

❖ World Standards Day

- World Standards Day is marked every year on October 14 to raise awareness about the importance of using standardised measurements, technologies, and industries.
- The theme for World Standards Day 2022 is ‘Shared Vision for a Better World.’
- World Standards Day recognises the contributions of groups like the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), International Electro technical Commission (IEC), International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA), Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), and the ISO, as well as the professionals, who collaborate with them.
- The International Organization for Standardisation (ISO) was founded in 1947 with 67 technical committees. The first World Standards Day, however, was formally inaugurated in 1970 by Faruk Sunter, then-President of the ISO. The date of 14 October was chosen to commemorate the first meeting of delegates from 25 countries on 14 October 1946 in London, who decided to design a global organisation to facilitate standardisation.

❖ Ms Mrinalini Shrivastava appointed as Director, NDMA

- Ms Mrinalini Shrivastava has been appointed as Director in the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

❖ Roger Binny set to replace Sourav Ganguly as BCCI president

- India’s 1983 World Cup hero, Roger Binny is set to become the new BCCI president, replacing Sourav Ganguly.
- Binny will assume charge on October 18, when the BCCI annual general meeting will be held, in Mumbai. Jay Shah will continue as BCCI secretary, the most influential position in the board. Rajiv Shukla will also stay on as the board’s vice president.

❖ Aligarh University professor Wajahat Hussain wins Sheikh Zayed International Award

- Wajahat Hussain, a leading academic professor at Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), has won an international award for traditional, complementary, and alternative medicine.
- The Sheikh Zayed International Award aims to recognize globally distinguished academics and scientists of Traditional Complementary and Alternative Medicine (TCAM) and TCAM practitioners from the UAE to contribute to enhancing TCAM knowledge and practices and improving the quality of life for humanity.
- Wajahat Hussain has been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award twice, once jointly by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Ministry of AYUSH and then by the Wildlife Institute of India and the Department of Wildlife Science, AMU.
- Professor Hussain is the retired Chairman of the Department of Botany at Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).

❖ World Bank Extends Loan of \$250 million for SALT Project in Andhra Pradesh

- The World Bank has extended an unconditional loan of \$250 million to the Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation (SALT) project in appreciation of the path-breaking reforms implemented by the state government.
- The reforms initiated under the SALT project have brought about a paradigm shift in the way education was imparted and the outcomes had been encouraging according to Special Chief Secretary B. Rajasekhar (School Education).
- The SALT Project is the first project in the school education sector to be funded by the World Bank without any precondition. Approximately ₹53,000 crores has been spent on school education in the last three years.
- In the academic year 2022-2023, more than 40,31,239 children were studying in government schools.

❖ **Tamil Nadu notifies India's first Slender Loris sanctuary**

- The Tamil Nadu government has notified the first Indian sanctuary for the endangered Slender Loris in Karur and Dindigul districts.
- A total of 11,806 hectares in the forest areas of the Karur and Dindigul districts will be merged to form the Kadavur Slender Loris Sanctuary, the first of its kind in India.
- These mammals are also protected under Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- Slender Loris is listed as an endangered species according to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- Slender Loris is a small nocturnal mammal that spends most of its life on trees. They act as biological predators of pests that harm agricultural crops and help farmers. The species has a wide range of ecological roles and importance in the terrestrial ecosystem.

❖ **South Indian Bank bagged World Book of Records for '101 Oonjals'**

- South Indian Bank bagged a world record for staging and swinging the highest 101.
- The South Indian Bank has organized an event 'Onnichirikkam Oonjaladam' and was accoladed with the World Book of Records award for 'staging and swinging 101 Oonjals'.

❖ **Gandhi Museum Opens Up In New Jersey**

- A museum dedicated to the life and message of Mahatma Gandhi has opened in the Atlantic City of the United States.
- Developed in partnership with the Aditya Birla Group by the New Jersey-based Gandhian Society, it is the first museum dedicated to the "father of the nation" in the USA.
- The museum is expected to partner with the Martin Luther King Foundation in displaying the life and messages of the two greatest men in the modern era.

❖ **Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index (CRII) 2022**

- According to the latest Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index (CRII), India has moved up six places to rank 123 out of 161 countries for reducing inequality but continues to be among the lowest performers in health spending. Norway leads the CRII followed by Germany and Australia.
- The Index which is prepared by Oxfam International and Development Finance International (DFI) measures government policies and actions in three areas proven to have a major impact on reducing inequality. The three areas are public services (health, education, and social protection), taxation and workers' rights.
- India's overall rank has improved by six points from 129 in 2020 to 123 in 2022.
- The Oxfam report based on the index said India features among the lowest performers on health spending again. The index showed that it has dropped a further two places in the rankings, to 157th, the 5th lowest in the world.

❖ **Himachal Pradesh: new scheme "HIMCAD" to help farmers**

- The state government of Himachal Pradesh has started a new scheme named 'HIMCAD', to provide irrigation facilities to farmers.
- The scheme will provide end-to-end connectivity of farmers' fields for better water conservation, crop diversification and integrated farming.
- Under the scheme, it is planned to provide command area development activities to 23,344 hectares of cultivable command area by March 2024, and the State Technical Advisory Committee has approved 379 minor irrigation schemes worth Rs 305.70 crore. About 80 per cent of the agricultural area of the state is rain-fed.

❖ **India participated in the trilateral maritime exercise 'IBSAMAR'**

- INS Tarkash has represented India in the seventh edition of the trilateral maritime exercise IBSAMAR.
- IBSAMAR is a joint multinational maritime exercise.

- The nations that participate in this trilateral maritime exercise are India, Brazil and South Africa. The maritime exercise began on October 10 and ended on October 12.
- This is the seventh iteration of the trilateral maritime naval exercise.
- The goal of the joint maritime exercise is strengthening maritime security, promoting joint operational training and enhancing interoperability amongst the three naval forces to meet the challenge of common maritime threats.
- The sixth edition of the IBSAMAR was held back in 2018, from 1st of October to 13th of October. The sixth edition was held in South Africa's Simons Town. The Indian Navy was represented by INS Tarkash and INS Kolkata.
- The trilateral maritime exercise started in 2008 to promote strategic relationship between India, Brazil and South Africa, three democracies in three different countries. India, Brazil and South Africa are also members of BRICS.

❖ **Hurricane 'Julia' hits Nicaragua**

- Hurricane Julia hit Nicaragua's central Caribbean coast and dumped torrential rains across Central America before re-emerging over the Pacific as a tropical storm.
- Julia hit as a Category 1 hurricane early Sunday with maximum sustained winds of 85 mph (140 kph), though its winds had dipped to 70 mph (110 kph) by late morning as it pushed across Nicaragua with heavy rains.
- The name Julia has been used for three tropical cyclones in the Atlantic Ocean and one subtropical medicane

❖ **3rd WADA Athlete Biological Passport Symposium-2022 held in India**

- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Anurag Singh Thakur launched the World Anti-dopping Agency (WADA) Athlete Biological Passport Symposium - 2022 in New Delhi.
- The event is being jointly organized by National Anti-Dopping Agency and National Dope Testing Laboratory for the first time in the country.

- The first WADA ABP Symposium was hosted by the Anti-Doping Lab Qatar (ADLQ) in November 2015, in Doha, Qatar.
- The second WADA ABP Symposium was organized by the Italian Federation of Sports Medicine (FMSI) in 2018, in Rome, Italy.
- This is the third WADA ABP Symposium and is being hosted in India for the first time.