

1. India gets Chairmanship of ILO Governing Body after a gap of 35 years

- Labour and Employment Secretary, Apurva Chandra, has been elected as the Chairperson of the Governing Body of the ILO for the period October 2020- June 2021.
- Mr. Chandra belongs to the 1988 batch of the Indian Administrative Service, Maharashtra Cadre.
- The Governing Body is the apex executive body of the ILO which decides policies, programmes, agenda, budget and elects the Director-General.
- **About ILO (International Labour Organization):** It is a United Nations agency whose mandate is to advance social and economic justice through setting international labour standards.

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Head: Guy Ryder

Founder: Paris Peace Conference

Founded: 1919

Parent organizations: United Nations General Assembly, United Nations Economic and Social Council

2. Himachal Pradesh: Mandi district bags top position for implementation of PMGSY

- Union Ministry of Rural Development has declared the list of top performing 30 districts in the country for implementing the PMGSY programme.
- Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district has bagged top position among 30 districts of the country in successful implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana of maximum length in 2020-21.
- Another districts of Himachal Pradesh have also secured position among top 30 best performing districts, which include Chamba, Shimla, Kangra, Una, Sirmour, Hamirpur and Solan.
- Himachal Pradesh has also secured second position at the national level for construction of roads under PMGSY.
- **Note: PMGSY (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana)** is a nationwide plan in India to provide good all-weather road connectivity to unconnected villages.

Launch year: 2000

Sector: Rural development

Ministry: Ministry of Rural Development

3. MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari launches India's first-ever high quality Khadi Fabric Footwear

- Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises- MSME, Nitin Gadkari launched India's first-ever high quality Khadi Fabric Footwear, designed by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).



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- These footwear are made of Khadi fabric like Silk, Cotton and Wool.
 - **Note: Khadi and Village Industries Commission** is a statutory body formed in April 1957 by the Government of India, under the Act of Parliament, 'Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act of 1956'. Vinai Kumar Saxena is the Chairman.
- 4. ECI constitutes committee to examine issues concerning expenditure limits**
- Election Commission has constituted a committee comprising Harish Kumar, Ex. IRS and DG (Investigation), Umesh Sinha, Secretary General and DG (Expenditure) to examine the issues concerning expenditure limit for a candidate in view of increase in number of electors and rise in Cost Inflation Index and other factors.
 - **About ECI (Election Commission of India)**
Formed: 25 January 1950 (Later celebrated as National Voters Day)
Headquarters: New Delhi
Commission executives: **Sunil Arora, Chief Election Commissioner of India**
Rajeev Kumar, Election Commissioner of India
Sushil Chandra, Election Commissioner of India
- 5. Indian Navy gets first batch of women pilots for Maritime Reconnaissance missions**
- Lieutenant Shubhangi Swaroop, Lt Divya Sharma and Lt Shivangi graduated as fully operational Maritime Reconnaissance (MR) pilots on October 22.
 - Indian Navy got its first batch of women pilots for Maritime Reconnaissance (MR) missions on Dornier aircraft. The pilots completed Dornier Operational Flying Training (DOFT) on October 20 at INS Garuda in Kerala's Kochi. They were operationalised by the Southern Naval Command (SNC).
- 6. Indian Diplomat Dr Neena Malhotra appointed as next Ambassador to Republic of San Marino**
- Dr Neena Malhotra, a 1992-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, has been concurrently accredited as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of San Marino. Presently, she is serving as the Ambassador of India to the Republic of Italy.
- 7. Indian Diplomat Sushil Kumar Singhal appointed as next Ambassador to Solomon Islands**
- Sushil Kumar Singhal, a 2000-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, has been concurrently accredited as the next High Commissioner of India to the Solomon Islands. He is presently serving as the High Commissioner of India to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea.



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8. October 24: United Nations Day

- 75th anniversary of UN Day
- UN day is observed on October 24, every year since 1948.
- **Note: India elected as a non-permanent member of the Security Council, will serve as the president of the powerful 15-nation UN body for the month of August, 2021.**

9. October 24: World Development Information Day

- The theme of this Day is Information and Communications Technologies: New Solutions to Development Challenges.
- **Note:** The General Assembly in 1972 established World Development Information Day to draw the attention of the world to development problems and the need to strengthen international cooperation to solve them.

10. October 24: World Polio Day

- World Polio Day was established by Rotary International over a decade ago to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop the vaccine against the disease.
- In the last three decades, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), led by national governments and the WHO, has been monitoring the disease situation globally.
- **Note:** As per the WHO, since 1980, the cases of wild poliovirus have decreased by over 99.9 per cent as a result of vaccination efforts made around the world.
- **India's situation with regard to the disease:** India was declared polio-free in January 2014, after three years of zero cases, an achievement widely believed to have been spurred by the successful pulse polio campaign in which all children were administered polio drops.

11. October 23: World Snow Leopard's Day

- 'International Snow Leopard Day is observed on to raise awareness on protection of endangered snow leopards.
- This started from October 23, 2013, when political leaders from 12 countries endorsed the on the conservation of snow leopards'.
- These are distributed across 12 countries in central Asia and are usually found in high, rugged mountain landscapes.
- **Government of India** has been conserving snow leopard and its habitat through the Project Snow Leopard (PSL). The PSL was launched in 2009.



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- India is also party to the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection (GSLEP) Programme since 2013. India has identified three large landscapes, namely, Hemis-Spiti across Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh; Nanda Devi – Gangotri in Uttarakhand; and Khangchendzonga – Tawang across Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

12. Playback singer, music director and actor K J Mohammed Babu passed away

- He popularly generally known as ‘Zero’ Babu. He was a recipient of the Sangeetha Nataka Akademi Award.

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