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OCTOBER

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We Shine Study Circle

TNPSC

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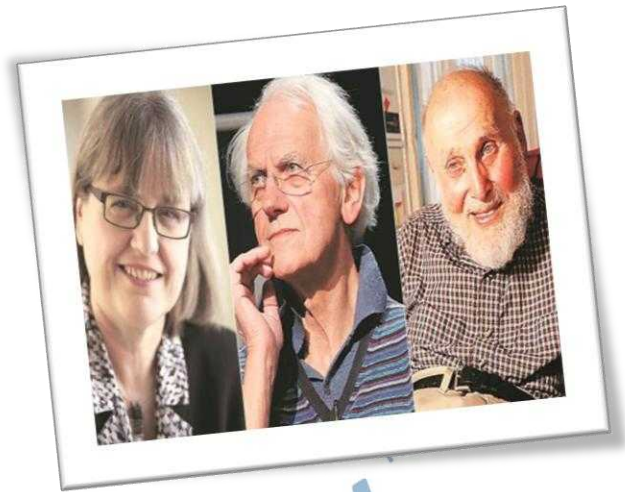
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NATIONAL NEWS

- The **National Dolphin Research Centre (NDRC)**, India's and Asia's first is set to be established in **Patna**. It will play an important role in strengthening conservation efforts and research to save the endangered mammal. Sinha is the chairperson of the working group for dolphin conservation set up by the central government.
 - Presently the dolphin population in India is estimated to be merely 2000 with a major chunk present at the **Vikramshila Dolphin sanctuary in Bhagalpur district of Bihar**.
- An MoU was inked between **ISRO and the Federal Space Agency of Russia 'ROSCOSMOS'** for joint activities in the field of Human Spaceflight Programme. The Roscosmos State Corporation for Space Activities and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will be working together on the **Gaganyaan mission**.
 - Indian Space research Organisation (ISRO) aims to **complete Gaganyaan mission** before **2022**.
- A task force was constituted by the **Union ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship** in collaboration with **World Economic Forum** for addressing the skill gap in the country. This task force is called: **Closing the Skills Gap Task Force in India** and will be co-chaired by the **Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** along with **Infosys MD and CEO Salil Parekh**.
- To double the income of the farmers in the country by **2022**, **Arunachal Pradesh** Government launched **2** schemes called- the **Chief Minister's Sashakt Kisan Yojana** and **Chief Minister's Krishi Samuh Yojana** in **Itanagar**.
 - The **Chief Minister's Krishi Samuh Yojana** aims at: Providing timely supports and marketing interventions of the government for better price realization and doubling farmers' income.
- **Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan** inaugurated the **Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference of India Region, Zone III** in **Guwahati**. Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference plays an important role in promoting democracy. It provides a platform to the legislators to interact with domain experts and their peers.
- Haryana Chief Minister **Manohar Lal Khattar** said an anti-terrorist force **'Kavach'** — will be set up to further strengthen the security arrangements in the state.
 - Haryana Chief Minister **Manohar Lal Khattar** said an anti-terrorist force **'Kavach'** — will be set up to further strengthen the security arrangements in the

state. The **headquarters** of Kavach would be at **Gurugram**.

- **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** launched '**Nirman Kusuma**' programme for **providing financial assistance** to the children of the construction workers for their technical education in the state. The children of construction workers would get financial assistance for their education in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and polytechnics.
 - While an ITI student will be entitled to get financial assistance of Rs. 23,600, a diploma student to get Rs. 26,300 per annum. A total of 1,878 students will get benefit from the programme.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- **Japan** joined the joint exercise codenamed- '**Kamandag**' (**venom**) with **US** and **Filipino** troops in the **Philippines** for the first time since World War II. This marked the first time Japanese armoured military vehicles were used on foreign soil since 1945.
 - This exercise consists of about **150** US, Filipino and Japanese troops participating in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief training.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** had a meeting with his **Tajikistan counterpart Mr. Emomali Rahmon** in Dushanbe. On this occasion, both countries signed MoUs in various fields including political relations, strategic research, agriculture, renewable energy, traditional medicine, space technology, youth affairs, Culture and Disaster Management.
- **Pakistan** has successfully test-fired **Ghauri ballistic missile** capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear warheads up to a distance of **1,300 kilometres**. The launch was conducted by Army Strategic Forces Command and was aimed at testing the operational and technical readiness.
 - In April, Pakistan successfully test-fired an enhanced version of the indigenously-built **Babur cruise missile** that can deliver conventional and non-conventional weapons with a range of **700 kilometres**.

ECONOMY

- **World Bank** in its **South Asia Economic Focus 'Budget Crunch' report** released the projection of GDPs of various countries. It stated that India's GDP growth is expected to touch **7.3%** in **2018-19**.

- Also, India's GDP projection for **2019 & 2020** has been projected to **7.5%**. Growth reached **6.7 per cent** in fiscal year **2017/18**.
- **Growth in India** is firming up and projected to accelerate to **7.3 per cent** in the **2018-19** fiscal and **7.5 per cent** in the **next two years**, the World Bank said.
 - Prompted by the adoption of the 'Goods and Services Tax' (GST) and the recapitalisation of banks, growth in India is firming up and it is projected to accelerate further.

AWARDS

- **The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences** in Stockholm has given the **50th Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences** to **William D. Nordhaus** and **Paul M. Romer**, both from the **US**, for "integrating climate change and technological innovations into long-run macroeconomic analysis."
 - The Nobel Economics Prize was not part of the original line-up of awards as envisaged by Alfred Nobel and is therefore officially known as the **Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences**. It has been issued by Sweden's central bank, the **Riksbank**, since 1969.
- **The Employees' State Insurance Corporation** has won the '**ISSA Good Practice Award**' for Administrative Solution for Coverage Extension at the "**Regional Social Security Forum for Asia and the Pacific**" held at **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** recently.
 - The award recognises the measures taken by ESIC for extension of coverage- **SPREE (Scheme for Promoting Registration of Employers and Employees)**, reduced rate of contribution rates for 24 months in newly implemented areas and raising the wage limit for coverage under the ESI Act.

SPORTS

- **Javelin thrower Sandeep Chaudhary** ended India's wait for a **gold** medal at the **2018 Para Asian Games in Indonesia**.
 - Chaudhary bagged the top prize in the men's F42-44/61-64 event with a **world record throw of 60.01 metre** at the continental extravaganza.
- While Indian contingent was fighting it out in the 2018 Asian Para Games in Jakarta, the **Indian troika of para shooters** comprising **Harshit Tiwari, Rajveer Singh Sekhon** and

Balendu Singh scripted history as they clinched India's first medal, a **silver**, in **2018 World Shooting Para Sports Trap Championships** being held in **Lonato, Italy**.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **World Post Day** is celebrated each year on **9 October**, the anniversary of the **establishment of the Universal Postal Union in 1874** in the Swiss Capital, Bern. The theme selected for the 2018 competition is: **"Imagine you are a letter travelling through time. What message do you wish to convey to your readers"**
 - It was declared World Post Day by the **Universal Postal Union (UPU)** Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969. Since then, countries across the world participate annually in the celebrations.



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