

# October 18th

## INTERNATIONAL

### 1) "The High Cost of Cheap Water"

- The report tilted "The High Cost of Cheap Water," is published by World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) on World Food Day, warns of a mounting global water crisis that endangers \$58 trillion in economic value, food security, and sustainability.
- Degradation of rivers, lakes, wetlands, and aquifers poses a significant threat to their economic value and their crucial role in sustaining food security, human health, and planetary well-being.

#### 2) World Health Summit

- The World Health Summit took place in Berlin, Germany.
- The summit fosters international collaboration and open discourse rooted in scientific insights, placing global health at the forefront of political agendas and advancing the global health conversation in alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Theme: "A Defining Year for Global Health Action"

### NATIONAL

#### 1) Same-sex marriages

- A five-judge Constitution Bench, led by Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud, issued a unanimous verdict declining to recognize same-sex marriages and civil unions for non-heterosexual couples.
- All five judges on the Bench, including the CJI, agreed that there is no fundamental right to marry under the Indian Constitution.





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- Interpretation of the Special Marriage Act, 1954 to allow same-sex marriage using gender-neutral language was deemed unfeasible.
- The judgment did not recognize same-sex marriages or civil unions but acknowledged the right to choose partners and live-in relationships.

# 2) Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry

- The Union Education Ministry has recently advised all states to implement the Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR), also known as the 'One Nation, One Student ID.'
- It aims to create a seamless educational ecosystem and facilitate better tracking of students' academic journeys and achievements.
- Benefits: Lifelong ID for seamless tracking of academic progress, Digital storage of exam results, learning outcomes, Simplified admission process for students transferring between schools or institutions

# 3) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd

- Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. has clinched a significant order worth Rs 310 crore from the Indian government for the construction of a training ship for the Indian coast guard.
- The training ship will serve as a crucial platform for providing basic sea training to approximately 70 Coast Guard trainee officers, as well as other international under-trainee officers.

### 4) "Apna Chandrayaan"

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- The Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, launched a web portal named "Apna Chandrayaan".
- It is developed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training.





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- It aims to provide activity-based support materials related to Mission Chandrayaan-3.
- The web portal offers a diverse range of educational content, including quizzes, puzzles, coloring books, jigsaw puzzles, picture builders, and inspiring stories in the form of graphic novels, all centered around Chandrayaan-3.

## 5) World Skills 2022

- Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, officially launched IndiaSkills 2023-24.
- In this event, he honored the winners of World Skills 2022 at an event held in Kaushal Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The competition offers participants a chance to showcase their talents on the global stage, with the next WorldSkills event set to take place in Paris.

### 6) redRail makes realtime train info accessible

- redRail, the rail ticketing platform from redBus and an IRCTC authorised partner, announced that passengers can now access updates on their journeys including live train status, PNR status movements, coach position, platform number, and train schedule, through WhatsApp.
- The details can be accessed by sending a 'Hi' to redRail's Railbot number (+91 9538039911).

### **BUSINESS AND ECONOMY**

#### 1) Glenmark's psoriatic arthritis generic gets U.S. FDA

• Glenmark's Pharmaceutical's Apremilast tablets, 10mg, 20mg and 30 mg, a generic version of Amgen's Otezla Tablets, 10 mg, 20 mg and 30 mg, has received final approval from the United States Food and Drug Administration (U.S. FDA).





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# 2) Amul's "Be More Milk"

- Amul's 'Be More Milk' campaign had made a big splash at New York's Time Square, the world-famous intersection that sports massive digital screens.
- The campaign displayed the 'Be More Milk' message in a colourful and animated billboard that grabbed the attention of the public.

## **SPORTS**

### 1) Asian Para Games

- India will be represented by a strong 446-member contingent, including 303 athletes, at the fourth Asian Para Games to be held in Hangzhou from October 22 to 28.
- The Sports Ministry has sanctioned a total of 303, sportspersons 191 men and 112 women across 17 sporting disciplines for the Games.

### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

#### 1) World Dignity Day

- The third Wednesday in October, Global dignity day is observed every year to look beyond what divides us and recognize the dignity and humanity we share.
- In 2023, the day is observed on 18th October.

#### **REPORTS & INDEX**

#### 1) Global Pension Index- 2023

- By Mercer and CFA Institute. It is the 15th Edition. Parameters: 3 Sub indices: adequacy, sustainability and integrity. Top 3: Netherlands, Iceland and Denmark
- India's Rank: 45th out of 47 countries (41st in 2022, 40th in 2021)
- India's score improved from 44.4 in 2022 to 45.9 in 2023





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