Current Affairs October-November 2023

Art and Culture

1. The idol of Lord Ram will be installed at the temple in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, on January 22, 2024. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has accepted the invitation and will attend the inauguration.

2. The 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is scheduled to be held from November 20th to November 28th in Goa.

3. Dhordo village in Kutch district of Gujarat has been recognized as one of the Best Tourism Villages by the United Nations World Tourism Organization.

4. President Droupadi Murmu conferred the 69th National Film Awards in New Delhi on 17 October 2023.

Economy

1. The Tata Group is set to become India's first homegrown iPhone manufacturer. This development follows the acquisition of an assembly plant near Bengaluru from, Apple supplier Wistron Corp for, approximately \$125 million.

2. American Professor Claudia Goldin has been awarded the 2023 Nobel Economics Prize for her research on women's contributions to the labor market. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences made the announcement, officially known as The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences.

Environment

1. Dr. Joyeeta Gupta, an Indian-origin professor, received the prestigious Spinoza Prize in the Netherlands. Dr. Gupta is an environmental scientist and holds the position of professor of Environment and Development in the Global South at the University of Amsterdam.

Government Schemes

1. The government has approved the establishment of an autonomous body called "Mera Yuva Bharat" (MY Bharat) with the aim of youth development and youth-led development.

2. The ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) – Digital Health Account is a revolutionary

platform designed to empower individuals in managing their health more effectively.

3. The PM SVANidhi scheme has achieved a milestone by extending its support to more than 50 lakh street vendors across the nation. Street vendors are essential to the urban

informal economy and provide vital goods and services.

Important Days

1. The Central Vigilance Commission is observing Vigilance Awareness Week 2023 from October 30 to November 5, 2023.

2. National Unity Day is celebrated in India on October 31st to commemorate Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's birth anniversary.

3. World Students Day is celebrated on 15 October 2023 to honor the birth anniversary of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, the 11th President of India.

4. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) celebrated its 30th Foundation Day in New Delhi on October 12th each year.

5. International Day of the Girl Child is observed on October 11th each year to raise awareness about the challenges and opportunities faced by girls worldwide.

6. World Mental Health Day is observed on October 10 every year to raise awareness and promote positive change regarding mental health.

7. Birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri : 2 October

International

1. Eight Indian nationals were sentenced to death in Qatar, accused of spying for Israel.

These individuals were former naval officers working for the Al Dahra company on a submarine project for Qatari authorities when they were detained over a year ago.

2. India and the European Union (EU) conducted a joint naval exercise in the Gulf of Guinea to enhance maritime security cooperation in the region.

3. United Nations Day is celebrated on October 24th each year to mark the anniversary of the United Nations' entry into force in 1945.

4. The Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Rafael Grossi, visited India on October 23, 2023, on an official visit. The visit was welcomed by Arindam Bagchi, an official spokesperson from the Indian External Affairs Ministry.

5. Indian Navy's Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) arrived at Sri Lanka's Katunayake Air Force base on October 19, 2023.

6. The 2023 New Zealand general election was held on October 14, 2023. The National Party won the election, taking enough seats to form a coalition with its allies on the right wing of politics. The former CEO of Air New Zealand, Christopher Luxon, became the Prime Minister-elect after incumbent Prime Minister Chris Hipkins conceded defeat.

7. India has initiated "Operation Ajay" to facilitate the return of its citizens from Israel who wish to come back. External Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said first special charted flight with 230 passengers onboard reached India on 12 October 2023.

8. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan held talks in New Delhi on October 9, 2023, to review and deepen bilateral ties. Various facts of bilateral ties were discussed, including trade and investment, defense, maritime security, development partnership, higher education, and people-to-people ties.

9. Hamas fighters have killed Israelis, and Israel has responded with a bombing campaign in Gaza, resulting in Palestinian casualties. Israel has also mobilized troops and imposed a blockade on Gaza. The death toll in Gaza has risen to over 1,300, with more than 123,000 people displaced due to the conflict since October 7, 2023.

10. India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on October 5,2023, in Abu Dhabi. The MoU solidifies their commitment to collaboration in areas such as supply chain resilience, clean energy technology, healthcare, space, Industry 4.0, and industrial standards.

11. Dr. Mohamed Muizzu was elected as the President of Maldives on October 1, 2023. He secured victory in the presidential election with 54% of the votes, defeating the incumbent

President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih.

National

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the culmination program of the Meri Maati Mera Desh campaign's Amrit Kalash Yatra at Kartavya Path on October 31, 2023.

2. The Election Commission of India (ECI) offers a home voting facility or postal ballot facility for senior citizens aged 80 and above and individuals with 40 percent disabilities.

3. A joint military exercise called 'Exercise KAZIND-2023' is being conducted between the Indian Army, Indian Air Force, and the Kazakhstan contingent. The exercise is taking place in Otar, Kazakhstan, from October 30 to November 11, 2023.

4. The Indian Army celebrated 'Shaurya Diwas' on October 27,,2023, in Jammu and Kashmir.

'Shaurya Diwas' marks the 76th anniversary of the landing of Indian forces in Kashmir, ensuring the first civil-military victory of Independent India.

5. The government is launching a nationwide outreach and awareness campaign called "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra" on the 15th November 2023

6. Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated Country's first Nano DAP plant plant near Kalol in

Gandhinagar on 24 October 2023.

7. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) at Sahibabad, Uttar Pradesh, on October 20, 2023.

8. The third stealth destroyer, 'IMPHAL,' of Project 15B Class Guided Missile Destroyer was handed over to the Indian Navy by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited in Mumbai on October 20, 2023.

9. The Election Commission of India has developed a mobile application called "Know your Candidate" (KYC). The "KYC-ECI" mobile application is available on both Android and iOS platforms.

10. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) on October 20,2023. The inauguration will include the priority section of the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Corridor and the flagging off of the RapidX train connecting Sahibabad to Duhai Depot.

Science and Technology

1. Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched India's first homeproduced Reference Fuel in New Delhi on October 26, 2023. It's used for developing engines and assessing their performance.

2. ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation) conducted a successful test of the crew escape system for the Gaganyaan, India's first human spaceflight mission, on October 21,2023.

3. GITEX Global 2023, largest technology and startup show in the world, took place from October 16th to October 20th at Dubai World Trade Centre and Dubai Harbour. The event spanned 41 halls across two venues and attracted over 6,000 exhibitors and 180,000 tech executives from more than 100 countries.

4. The Nobel Prize in Chemistry for 2023 has been awarded to three scientists: Moungi G Bawendi, Louis E Brus, and Alexei Ekimov.

5. The 2023 Physics Nobel Prize was awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences to Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz, and Anne L'Huillier.

6. The 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine has been jointly awarded to Katalin Kariko and Drew Weissman for their work on messenger RNA (mRNA) technology, which was instrumental in the development of COVID-19 vaccines.

Sports

1. The Asian Para Games 2023 was held in Hangzhou, China from October 22 to 28. India sent its largest-ever contingent of 303 athletes, consisting of 191 men and 112 women. The Indian para-athletes made history by securing their 100th medal, with Dilip Mahadu Gavit winning a gold medal on the final day of the event. In total, India won 111 medals, including 18 golds, 23 silvers, and 41 bronzes.

2. Unnati Hooda won the women's singles title at the Abu Dhabi Masters 2023 Badminton tournament on October 24, 2023.

3. The fourth Asian Para Games officially began in Hangzhou, China, on October 22, 2023, and will continue until October 28.

4. On October 19, 2023, during the Qatar Masters chess tournament, Indian chess grandmaster Karthikeyan Murali achieved a remarkable victory.

5. India is actively pursuing the goal of hosting the 2036 Olympics, as confirmed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during inauguration of the 141st International Olympic Committee (IOC) Session in Mumbai.

6. Cricket is set to feature in the 2028 Olympics. On 13 October 2023, the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Executive Board approved the proposal of Los Angeles Games

organisers to include the cricket in the programme.

7. The 141st International Olympic Committee (IOC) Session is scheduled to be held in Mumbai, India from October 15 to October 17, 2023.

Miscellaneous

1. Narges Mohammadi, an Iranian human rights activist, has been awarded the Nobel

Peace Prize for 2023. She is recognized for her dedicated efforts in fighting against the

oppression of women in Iran.

2. Norwegian author Jon Fosse has been awarded the 2023 Nobel Prize in Literature for his innovative plays and prose.