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## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

26 October 2023 – Daily Current Affairs

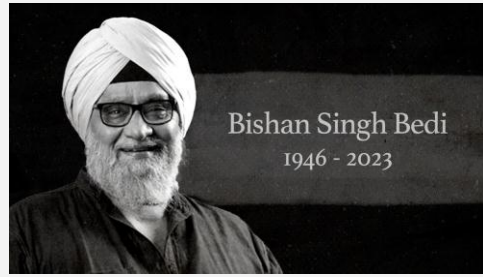
<p><b>Book: Lords of Wankhede</b></p>	<p><b>Context</b> The book titled “Lords of Wankhede” was recently launched.</p> <p><b>Key points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is authored by <b>WV Raman</b> and <b>R Kaushik</b>.</li> <li>• The Lords of Wankhede explores the evolution of Indian cricket in the 28 years between the two World Cup successes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)</b></p> 	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Euro zone PMI hit lowest in nearly 3 years and has stirred recession worries.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PMI is an <b>economic indicator</b>, which is derived after monthly surveys of different companies.</li> <li>• It <b>measures activity at the purchasing or input stage</b>.</li> <li>• In this sense, it is very different from industrial production which is indicative of actual production. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ E.g., the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) measures output.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Did you know?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are two types of PMI — <b>Manufacturing PMI and Services PMI</b>.</li> <li>• The index shows trends in both the manufacturing and services sector.</li> <li>• PMI <b>does not capture informal sector activity</b>.</li> <li>• PMI data for India is released by <b>S&amp;P Global</b> - a global major in financial information and analytics.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Personality in news: Bishan Singh Bedi</b></p>	<p><b>Context</b> Bishan Singh Bedi passed away following prolonged illness.</p> <p><b>About Bedi</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He was an Indian cricketer who was primarily a slow left-arm orthodox <b>bowler</b>.</li> <li>• He played <b>Test cricket for India from 1966 to 1979</b> and formed part of the famous Indian</li> </ul>



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Bishan Singh Bedi  
1946 - 2023

spin quartet.

- He played a total of 67 Tests and took 266 wickets.
- He also captained the national side in 22 Test matches.
- He was awarded the **Padma Shri award** in 1970 and the **C. K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award** in 2004

### Mission Mahila Sarathi



#### Context

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has **flagged off 51 State transport corporation buses** under **Mission Mahila Sarathi** on the occasion of Durga Ashtami in Ayodhya

#### Key points

- These buses will have **women drivers and conductors.**
- The initiative seeks to connect and **empower women**

### United Nations Day 2023

- **United Nations Day** is an annual commemorative day, reflecting the official creation of the United Nations on **24 October 1945.**
- It is celebrated on 24th October each year.
- The United Nations Day 2023 theme is **“Equality, Freedom and Justice for All.”**
- This year marks the **75th anniversary.**

### EU report calls for 2% global wealth tax on billionaires

#### Context

The European Union Tax Observatory in its **‘Global Tax Evasion Report 2024’** has called for a global minimum tax on billionaires equal to 2% of their wealth.

#### Key points



- This step was taken because tax evasion was enabling billionaires to enjoy effective tax rates equivalent to 0% to 0.5% of their wealth.
- This would both address evasion and “generate nearly **\$250 billion** from less than 3,000 individuals
- While the number of taxpayers affected by it would be miniscule, the tax rate for them (2%) “would still be very modest” given that the wealth of billionaires has grown at 7% a year



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	<p>annually on average since 1995 (net of inflation).</p>
<p><b>Cheetah and Chetak helicopters to be replaced by LUH</b></p> 	<p><b>Context</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Army will start phasing out the first lot of vintage <b>Cheetah and Chetak helicopters from 2027</b> on completion of their total technical life.</li> <li>This is to induct the <b>indigenous light utility helicopters (LUHs)</b> to replace them</li> </ul> <p><b>About LUH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LUH is a <b>3-tonne class helicopter</b> with glass cockpit for reconnaissance and surveillance roles and as a light transport helicopter.</li> <li>The helicopter will be capable of <b>flying at 220 kmph</b>, with a service ceiling of 6.5 km and a <b>range of 350 km with 400 kg payload</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Bat Genomes</b></p> 	<p><b>Context</b></p> <p>Scientists have embarked on comprehensive studies of bat genomes, revealing invaluable insights into their distinctive biology.</p> <p><b>Key points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bats boast relatively small genomes, typically consisting of around <b>2 billion bases</b>, making them ideal subjects for genomic research.</li> <li>The ambitious <b>Bat1K</b> global genome consortium is currently undertaking the task of sequencing genomes of all bat species worldwide, promising further revelations about their genetic makeup.</li> <li>The research will highlight how bats enjoy a <b>unique defense against a range of diseases, including cancer.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Facts about Bats</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bats are the <b>only mammals on the earth that can maintain sustained flight.</b></li> <li>They also have <b>relatively long life-spans</b> and are relatively more protected from a variety of diseases, including cancer.</li> <li>They also <b>have a unique ability in echolocation</b>, whereby they use sound to navigate and locate objects, freeing them from being constrained by the availability of light like</li> </ul>



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### Did you know?

The bumblebee bat weighs only 2 grams whereas the flying foxes, which have a wingspan of 1.5 metres, weigh up to 1.6 kg.

humans are.

- By population, **bats make up 20% of all mammals.**
- There are more than 1,400 species of bats today around the world; more than 60 are endangered and 170-odd are classified as vulnerable.
- In all, bats **play crucial roles in maintaining the ecological balance**, and are essential for pollination, insect control, etc.

### Canada's actions are in violation of Vienna Convention

#### Context

- According to the Indian External Affairs Minister, Canada's inability to provide safety and security to Indian diplomats challenges the **"most fundamental aspect"** of the **Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.**

#### About Convention

- The **Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961)** is a treaty that defines the framework for the conduct of diplomatic relations between countries.
- It was **adopted in 1961** by the United Nations Conference on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities **held in Vienna, Austria.**
- This treaty **lays down the rules and regulations of diplomatic relations** between countries and also the privileges that diplomats enjoy in other countries.
- India ratified the convention through the **Diplomatic Relations (Vienna Convention) Act of 1972.**

### Kancheepuram back in business

**In News:** Kancheepuram back in business as Aippasi marks the brisk sale of silk sarees

#### Key Points:

- As Kancheepuram is well known for its silk sarees people from various places visit the town every day and it chokes traffic at the same time.
- The Kanchipuram silk sari is a type of silk sari made in the **Kanchipuram region in Tamil Nadu, India.**
- These saris are worn as bridal and special occasion saris by most women in **Tamil Nadu,**


### GI TAG Product – Kancheepuram Silks and Sarees



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	<p><b>Kerala, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It has been recognised as a <b>geographical indication by the Government of India from 2005–2006.</b></li> <li>• The occasion of marriage for a South Indian bride is incomplete without a Kanchipuram saree in her trousseau.</li> <li>• Among the wide range of silk sarees available in India, from the <b>Benares silk saree to the Patola from Patan, the Kanchipuram saree holds a special position.</b></li> <li>• The strength and magnificence of the Kanchipuram saree make it one of the favourites among ladies all over the world.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Kumbakkarai waterfalls reopened</b></p>	<p><b>In News:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Kumbakkarai waterfalls located on the <b>foothills of Kodaikanal in Theni district</b> was reopened for the public after a gap of nine days.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public was restricted by the Forest Department from getting into the water as a precautionary measure due to the heavy flow of water following rains in parts of <b>Kodaikanal, Dindigul district.</b></li> <li>• The catchment areas of the waterfall, near Periyakulam along the Western Ghats, had received a considerable amount of rain.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Kumbakkarai Waterfalls:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kumbakkarai Waterfalls <b>is a two-tiered waterfall</b> located in the Western Ghats of Tamil Nadu, India.</li> <li>• The waterfall is about 250 feet high and cascades down into a rocky pool.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Aditya L1</b></p> 	<p><b>In News:</b> Aditya L1 to be in its orbit by Jan'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aditya L1, launched on September 2, has traveled more than 12 lakh km and it would be placed in its orbit by the first week of January 2024, said Project Director Nigar Shaji</li> </ul> <p><b>About Aditya L1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aditya L1 is a <b>first Indian coronagraphy spacecraft designed and developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)</b> and various other Indian research institutes.</li> <li>• It was launched on September 2, 2023</li> <li>• It is currently on its way to the Sun-Earth</li> </ul>



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	<p>Lagrange point 1 (L1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aditya L1 is carrying seven payloads that will be used to study the Sun's chromosphere and corona, which are the outermost layers of the Sun's atmosphere.</li><li>• The payloads will collect data on the Sun's magnetic field, temperature, plasma dynamics, and other aspects of its atmosphere.</li></ul>
<p><b>State Educational Achievement Survey 2023</b></p>	<p><b>In News:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The State Educational Achievement Survey (SEAS) for the year 2023 is set to take place on November 3.</li></ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National assessment regulator <b>PARAKH</b> will conduct the <b>first State Education Achievement Survey on November 3.</b></li><li>• Officials said that this is the <b>first such survey</b> conducted by the <b>Performance Assessment, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development (PARAKH)</b>, an organisation under the NCERT.</li></ul> <p><b>Key facts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The survey is designed to improve learning standards for students in classes <b>3, 6, and 9.</b></li><li>• It covers subjects like <b>Tamil, English and Mathematics</b>, and will be conducted across all types of schools, including government, aided, private, and CBSE schools.</li><li>• The SEAS programme is administered by a team of key personnel including the <b>State-level coordinator, state project director of Samagra Shiksha, State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) director (implementation) and associate State-level coordinators.</b></li><li>• At the district level, district-level coordinators will play a crucial role, with the Chief Education Officer (CEO) responsible for monitoring and the principal of the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) overseeing implementation.</li></ul>
<p><b>Union govt approves Rs 19.68 crore bonus for railway employees</b></p>	<p><b>In News:</b> The union government has given the green light to a <b>Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB)</b> of Rs 19.68 crore bonus for railway employees for the financial year 2022-23.</p>



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### Key Points:

- The bonus, equivalent to 78 days' wages, has been approved for a wide spectrum of eligible non-gazetted railway employees.
- This decision comes in recognition of the exceptional performance exhibited by railway staff, culminating in record-breaking achievements during the **2022-2023 fiscal year**.
- The railways set new benchmarks by successfully transporting a colossal cargo load of 1509 million tonnes and accommodating the travel of nearly 6.5 billion passengers



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