Hinton for the Nobel Prize in Physics for the year 2024.
- ❖ Both the winners will share the prize money of 11 million Swedish kroner, and they will be conferred the prize on 10 December 2024 in Stockholm.
- ❖ American John Hopfield and British-Canadian Geoffrey Hinton were chosen for their pioneering work in the development of artificial intelligence (AI).
- ❖ They have been honoured for their discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning with artificial neural networks.

#### About the Work of the Nobel Prize winner

- ❖ John Hopfield was honoured with his invention of a network that uses a specific method for saving and recreating patterns. Geoffrey Hinton, also known as the godfather of artificial Intelligence, developed a new type of network using the Hopfield network, which revolutionised machine learning.
- ❖ Machine learning is a branch of computer science that uses data and algorithms to enable artificial intelligence to mimic the way humans learn and continuously improve its accuracy.
- ❖ Artificial intelligence is a technology that enables computers and machines to simulate human learning, comprehension, problem-solving, decision-making, creativity, and autonomy

### Nobel Prize in Physics

- ❖ The first person to receive the Prize was **Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen** of Germany in 1901. Rontgen discovered electromagnetic rays, which he named X-rays. These revolutionised diagnostic medicine.
- ❖ **John Bardeen** of the United States of America is the only person to have been awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics twice, in 1956 and 1972.
- ❖ In 2023, Pierre Agostini (France), Ferenc Krausz (Hungarian-Austrian) and Anne L'Huillier(France) were awarded the 2023 Nobel Prize.

### Govt. launches Humsafar Policy to provide world-class amenities on NH



#### Key Points:

- ❖ The Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari launched the Humsafar Policy in New Delhi on 7 October 2024.
- ❖ Nitin Gadkari launched the policy at a function in the presence of the Union Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways, Ajay Tamta, Chairman of National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), Santosh Kumar Yadav and senior officers of the ministry and the NHAI.

#### Humsafar Policy

- ❖ The Humsafar Policy aims to enhance the convenience of travelling on National Highways and Expressways and accelerate the development of Wayside Amenities.
- ❖ The policy aims to establish world-class facilities for the use of the National Highways and Expressways.

- ❖ The Policy provides a framework for service providers, such as Eateries, Fuel Stations, and Trauma Centres, along the National Highways and Expressways.
- ❖ The commuters will get standardised, well-maintained and hygienic facilities along the National Highways and the Expressways.
- ❖ Commuters will be able to find details of relevant service providers near their location instantly on the NHAI's 'Rajmarg Yatra' app.

**Difference Between Highways and Expressways**

- ❖ National Highways are under the central government, which connects important cities and major ports across the country.
- ❖ Expressways are a better class of Highways, offering better surfaces, controlled access, and construction for fast-moving vehicles only.
- ❖ They can be owned by the central or state governments. Unlike Highways, expressways are designed with minimum sharp curves so that vehicles can maintain high speeds.
- ❖ On the Highways, the emphasis is not on speed and provides for frequent entry and exit points for vehicles, as the emphasis is more on connectivity.
- ❖ The Expressways have controlled entry and access points so as to ensure high speed.

**Govt approves development of Lothal National Maritime Heritage Complex**



**Key Points:**

- ❖ The Union Cabinet, in a meeting held on 9 October 2024 and chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the development of the National Maritime Heritage Complex at Lothal, Gujarat.
- ❖ The Heritage Complex to be developed at the ancient Indus Valley Civilisation site of Lothal will be developed in two phases.
- ❖ The National Maritime Heritage Complex is being developed as an international tourist destination.
- ❖ It would display India's maritime heritage from ancient to modern times and raise public awareness about it.

**Who is developing the National Maritime Heritage Complex?**

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is developing the National Maritime Heritage Complex at Lothal in collaboration with the Gujarat state government under its Sagarmala scheme.
- ❖ It is being built on around 400 acres of land in the Bhavnagar district of GUJARAT

**Phases of the National Maritime Heritage Complex**

- ❖ The National Maritime Heritage Complex is being developed in two phases-Phase I&II.
- ❖ The Phase I has been subdivided into two phases, IA and IB.

**Phase IA**

- ❖ Six galleries of the National Maritime Heritage Complex will be built.
- ❖ It will include India's largest Navy & Coast Guard gallery, displaying Naval artefacts like INS Nishank, Sea Harrier war aircraft, UH3 helicopter, etc.).
- ❖ It will also include a replica model of Lothal township surrounded by the world's largest open aquatic gallery and a jetty walkway

### Phase IB

- ❖ Eight more galleries of the complex will be built.
- ❖ It will have the world's tallest lighthouse museum, funded by the Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships.
- ❖ A Bagicha complex will also be developed, including amenities for the visiting public.

### Phase 2

- ❖ Respective Coastal State /Union Territories will develop their own pavilions at the complex.
- ❖ Four theme-based parks—a Memorial theme park, a maritime and Navy theme park, a Climate theme park, and an Adventure and Amusement theme park—will be built.
- ❖ Recreation of Lothal City in real time will be done so as to recreate Harappan architecture and lifestyle.

### About Lothal

- ❖ Lothal is the only known port town of the Indus Valley Civilization.
- ❖ The 4500-year-old archaeological site is located along the Bhogava river, which is the tributary of Sabarmati river.
- ❖ Lothal is considered to be one of the oldest port towns with an operating dock system in the world.
- ❖ The Lothal in Gujarati means 'mound of the dead'.
- ❖ It was discovered in 1952 by archaeologist SR Rao of the Archaeological Survey of India.

### Retired IPS Sharad Kumar appointed new head of BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit



### Key Points:

- ❖ Retired IPS officer Sharad Kumar, who headed anti-terror organisation NIA for four years, has been appointed as the new chief of the BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit, bringing extensive experience to the role.
- ❖ Hailing from Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh, the appointment of 68-year-old Kumar was done on October 1 by the cricketing body.
- ❖ BCCI's ACU head has been appointed for a three-year term.
- ❖ He is a 1979 batch IPS officer from the Haryana cadre and has had a distinguished career especially as the chief of the National Investigation Agency from 2013 to 2017.
- ❖ He will take over from KK Mishra, also a former Haryana cadre IPS officer, who was appointed last year but did not complete his term due to unspecified reasons.

### Recent Appointment

- ❖ First woman DG of Armed Forces Medical Services – Arti Sarin
- ❖ CMD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) – Ajit Kumar Saxena (additional charge)
- ❖ Chief of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) –Alok Ranjan
- ❖ Chief of Hyderabad-based Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (SVPNPA) – Amit Garg
- ❖ President of National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) – Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo (replace Raninder Singh)
- ❖ DG of Narcotics Control Bureau – Anurag Garg (replace Anish Dayal Singh)

### JP Nadda elected as Chairperson of 77th Session of WHO Regional Committee



- ❖ Union Health Minister JP Nadda was elected Chairperson of the 77th session of WHO's Regional Committee for Southeast Asia.
- ❖ The committee shapes WHO's health policies in the region. The focus is on improving public health systems and addressing key epidemiological and demographic challenges.
- ❖ The member nations include Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, the Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Timor-Leste.

#### About World Health Organization (WHO)

- ❖ **Formation – 7 April 1948**
- ❖ Headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland
- ❖ First President – Andrija Štampar
- ❖ **Director General – Tedros Adhanom (Ethiopia)**
- ❖ Deputy Director General – Soumya Swaminathan (Indian)
- ❖ Member Countries – 194

