

## October 4<sup>th</sup> week Current Affairs

### National News

#### Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches the Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the **Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission** for strengthening healthcare infrastructure in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- He also inaugurated various development projects worth more than **₹5200 crores** in his constituency, Varanasi.
- The objective of the Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission is to fill gaps in public health infrastructure, especially in critical care facilities and primary care in both urban and rural areas.

#### Invest India was elected as the President of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)

- **Invest India** has been elected as the **President of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)** for 2021–2023.
- WAIPA is a prominent global platform for investment and trade, representing **105 nations** as the major global nodal agency for investment promotion agencies.

#### World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)

- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland

#### India hits 100 crores COVID-19 vaccination milestone

- India has hit the milestone of administering **100 crore doses of COVID-19 Vaccinations**, including both the first and second doses.
- The top five states which have administered the highest number of COVID-19 vaccination doses are Uttar Pradesh, followed by Maharashtra, West Bengal, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

#### Union Government extends the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package- insurance scheme for the healthcare workers for six months

- Union Government extended the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP) insurance scheme for the healthcare workers for another six months. This scheme was to see an end in tenure on 20 October 2020.
- The PMGKP insurance scheme was established on **30 March 2020** to provide complete **personal accident coverage of Rs. 50 lakhs** to 22.12 lakh health care practitioners, including community health workers and private health care providers, who may have had direct contact and treatment of COVID-19 patients and may be at risk.

## State News

### India's first state-owned wildlife DNA testing lab was inaugurated in Nagpur

- Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray inaugurated **India's first state-owned wildlife DNA testing lab** at the Regional Forensic Science Laboratory (RFSL) in **Nagpur**.
- There are two Union Government-owned wildlife DNA testing laboratories located at Dehradun and Hyderabad.
- A fast-track DNA test unit at RFSL, as well as similar facilities in Mumbai and Pune, were also inaugurated specifically for cases lodged under the provisions of the Protection of Children From Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.

### Maharashtra

- **Capital:** Mumbai
- **Chief Minister:** Uddhav Thackeray
- **Governor:** Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- **National Parks:** Chandoli National Park, Gugamal National Park, Nawegaon National Park, Pench (Jawaharlal Nehru) National Park, Sanjay Gandhi (Borivilli) National Park, Tadoba National Park

### Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin launches new web portals 'e-munnetram' and 'IT Nanban'

- **Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin** launched two major initiatives to improve government-industry interaction — new web portals called '**e-Munnetram**,' which provides information on the status of about 200 major infrastructure projects worth more than Rs. 1 lakh crores and '**IT Nanban**', an interactive platform to engage with the information technology industry.

### Tamil Nadu

- **Capital:** Chennai
- **Chief Minister:** K. Stalin
- **Governor:** N. Ravi

### Chhattisgarh Chief Minister launches the Shri Dhanwantri Generic Medical Store scheme offering low-cost medicines

- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched **the Shri Dhanwantri Generic Medical Store scheme** to provide **medicines at affordable rates** and to make healthcare services accessible to the poorest of the poor in Chhattisgarh.
- Under this scheme, 84 medical stores were inaugurated from which people will get a discount between 50.09 per cent and 71 per cent on the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of medicines.

### Chhattisgarh

- **Capital:** Raipur
- **Chief Minister:** Bhupesh Baghel

- **Governor:** Anusuiya Uikey

## Haryana Health Minister launches 'Swasth Haryana' mobile app to provide relief for people from long queue in government hospitals

- Haryana Health Minister **Anil Vij** launched the '**Swasth Haryana**' mobile application, which would allow people to **register in advance** for government hospitals, allowing them to **avoid long queues**.
- Patients will get access to their laboratory reports through the application and will not have to visit the hospitals to collect those reports physically.
- This app will also include information on **mother-child care** and vaccinations, as well as the location of the nearest blood bank.

## Haryana

- **Capital:** Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister:** Manohar Lal Khattar
- **Governor:** Bandaru Dattatraya
- **National Parks:** Sultanpur National Park, Kalesar National Park
- **Dance:** Phag, Dhamal, Loor, Khoria

## Tamil Nadu FiberNet Corporation Limited (TANFINET) signs an agreement for the implementation of BharatNet project

- **Tamil Nadu FiberNet Corporation Limited (TANFINET)** signed an agreement with Larsen and Toubro, Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI Ltd.) and third-party agency Broadcasting Engineering Corporation of India Limited (BECIL) for the **BharatNet project** to ensure the availability of **high-speed internet connectivity** in Tamil Nadu.
- This project aims to provide 1 Gbps bandwidth connectivity to all gram panchayats in Tamil Nadu through optical fibre cable with high-speed bandwidth connectivity.

## Tamil Nadu

- **Capital:** Chennai
- **Chief Minister:** M. K. Stalin
- **Governor:** Banwarilal Purohit
- **National Parks:** Mukurthi National Park, Guindy National Park, Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) National Park, Mudumalai National Park

## International News

### Saudi Arabia aims to reach zero-net carbon emissions by 2060

- **Saudi Arabia**, the world's biggest oil exporter, has pledged to cut its carbon emissions to net-zero by 2060.
- Saudi Arabia now joins more than 100 countries that have committed to reaching net-zero emissions.
- Net-zero means not adding to the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.
- Saudi Arabia plans to eliminate 280 million tonnes of carbon emissions per year as against its previous target of 130 million tonnes.

## Saudi Arabia

- **Capital:** Riyadh
- **Currency:** Saudi Riyal
- **Prime Minister:** Salman bin Abdul-Aziz Al-Saud

## Pakistan remains on Financial Action Task Force Grey List

- The global terror financing watchdog **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** retained **Pakistan** on its 'Grey List' of countries and Turkey, Jordan and Mali have been added as new entrants to the list.
- Pakistan was placed on the Grey List by the FATF in June 2018 due to its failure to comply with the FATF mandates.

## Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

- **Headquarters:** Paris, France
- **President:** Marcus Pleyer

## India and Australia partners to boost bilateral trade and investment

- **India** has partnered with **Australia** in areas such as agrifood, mining, infrastructure, healthcare and education to boost **industrial and manufacturing activity and also to drive economic growth**.
- Both the countries are committed to liberalising and deepening bilateral trade in goods and services and paving the way for an early conclusion of a CECA (Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement).

## Banking & Economy

### Reserve Bank of India introduces the revised regulatory framework for NBFCs scale-based regulation

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced a revised **scale-based regulatory (SBR)** framework for non-banking financial companies (**NBFCs**), which will be effective from 1 October 2022.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has set a maximum limit of **₹1 crore** per borrower for financing subscriptions to initial public offerings (IPO), which will be effective from 1 April 2022.
- Under this new framework, the regulatory structure for NBFCs comprises of four layers based on their size, activity and perceived riskiness as **the base, middle, upper and top layer**.
- **The RBI has changed the non-performing asset (NPA) classification to more than 90 days for all categories of NBFCs.**

### AU Small Finance Bank launches a sound box for payment alerts

**AU Small Finance Bank** has introduced a **sound box** that will provide merchant partners with quick voice-based payment alerts to enhance its reach in digital payments.

- Small businesses will benefit from the QR Sound Box smoothly without having to read SMS every time when a customer makes a payment.
- This soundbox is a portable speaker available in **five languages** — Hindi, English, Punjabi, Gujarati and Marathi, which is equipped with a dedicated SIM slot for data connectivity to provide voice notification.

### AU Small Finance Bank

- **Headquarters:** Jaipur, Rajasthan
- **Founder:** Sanjay Agarwal
- **Founded:** 2017

### Razorpay partners with Mastercard, RuPay and Visa to launch tokenisation solution

- **Razorpay**, in partnership with **Mastercard, RuPay and Visa**, launches tokenisation solution '**Razorpay TokenHQ**' for businesses which will give their end-customers the convenience of stored card transactions with additional security and in accordance with the RBI rules.
- Razorpay TokenHQ is a multi-network Card-on-File (CoF) tokenisation solution that will work across all major card networks, including Mastercard, RuPay and Visa.

### India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL) gets the RBI's approval to finance InVITs

- **India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL)** gets the Reserve Bank of India's approval to finance **Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InVITs)** by adding a new funding avenue for infrastructure projects.
- IIFCL provides long-term funding for feasible infrastructure projects. The Reserve Bank of India has given its approval for IIFCL to back InVITs and the company plans to invest around **4000 crores** in this area this fiscal year.

### Kotak Mahindra Bank partners with Pine Labs to expand point-of-sale devices (PoS) services

- **Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited (KMBL)** has partnered with **Pine Labs** to expand its merchant acquiring and **point-of-sale (PoS)** services to more merchants, especially retailers.
- The merchants in India may now take advantage of Kotak Mahindra Bank's point-of-sale payment solutions, which are integrated with Pine Labs' technology stack, to help develop their businesses.

### Kotak Mahindra Bank

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **CEO:** Uday Kotak
- **Tagline:** "Let's make money simple"



## Bharti AXA Life Insurance partners with Utkarsh Small Finance Bank for bancassurance

- **Bharti AXA Life Insurance** has entered into a bancassurance partnership with **Utkarsh Small Finance Bank** for the distribution of life insurance products, including protection, health, savings and investment plans to the customers of the bank.
- This partnership will benefit the customers from a diverse range of new-age products offered by Bharti AXA Life Insurance.

## Sovereign Gold Bonds is set to be issued in four tranches from October 2021 to March 2022

- The Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, has decided to issue Sovereign Gold Bonds in **four tranches from October 2021 to March 2022**.

S. No	Tranche	Date of Subscription	Date of Issuance
1.	2021-22 Series VII	25-29 October 2021	2 November 2021
2.	2021-22 Series VIII	29 November 2021-3 December 2021	7 December 2021
3.	2021-22 Series IX	10-14 January 2022	18 January 2022
4.	2021-22 Series X	28 February 2022-4 March 2022	8 March 2022

These bonds will be sold through scheduled commercial banks (except small finance banks and payment banks), Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited (SHCIL), Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL), designated post offices, and recognised stock exchanges, namely National Stock Exchange (NSE) of India Limited and Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) Limited.

## Reserve Bank of India imposes Rs.1 crore penalty on Paytm Payments Bank

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs. 1 crore on **Paytm Payments Bank** for violating provisions of the **Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007**.
- This penalty has been imposed in the exercise of powers vested in the RBI under the provisions of **Section 30** and **Section 31** of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

## Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Formation:** 1 April 1935
- **Governor:** Shaktikanta Das
- **Deputy Governors:** M. K. Jain, M. D. Patra, M. Rajeshwar Rao and T. Rabi Sankar
- **Subsidiaries:** Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC), Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Limited (BRBNML)

### **NPCI launches the NPCI Tokenisation System (NTS) platform for tokenisation of RuPay cards**

- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has announced the launch of the **NPCI Tokenisation System (NTS)**, which will facilitate card tokenisation as an alternative to merchants storing card details.
- The NTS will support the tokenisation of RuPay cards to **enhance the safety of customer data** and provide a seamless shopping experience to consumers.
- These tokens then allow payments to be handled without disclosing customer information or allowing payment intermediaries to keep customer information, potentially compromising security and privacy.
- The **NPCI's Token Reference On File (TROF)** service will help millions of RuPay cardholders maintain the security of their financial data.

### **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Non-Executive Chairman:** Biswamohan Mahapatra
- **MD & CEO:** Dilip Asbe
- **Founded:** 2008

### **NABARD sanctions Rs. 608 crores for infrastructure projects in Assam**

- **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** has sanctioned **Rs. 608 crores** for rural infrastructure projects in **Assam** under the **Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)-XXVII**.
- These infrastructure projects include 52 rural roads, 21 rural bridges, 19 flood protection projects and 32 soil conservation projects.
- The Government of India created the RIDF in NABARD in **1995-96**, with an initial corpus of Rs. 2000 crores towards financing the ongoing rural infrastructure projects in the irrigation sector.

### **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)**

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Formation:** 12 July 1982
- **Chairman:** Chintala Govinda Rajulu

### **HDFC Bank, Mastercard, DFC and USAID jointly launch a \$100 million credit facility for MSMEs in India**

- **HDFC Bank, Mastercard, the US Government's Development Finance Corporation (DFC) and the US Agency for International Development (USAID)** jointly launched a **\$100 million** credit facility to assist small Indian businesses (MSMEs) with their digitisation needs and recovery from the impact of COVID-19.
- This assistance would be exclusively available for new-to-credit small businesses owners, including at least 50 per cent of women entrepreneurs.

## Appointments

### Indian Broadcasting & Digital Foundation re-elects K. Madhavan as its President

- The President and India's country manager of the Walt Disney Company India, **K. Madhavan** was re-elected as the President of the **Indian Broadcasting and Digital Foundation (IBDF)**. This announcement was made after the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the IBDF.

### Indian Broadcasting and Digital Foundation (IBDF)

- **Headquarters:** New Delhi

### Ramnath Krishnan was appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency

- **Ramnath Krishnan** was appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of **Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency (ICRA)**.
- He joined ICRA in 2020 and is currently serving as the President of Ratings and Chief Rating Officer at ICRA.
- He succeeds **Sivaraman**.

### ICRA

- **Headquarters:** Gurgaon

### Indian cricketer K. L. Rahul was appointed as the brand ambassador of Realme

- Smartphone brand **Realme** has appointed the Indian cricketer **L. Rahul** as its brand ambassador.
- L. Rahul will collaborate with Realme to assist build the smartphone category as part of the company's overall product portfolio.

### Dame Sandra Prunella Mason was appointed as the President of Barbados

- **Dame Sandra Prunella Mason** was appointed as the first-ever **President of Barbados** after removing Queen Elizabeth as the head of the state.
- She is the first woman to serve on the Barbados Court of Appeals and has been the Governor-General since 2018.
- She is set to be sworn in on 30 November to mark Barbados's 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence from Britain.

### Union Government appoints seven Executive Directors for various public sector banks

- The Union Government has appointed seven Executive Directors at various Public Sector Banks (PSBs) for **three years**.

Name of the Person	New Appointment	Current Position
Rajneesh Karnatak	Executive Director in the Union Bank of India	Chief General Manager in the Punjab National Bank



## SALEM INSTITUTE OF BANKING

Ashwani Kumar	Executive Director in the Indian Bank	Chief General Manager in the Punjab National Bank
Kalyan Kumar	Executive Director in the Punjab National Bank (PNB)	Chief General Manager in the Union Bank of India
Asheesh Pandey	Executive Director in the Bank of Maharashtra	Chief General Manager in the Union Bank of India
Yadav Ramjass	Executive Director in the Punjab and Sind Bank	Chief General Manager in the Bank of Baroda
Roy Joydeep Datta	Executive Director in the Bank of Baroda	Chief General Manager in the Bank of Baroda
Nidhu Saxena	Executive Director in the Union Bank of India	General Manager in the UCO Bank

### Deepika Padukone was named as the global brand ambassador of Adidas

- **Deepika Padukone** partnered with Adidas and was named as the global brand ambassador of **Adidas** to work closely with the brand on their common commitment towards fitness.
- With this partnership, Adidas strengthens its focus on democratising and diversifying sport for women through inspiring personalities.

### Awards and Recognitions

#### Actor Rajnikanth was conferred with the 51<sup>st</sup> Dadasaheb Phalke Award at the 67<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards

- Veteran Tamil actor **Rajnikanth** was conferred with the **51<sup>st</sup> Dadasaheb Phalke Award** at the 67<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards presented by Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu at a special function in New Delhi for his outstanding contribution to the world of Indian cinema.
- The National Award for Best Actor (Male) was shared between **Manoj Bajpayee** for **Bhonsle (Hindi)** and **Dhanush** for **Asuran (Tamil)**.
- The National Award for Best Actor (Female) was presented to **Kangana Ranaut** for Manikarnika and Panga.

#### Dr. Akshata Prabhu wins the Miss International World 2021 title

- **Dr. Akshata Prabhu** from **India** won the Miss International World 2021 title in the competition held in the USA.
- India won the first-ever Miss International World title and Akshata Prabhu became the first Indian woman to achieve such a milestone.
- She is a pediatric dentist by profession and a passionate fashion model and the brand ambassador for the platform named 'The International Glamour Project'.

#### Tamil film 'Koozhangal' is India's official entry to the Oscars 2022 for the Best International Feature Film category

- The Tamil drama **Koozhangal (Pebbles)**, directed by filmmaker Vinothraj P. S., has been selected as India's official entry for the Oscar Awards.

- This film will compete for the Best International Feature Film at the 94<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards, to be held on 27 March 2022 in Los Angeles.

### Martin Scorsese and Istvan Szabo are to be honoured with the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award 2021

- The **Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award 2021** will be presented to Hungarian film director **Istvan Szabo** and American filmmaker and actor **Martin Scorsese** during the 52<sup>nd</sup> International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in **Goa**, to be held from 20–28 November 2021.

### Alexei Navalny won the European Union's Sakharov Rights Award 2021

- The European Parliament has awarded the European Union's top human rights prize — **Sakharov Rights Award 2021** — to the imprisoned Russian opposition leader **Alexei Navalny** for his work to expose corruption and measures to curtail freedom in Russia.
- The Sakharov Prize is named after the Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov and is presented to people working for human rights or democracy.
- Belarusian opposition leader Svetlana Tikhanovskaya has received the Sakharov Rights Award 2020.

### Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation bags the Earth Guardian Award 2021

- The **Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation** has bagged the **Earth Guardian Award 2021** instituted by the Natwest Group for its efforts in supporting the conservation of tigers and biodiversity at the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the NatWest Group Earth Heroes Awards 2021.
- The theme for the awards in 2021 is "**Biodiversity – A resilient nature is the foundation on which all climate mitigation and adaptation efforts must be raised**".
- Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation is located at Kerala

### Kung Fu Nuns win the UNESCO Prize for Martial Arts Education 2021

- The UNESCO International Centre for Martial Arts has awarded the world-renowned **Kung Fu Nuns** of the Drukpa order of Buddhism, the prestigious **UNESCO Martial Arts Education Prize 2021** for their heroic acts of service.

## Ranks and Indices

### India ranks 106<sup>th</sup> in the FIFA Rankings 2021

- **India** has moved to the **106<sup>th</sup>** position from the 107<sup>th</sup> position in FIFA Rankings 2021 after the Sunil Chhetri- led Indian football team won the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship 2021.
- Belgium remained top while Brazil was ranked second and France ranked third.
- The top 10 is completed by Italy, England, 2021 Copa America champion Argentina, Spain, Portugal, Mexico and Denmark.

## India was ranked 79<sup>th</sup> in the World Justice Project (WJP)'s Rule of Law Index 2021

- **India** was ranked 79<sup>th</sup> out of 139 countries on the **Rule of Law Index 2021** report released by the **World Justice Project (WJP)**.
- Denmark, Norway and Finland topped the WJP's Rule of Law Index, while the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cambodia and Venezuela had the lowest overall rule of law scores.

## Science & Technology

### China launches a new satellite named 'Shijian-21'

- **China** successfully launched a new satellite named 'Shijian- 21' by a Long March-3B carrier rocket from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwest China's Sichuan province to test and verify space debris mitigation technologies.

### China

- **Capital:** Beijing
- **President:** Xi Jinping
- **Currency:** Renminbi

### South Korea launches first homegrown rocket and satellite into space

- **South Korea** has launched its first homegrown 47- metre rocket named 'Nuri' from the Naro Space Centre in **Goheung in South Jeolla province**, but it failed to successfully deploy a test satellite into orbit.
- Nuri is South Korea's first space launch vehicle powered by five rocket Engines, which were developed and built completely with South Korean technology.
- The rocket is designed to carry a payload of up to **5 tonnes** to an orbit 600 to 800 kilometres above the Earth's surface.
- South Korea is aiming to send a probe to the Moon by 2030.

### South Korea

- **Capital:** Seoul
- **Currency:** South Korean Won
- **Prime Minister:** Chung Sye-Kyun
- **President:** Moon Jae-In

## Books & Authors

### Venkatraghavan Subha Srinivasan is set to release his new book titled 'The Origin Story of India's States'

- **Venkatraghavan Subha Srinivasan** has come out with a new book titled 'The Origin Story of India's States', which is set to be released on 25 October. This book will present the incredible origin stories of each of India's 28 states and eight union territories.
- The publisher of this book is **Penguin Random House India (PRHI)**.

## Sports News

### Fabio Quartararo from France won the 2021 MotoGP World Championship title

- Yamaha's Fabio Quartararo from France has clinched the 2021 MotoGP World Championship
- The 22-year-old French rider moved from 15<sup>th</sup> on the grid to fourth place at the Emilia Romagna MotoGP held in Italy. Monster Energy Yamaha hasn't won a title since 2015 and this is the first time a French rider has won the MotoGP World Championship title since 1949.

### Karnataka swimmer Ridhima Veerendrakumar bags the gold medal in 100 m backstroke for group II girls at the 37<sup>th</sup> Sub Junior and 47<sup>th</sup> Junior National Championships

- **Ridhima Veerendrakumar** of Karnataka bagged a **gold medal** in 100 m backstroke for group II girls at the 37<sup>th</sup> Sub Junior and 47<sup>th</sup> Junior National Aquatic Championships held in Bengaluru.
- She also broke the national record set by Olympian **Maana Patel** of Gujarat in 2014.
- Shalini Dixit of Karnataka bagged the silver medal in this event, while Nitya Sago of Telangana took home the bronze medal.

### Australia's James Pattinson announced his retirement from international cricket

- Australian fast bowler **James Pattinson** announced his retirement from international cricket.
- He has played 21 Tests and 15 One Day Internationals, though he will continue to play domestic cricket.

## Important Days

### World Development Information Day – 24 October

- **World Development Information Day** is observed on **24 October** to draw the attention of the world to development problems and the need to strengthen international cooperation to solve them.
- Theme for World Development Information Day 2021: '**Action for Sustainable Development Goal**'.
- The first World Development Information Day was held in 1973.

### World Polio Day – 24 October

- **World Polio Day** is observed on **24 October** every year to raise awareness about polio vaccination and the eradication of polio.
- This day was established by **Rotary International** to commemorate the birth anniversary of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against polio.
- Theme for 2021: '**Delivering on a Promise**'.

## United Nations Day – 24 October

- **United Nations Day** is observed on **24 October** to mark the 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the day when the UN Charter entered into force in 1945.
- United Nations Day offers the opportunity to amplify the common agenda and reaffirm the purposes and principles of the UN Charter that has guided the United Nations (UN) for the past 76 years.

## International Snow Leopard Day – 23 October

- **International Snow Leopard Day** is observed on **23 October** to raise awareness about the conservation and protection of snow leopards.
- The first International Snow Leopard Day was celebrated on **23 October 2014**.

## National Police Commemoration Day – 21 October

- **National Police Commemoration Day** is observed on **21 October** to remember police personnel who sacrificed their lives while discharging their duties in India.
- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled the National Police Memorial and also inaugurated India's first National Police Museum in New Delhi in October 2018.

## Obituary

### Friends actor James Michael Tyler popularly known as 'Gunther' passed away

- The actor is known widely for his recurring role as Gunther on the US sitcom 'Friends', **James Michael Tyler** passed away at the age of 59.
- He starred in two short films — The Gesture and the Word and Processing — winning the best actor awards at various film festivals.

### Sri Lanka's first cricket Test captain Bandula Warnapura passed away at 68

- **Sri Lanka's first cricket Test captain** and a former coach and administrator **Bandula Warnapura** has passed away at 68.
- He played 12 One Day Internationals and four Tests in an international career spanning seven years from 1975–1982.
- He made his ODI debut against the West Indies at the 1975 World Cup.