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IAS/KAS/ACF/PSI/VA/AO/PDO



MONTHLY MAGAZINE

OCTOBER-2024

NEWS-INSHORTS



- Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) telescope
- The 'Cruise Bharat Mission
- **Maharashtra** has granted the title of Rajyamata (Mother) to desi cows
- The India Digital Agri Conference 2024
- India's first Demonstration Facility for **Biopolymers**
- Griha Arogya: Healthcare at Your Doorstep
- **5th National Water Awards**
- Shiksha Copilot
- **eShram** – One Stop Solution in New Delhi to enhance access to social security schemes for **unorganised workers**



Maharashtra, Ahead of State Polls, Declares Cow As "Rajmata-Gomata"



KARNATAKA/INDIA/INTERNATIONAL-CURRENT AFFAIRS



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October 2024

- UNESCO has accredited **the Keremane Idagunji Mahaganapati Yakshagana Mandali**, founded in 1934 by Late Keremane Shivarama Hegde. The objective is to educate future generations and safeguard Yakshagana from decline, ensuring its relevance and vitality. Yakshagana is a traditional theatre form that originated between the 11th and 16th centuries in coastal Karnataka and parts of Kerala.



UNESCO Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage accredits Keremane Idagunji Mahaganapati Yakshagana Mandali

The **mandali**, the **first to achieve the distinction in Karnataka**, plays an advisory role in accomplishing the mission of the **UNESCO Convention**.

- The Union Cabinet has approved the recognition of five more languages as "classical," expanding the nation's list of culturally significant tongues.

(KAS/PSI/FDA/AAO/PC)

- Other than 6 languages, **Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese, and Bengali** have been included in the prestigious category.
- This addition increases the total number of classical languages in **India to 11**.
- In **2024**, criteria for declaring a language as classical were revised
- Under which "Knowledge Texts: Presence of an original literary tradition not borrowed from another speech community" was replaced by "Knowledge texts, especially prose texts in addition to poetry, epigraphical and inscriptional evidence".

Sl. No.	Languages	Year of Declaration
1.	Tamil	2004
2.	Sanskrit	2005
3.	Telugu	2008
4.	Kannada	2008
5.	Malayalam	2013
6.	Odia	2014

- **Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment (MACE) telescope** was inaugurated in **Hanle Ladakh** representing a significant advancement in **gamma-ray astronomy**.
- It enables scientists to explore gamma rays with energies exceeding 20 billion electron volts (eV), emitted from sources beyond the Milky Way including pulsars blazars and gamma-ray bursts
- Positioned at an **altitude of approximately 4.3 kilometers**, MACE is the highest imaging Cherenkov telescope globally, making it the **largest of its kind in Asia and the second-largest worldwide**.



- Karnataka State Board of Wildlife (SBWL) headed by the Hon'ble **Chief Minister Shri Siddaramaiah** approved the proposal to declare Hesaraghatta grassland spread over 5000 acres a conservation reserve.



- It has been declared under the Section 36 (A) of the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.
 - In 2021, political considerations had led the board to reject the proposal for Greater Hesaraghatta Grassland Reserve, prompting environmentalists to approach the high court. (KAS/PSI/FDA/AAO/PC)
 - The Karnataka High Court directed the SBWL to reconsider the proposal submitted for declaring Hesaraghatta Grassland as Conservation Reserve.
- In the first phase, the government plans to establish 50 cafes across the state, blending rural and urban locations.
 - SHG women will receive upto Rs. 15 lakh in grants for setup costs including infrastructure support
 - Akka Cafe and Akka Bakery was launched in Devanahalli, Bengaluru (It is run entirely by self-help group women.)
 - It is being implemented by National Livelihood Mission, Karnataka through Startup Village Entrepreneurship Program (SVEP) under NRLM.
 - National Livelihood Mission, Karnataka, launched the first Akka Cafe in Gandhi Nagar, Kempe Gowda Road, on March 8, as a step towards empowering women entrepreneurs.



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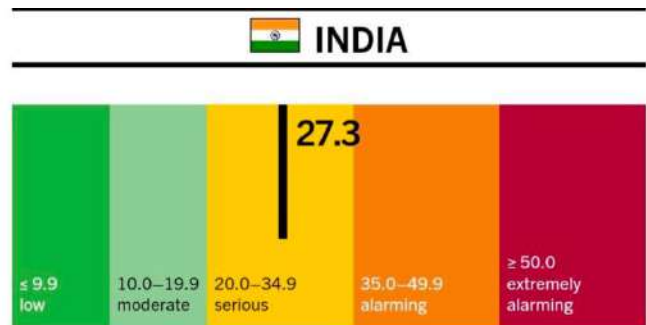
KAS, VO, AO, ACF, RFO, PSI

- 10th edition of India International Science Festival (ISF) to take place at IIT Guwahati, Assam from 30 November to 3 December.

- **Theme 2024:** "Transforming India into an S&T-driven Global Manufacturing Hub"

➤ **Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd becomes 14th Maharatna CPSE.**

- The Government of India has approved the upgradation of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to 14th Maharatna, Central Public Sector Enterprises.
- Ministry of Finance grants this status: Miniratna, Navratna, and Maharatna.
- **HQ:** Bengaluru, Karnataka

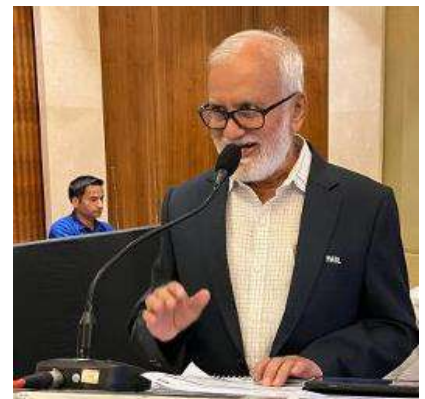


In the 2024 Global Hunger Index, India ranks **105th** out of the 127 countries with sufficient data to calculate 2024 GHI scores. With a score of 27.3 in the 2024 Global Hunger Index, India has a level of hunger that is *serious*.


India's GHI Score is based on the values of four component indicators:

- Dr. Subbanna Ayyappan Honored with Bhaskaracharya Tribute for Contributions to Aquaculture

➤ A Padma Shri awardee and former Director-General of ICAR, Dr. Ayyappan has played a key role in advancing India's Blue Revolution and global fisheries knowledge.

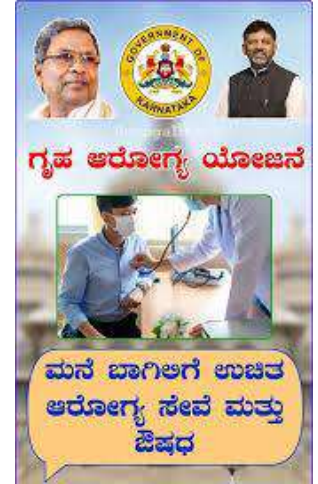


- UNESCO names Rabat (Morocco) **as World Book Capital** for 2026
- **BharatGen**, is India's pioneering government-funded multimodal AI initiative aimed at developing generative AI systems in various Indian languages. **This initiative is led by IIT Bombay**, which focuses on promoting social equity and cultural preservation.
- The '**Cruise Bharat Mission**' was launched from Mumbai on October 2024, by Union Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal. This initiative aims to transform India into a global cruise tourism hub, with a target of doubling cruise passenger traffic by 2029.

- Maharashtra has granted the title of **Rajyamata (Mother)** to **desi cows**, a unique recognition given to any animal for the first time. This honour applies to native breeds like Devani, Lal Kandhari, Khillar, Dangi, and Gavlau, acknowledging their importance in terms of scientific, religious, and economic factors
- Andhra Pradesh (AP) has entered into an agreement with Karnataka for the deployment of trained elephants, **known as Kumki**, to mitigate human-elephant conflicts. This collaboration includes knowledge transfer, training programs, and expertise sharing for elephant capture, handling, and conservation. Karnataka has previously transferred Kumki elephants to other states, showcasing its expertise in elephant management
- Italy hosted a G7 leaders' call on October 2024, to discuss the escalating crisis in the Middle East, particularly focusing on the situation along the **Israeli-Lebanese border (The Blue Line)** and Iran's missile attacks on Israel. Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, as the current G7 chair, emphasized the importance of diplomacy in resolving these tensions.
- **The India Digital Agri Conference 2024** was held in New Delhi, bringing together stakeholders to harness the power of digital technology in agriculture. Led by Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Secretary, Dr. Devesh Chaturvedi, the conference facilitated knowledge sharing, showcased innovative solutions, and encouraged collaboration across sectors
- Horseshoe crabs, ancient marine creatures known for their blue blood, are facing extinction due to habitat loss and human activities along the **coastline of Odisha**. Conservation efforts are underway to protect them, including tracking their movements and studying their nesting patterns.
 - These are one of the oldest living creatures on Earth (emerged 250 million years ago), also called **living fossils**.
 - International Horseshoe Crab Day is celebrated **on 20th June every year** to showcase the collective conservation efforts for horseshoe crabs.
- **India's first** Demonstration Facility for **Biopolymers** was inaugurated by Dr Jitendra Singh in Pune, marking a significant milestone in the country's biotechnology sector. Developed by Praj Industries, the facility specializes in producing Polylactic Acid (PLA) bioplastic. This initiative is part of India's rapidly growing bio-economy, valued at over

\$150 billion in 2023 and projected to reach \$300 billion by 2030, driven by over 8,500 biotech startups.

- A biopolymer is a polymer that is produced from natural sources, such as plants, animals, microbes, or fossils, or synthesized chemically from biological materials
- Abu Dhabi has been crowned the **world's richest city** due to its substantial sovereign wealth funds, estimated at \$1.7 trillion. This significant wealth is primarily attributed to the discovery of oil in the 1950s, making Abu Dhabi one of the world's top energy producers.
- **Griha Arogya: Healthcare at Your Doorstep**": The scheme is designed as a preventive measure to reduce complications and premature deaths from non-communicable diseases (NCDs).
- Odisha took the top spot in the 'Best State' category at the 5th **National Water Awards**, 2023, announced by Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri CR Paatil. Uttar Pradesh secured second place, while Gujarat and Puducherry jointly claimed third.
- The Maharashtra government announced on October 2024, that the Maharashtra State Skills Development University will be renamed the "**Padma Vibhushan Ratan Tata Skills University**" to honour the significant contributions of the late industrialist Ratan Tata to education and skill development. This decision reflects the state's recognition of Tata's philanthropic efforts and commitment to empowering youth, particularly in rural areas.
- India's second-largest butterfly diversity hub is **Kaziranga National Park in Assam**, This remarkable finding was highlighted during the "Butterfly Conservation Meet-2024," which brought together experts and enthusiasts from across India, India's first dedicated butterfly enclosure is the Butterfly Park at **Bannerghatta Biological Park** in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud has recommended **Justice Sanjiv Khanna** to succeed him as **the 51st Chief Justice of India**. Justice Khanna, who was appointed to the Supreme Court in 2019, has presided over significant cases and will serve until his retirement on May 13, 2025.
- India has set an ambitious target to achieve net zero emissions by 2070, as highlighted in the World Energy Outlook 2024 report. This goal is crucial for India, the third-largest



emitter of greenhouse gases globally, with annual emissions reaching around 3 billion tonnes. To achieve this target, India plans to increase non-fossil fuel capacity to 500 GW and meet up to 50% of consumer demand through renewables by 2030.

- Karnataka School Education and Literacy Minister Madhu Bangarappa on Friday launched the **Shiksha Copilot**- generative AI assistant to help teachers draw up lesson plans for students.
- On the occasion of **Valmiki Jayanti**, five achievers from different fields who have worked for the welfare of Scheduled Tribe communities will be awarded the Maharshi Valmiki award , the award carries 20 gram gold medal and 5 Lakh in cash

Valmiki award -2024

Division	Famous person	Achievement
Bengaluru	Kilari Jogayya	A cattle conservator from Chitradurga who has worked for social progress
Mysore	Dr Ratnamma S	An educationist from Chamarajnagar who has worked for the education of tribal children
Belagavi	Rajashekhara Talwara	From Belagavi, he has raised awareness about health and hygiene in the community
Kalaburgi	Ratnamma B Sogi	A renowned theater artist from Vijayanagar who has popularized the art in rural areas
Bengaluru Central	K S Mrutyunjaya	A Bengaluru resident who has worked to ensure that the community gets government facilities

(KAS/PSI/FDA/AAO/PC)

- Haryana became first in the implementation of sub-quotas for Dalits, introducing a subclassification within the Scheduled Caste (SC) category. The state will divide the 20% SC quota into two equal parts: Deprived Scheduled Castes (DSC) and Other Scheduled Castes (OSC)
 - The Supreme Court of India's judgment in **State of Punjab v Davinder Singh** upheld the constitutional validity of sub-classifying Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) for reservation
 - Recognising the apex court's ruling that subclassification must be justified by quantifiable and demonstrable data by the States which cannot act on its whims", the Karnataka government appointed a one-man commission headed by Justice **H. N. Nagamohan Das**
- The Government of India launched the **eShram** – One Stop Solution in New Delhi to **enhance access to social security schemes for unorganised workers**. This innovative platform aims to streamline data from various government ministries and integrate

important welfare schemes, including the One Nation One Ration Card and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)

- The government launched the **PM E-DRIVE Scheme**,
 - The PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) Scheme excludes electric cars from any direct subsidies.
 - About PM E-DRIVE Scheme: It is aimed at promoting electric mobility in India having a financial outlay of Rs **10,900 crore over two years**.



- Bihar has taken a significant step in boosting its logistics infrastructure with the inauguration of its first Dry Port and Inland Container Depot (ICD) in Bihta, near Patna. The first dry port in India was opened on the **Ganga River in Varanasi** in 2018
 - A dry port, also known as an Inland Container Depot (ICD), is a logistics facility that is located away from a seaport or airport
- The European Space Agency (ESA) is pioneering the **Moonlight program**, a groundbreaking initiative to create a dedicated satellite constellation for communication and navigation on the Moon.
 - This ambitious project involves launching five satellites, including one for high-data-rate communications and four for navigation. The Lunar Pathfinder, the first satellite, is scheduled to launch in 2026, with full deployment expected by 2030.
 - Moonlight will enable seamless connectivity between the Moon and Earth, facilitating future lunar missions and research. ESA's innovative approach will significantly enhance lunar exploration capabilities
- **Glasgow, Scotland**, has been selected to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games, marking the city's return as host after a 12-year hiatus. The 2026 Games will feature a streamlined sports program, focusing on 10 disciplines, including athletics, swimming, and gymnastics. Notably, popular sports like hockey, badminton, wrestling, and shooting will not be included. Glasgow's experience in hosting major international events, including the 2014 Commonwealth Games, makes it an ideal location for this prestigious sporting event.
- Karnataka secured the top spot at the **24th National Para-Swimming Championship 2024**, accumulating 392 points. Maharashtra closely followed with 378 points, while Rajasthan



finished third with 248 points. The championship saw talented swimmers from various states excel in different categories. Karnataka's victory was bolstered by **Sharanya's** triumph in the Women's Senior title, demonstrating the state's strong presence in para-swimming.

- ISRO targets to launch Venus mission in March 2028 for 112-day journey to planet, VOM - Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM) will be launched by the **Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM-3)**.

- M Modi announced the **launch of Mission Amrit**. The mission aims to construct/rejuvenate at least **75 Amrit Sarovars in each district across India** to overcome the water crisis in rural areas.



- **Israel** joined the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as its **69th member**, following approval by the ADB Board of Governors through Resolution No. 414. This membership expansion highlights ADB's growing global presence and cooperation. Headquartered in Manila, Philippines
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has retained India's **GDP growth rate at 7%** for the current fiscal year ending March 31, 2025. This projection highlights India's robust economic performance amidst global uncertainties. While the growth rate for the following fiscal year (2025-26) is expected to moderate to 6.5%, the current year's projection reflects strong economic activity.
- **The 21st Livestock Census**, set to launch in October 2024, will collect detailed data on **15 livestock species**, including information on **pastoralist holdings** and gender roles in animal husbandry
 - The Livestock Census is conducted every **five years**.
 - The census carries out a headcount of the number of domesticated animals, poultry, and stray animals in the country.
 - Since 1919, a total of 20 livestock censuses have been carried out so far, with the last being conducted in 2019.
 - According to the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, information on 15 animal species will be collected in the 21st census. **These include:** cattle, buffalo, mithun, yak, sheep, goat, pig, camel, horse, ponies, mule, donkey, dog, rabbit, and elephant
- India secured the **79th position out of 142 countries** in the 2024 **World Justice Project (WJP) Rule of Law Index**. This ranking reflects India's standing in both global and

regional assessments of the rule of law. Regionally, India ranked third among South Asian countries, after Nepal (69th) and Sri Lanka (75th).

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- **Lahore**, located in Pakistan's Punjab province, was recently recorded as the most polluted city globally, with an Air Quality Index (AQI) of 708. Its PM2.5 levels reached 431 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, which is 86 times higher than the World Health Organization's recommended annual limit. NOT to confuse with **New Delhi**

- The "**Sanjeevani**" **heli ambulance service**, launched by the Prime Minister and operated by AIIMS Rishikesh, is **India's first aerial ambulance** aimed at enhancing emergency medical response. Inaugurated on Dhanvantari Jayanti, it enables rapid access to medical care for people in Uttarakhand's remote areas, significantly improving survival rates in critical situations like heart attacks and accidents.



- The Shri Siddeshwara Swamiji Biodiversity Heritage Site is a 1,495-acre reserve forest in Mamadapura, **Vijayapura district, Karnataka**. It was declared as 5th biodiversity heritage site in October 2024 and is the fifth such site in the state.



- **Nallur Tamarind Grove in Bengaluru,**

Karnataka was the first Biodiversity Heritage Site of India, declared in 2007

Other 4 BHS:

1. Nallur Tamarind Grove near Devanahalli
2. University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS) at Gandhi Krishi Vigyan Kendra
3. Hogrekan shola forest of Chikkamagaluru
4. Ambaragudda area of Shivamogga

- The proposed 5000 acre Greater Hesaraghatta conservation reserve is the last remaining grassland around Bengaluru

- . Karnataka state has 5 Tiger Reserves, 30 wildlife sanctuaries **and 15 conservation reserves.**



- **India's first hydrogen-powered train** is scheduled to begin trial runs in December 2024 on the **90-kilometer Jind-Sonipat route in Haryana**



- India to become 5th country to operate hydrogen-powered trains after Germany, France, Sweden, and China

Date	Important Days	Themes
1 October	International Day of Older Persons	Ageing with Dignity: The Importance of Strengthening Care and Support Systems for Older Persons Worldwide
2 October	International Day of Non-Violence	--
4 October	World Animal Welfare Day	The world is their home too
5 October	World Teachers Day	Valuing teacher voices: Towards a new social contract for education
7 October	World Habitat Day	Engaging youth to create a better urban future
10 October	World Mental Health Day	It's Time to Prioritize Mental Health in the Workplace
11 October	International Day of the Girl Child	Girls' vision for the future
13 October	International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction	Empowering the next generation for a resilient future
15 October	International Day of Rural Women	Rural Women Sustaining Nature for Our Collective Future
16 October	World Food Day	Right to foods for a better life and a better future
17 October	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	Ending Social and Institutional Maltreatment Acting together for just, peaceful and inclusive societies
24 October	United Nations Day	Global Unity and Sustainable Development
31 October	National Unity Day	--

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Year Book -2023



Monthly Current Affairs



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