

Current Affairs

5, 6, 7 & 8 October 2022

1. Who has been declared as its 'National Icon' by the Election Commission of India recently?

➤ Pankaj Tripathi

- The actor was chosen for the honour by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar for keeping in view his commitment to the cause and wide appeal across the country.
- Election Commission of India (ECI):
 - It is a permanent and independent Constitutional body.
 - Formed by Article 324.
 - Formation- 25 January 1950.
 - Comes under Ministry of Law and Justice.
 - Chief Election Commissioner- Rajiv Kumar, IAS (65 years or 6 years which is earlier)
 - Election Commissioner- Anup Chandra Pandey
 - First Election commissioner of India- Sukumar Sen (1950-1958)

2. Recently UNCTAD has estimated India's economic growth rate to be what percent?

➤ 5.7%

- India's economic growth is expected to decline to 5.7 per cent this year from 8.2 per cent in 2021, a top UN agency projected on Monday, citing higher financing cost and weaker public expenditures.
- India's GDP will further decelerate to 4.7 per cent growth in 2023, according to the forecast by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Trade and Development Report 2022.
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD):
 - it is the part of UN secretariat dealing with trade, investment and development issues.
 - Formation- 1964
 - HQ- Geneva, Switzerland
 - Secretary general- Rebecca Grynsman
 - Parent organisation-UNGA

3. Recently SBI has started 'Gram Seva Program' in how many states of India?

➤ 06

- Commemorating Gandhi's vision of Gram Swaraj, SBI Gram Seva was launched in 2017 to build and develop an Atmanirbhar Rural India. It is one of the flagship programs of the SBI Foundation. The program emphasizes on holistic development of villages by active intervention in education, healthcare,

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livelihoods, and infrastructure. The program has adopted 100 villages across 16 states in three phases. With the support of partner NGOs, SBI Foundation has been able to bring socio-economic transformation in these villages, impacting more than one lakh lives, said a press statement issued by the local head office of SBI.

- State Bank of India announced the launch of the fourth phase of the 'SBI Gram Seva' program, adopting 30 remote villages in Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.

4. Recently who has been honoured with the Global India Award in Canada?

➤ Anil Aggarwal

- Vedanta founder Anil Agarwal was honoured with the Global Indian Award worth \$50,000 by the Canada-India Foundation at its 15th annual gala here at the weekend.
- Agarwal donated the award money to a Canadian health charity working for the welfare of native Indians.

5. Recently who has taken over as the chairman of GAIL?

➤ Sandeep Kumar

- Sandeep Kumar Gupta, Director for Finance at Indian Oil Corporation, has been picked to head India's largest gas utility GAIL (India) Ltd.
- Gas Authority India Ltd (GAIL):
 - It is a govt owned natural gas corporation responsible for natural gas processing and distribution in India.
 - It is under Ministry of Petroleum and Natural gas, GOI.
 - Cabinet minister- Hardeep Singh Puri
 - Minister of state- Rameswar Teli
 - Formation- 1984
 - Chairman and MD- Sandeep Kumar Gupta

6. When has 'World Animal Day' been celebrated recently?

➤ 04 October

- World Animal Day is celebrated globally every year on October 4 to ensure better standards for animal welfare.
- World Animal Day 2022 theme is 'Shared Planet'. The theme highlights the fact that the world belongs to every living creature and not just humans.

7. When has the 'World Space Week' started recently?

➤ 04 October

- World Space Week is observed every year from October 4 to 10 to celebrate science and technology's contributions to the betterment of the human condition.

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- The week commemorates the launch of first human-made Earth satellite- Sputnik-1 (October 4, 1957) & signing a treaty for peaceful use of Space (October 10, 1967).
 - World Space Week coordinated by the United Nations with the support of the World Space Week Association (WSWA) has a goal to provide unique leverage in space outreach and education.
 - 2022 theme: "Space and Sustainability".
8. Who has recently become the only Indian to be included in the umpiring panel for the World Cup?
- Nitin Menon
- Nitin Menon, the only Indian in the ICC Elite Panel of umpires, figures in the list of 16 umpires and four match referees who will officiate in the T20 World Cup First Round and Super 12s stage matches in Australia from October 16.
 - Menon, the 38-year-old former Indian cricketer, has been selected along with 15 other umpires to officiate in the World Cup matches to be held at seven venues across the country.
9. According to the recent CIME report what was the unemployment rate of India in September 2022?
- 6.43%
- India's unemployment rate has drastically dropped to 6.43 per cent in September due to an increase in labour participation in the rural and urban areas, according to data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).
 - During August, India's unemployment rate surged to a one-year high of 8.3 per cent as employment sequentially fell by 2 million to 394.6 million.
10. What will be the name of 'Faizabad Cantt' recently?
- Ayodhya Cantt
- The Faizabad Cantonment will now be known as Ayodhya Cantonment as defence minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday approved the name-change proposal.
11. When has 'World Teacher's Day' been celebrated recently?
- 05 October
- World Teachers' Day is held annually on 5 October to celebrate all teachers around the globe.
 - It commemorates the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, which sets benchmarks regarding the rights and responsibilities of teachers, and standards for their initial preparation and further education, recruitment, employment, and teaching and learning conditions.

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- World Teachers' Day is co-convened in partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNICEF and Education International (EI).
- 2022 theme: "The transformation of education begins with teachers".

12. Recently Brigadier BD Mishra has given the additional charge of Governor of which state?

➤ Meghalaya

- BD Mishra took oath as the new governor of Meghalaya at a function in the Raj Bhavan here.
- Mishra, the former brigadier of the Indian Army, has been serving as the Arunachal Pradesh governor since 2017 and was given the additional charge of neighbouring Meghalaya.
- He succeeded Satya Pal Malik who completed his term as the Meghalaya governor on October 3.

13. Who has recently won the United Nations Refugee Award?

➤ Angela Merkel

- Former German chancellor Angela Merkel was named winner of the prestigious Nansen Award, for offering a haven to over 1.2 million refugees and asylum seekers fleeing violence at the height of the Syrian conflict, the UN refugee agency, UNHCR, said

14. Which country's telecom company 'Optus' has come under cyber-attack recently?

➤ Australia

15. Recently which state government has announced the formation of women PAC battalion for the first time?

➤ Uttar Pradesh

- The Uttar Pradesh government on Monday announced the formation of the state's first three all-woman battalions of the Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC), informed CMO officials.
- The move comes with the aim to entrust the responsibility of security of the state with women.

16. Where will the fifth meeting of the International Solar Alliance be held recently?

➤ New Delhi

- International Solar Alliance's (ISA) 5th assembly will be held in New Delhi from 17th to 20th October 2022.
- Power and New and Renewable Energy Minister R.K Singh will preside over the Assembly.
- India holds the office of the President of the ISA Assembly. Ministers, missions and delegates from 109 member and signatory countries will participate in the meeting.
- International Solar Alliance (ISA):

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- The initiative was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the India Africa Summit, and a meeting of member countries ahead of the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris in November 2015.
- Formation- 30 No, 2015
- an alliance of 124 countries initiated by India, most of them being sunshine countries, which lie either completely or partly between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.
- objective of the alliance is to work for efficient exploitation of solar energy to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.
- HQ- Gwal Pahari, Gurugram, Haryana, India
- Director General- Ajay Mathur

17. When has 'World Cotton Day' been celebrated recently?

➤ 07 October

- The first World Cotton Day was proposed by the World Trade Organization on October 7, 2019, by the Cotton Four, four sub-Saharan African cotton producers Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, and Mali, collectively known as the Cotton Four (WTO).
- The Cotton-4 countries' initiative to organize World Cotton Day was welcomed by the WTO on October 7, 2019. Together with the secretariats of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Cotton Advisory Committee, and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the WTO Secretariat organized the event (UNCTAD).
- 2022 theme: 'Weaving a better future for Cotton'.

18. Captain Ibrahim Traore has been elected as the new President of which country recently?

➤ Burkina Faso

- Just a week ago, 34-year-old Ibrahim Traore was an unknown, even in his native Burkina Faso.
- But in the space of a weekend, he catapulted himself from army captain to the world's youngest leader -- an ascent that has stoked hopes but also fears for a poor and chronically troubled country.
- Burkina Faso:
 - Country in west Africa
 - Capital- Ouagadougou
 - President- Captain Ibrahim Traore
 - Currency- West African CFA franc

19. Recently CB George has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to which country?

➤ Japan

- George, a 1993-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, is currently the Ambassador of India to Kuwait. He will replace Sanjay Kumar Verma as India's envoy to Japan.

20. Where has Home Minister Amit Shah recently announced to give ST status to Hills or Pahari community?

➤ Jammu Kashmir

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has announced Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for the Pahari community in Jammu and Kashmir. The announcement was made at a rally in Rajouri yesterday.
- Mr Shah said, Justice GD Sharma Commission has recommended reservation for Paharis in the report submitted to the government.

21. Which country has emerged as the world's largest sugar producer recently?

➤ India

- Recently, India has emerged as the world's largest producer and consumer of sugar and the world's 2nd largest exporter, due to the record production of more than 5000 Lakh Metric Tons (LMT) of sugarcane.

22. Who has been chosen as the best male goalkeeper by the International Hockey Federation recently?

➤ P R Srijesh

- Indian national hockey men's and women's team goalkeepers bagged the top honour in their respective categories after a tremendous showing this year.
- Savita topped the women's list with 37.6 points while Sreejesh took home the men's award for the best goalie with a total of 39.9 points

23. Recently where has India's second 'National Model Vedic School' been inaugurated recently?

➤ Puri

- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Tuesday inaugurated the country's second Rashtriya Adarsh Veda Vidyalaya (RAVV) in Puri, with the objective of spreading knowledge of the Vedas among people.
- The RAVV or the National Model Vedic School has come up on the campus of the Central Sanskrit University here.
- Maharishi Sandipani Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan is the first such school in Madhya Pradesh's Ujjain.
- Four more such schools will come up at Badrinath in Uttarakhand, Sringeri in Karnataka, Dwarka in Gujarat and Guwahati in Assam, the officials said.