

Daily Current Affairs

15 October 2024

India Recalls High Commissioner From Canada

- **India has expelled six Canadian diplomats** including acting High Commissioner Stewart Ross Wheeler.
- Deputy High Commissioner **Patrick Hebert**, **First Secretaries Marie Catherine Joly**, **Ian Ross David Trites**, **Adam James Chuipka** and **Paula Orjuela** have also been expelled. They have been asked to leave India by or before 19th October.
- **India has withdrawn its High Commissioner in Canada** and other targeted diplomats and officials saying it has no faith in the current Canadian Government's commitment to ensure their security.



- In a related development, the **Canadian Charge d'Affaires was summoned** by the Secretary (East) in MEA this evening in New Delhi. He was informed that the **baseless targeting of the Indian High Commissioner** and other diplomats and officials in Canada is completely unacceptable.
- It was underlined that in an **atmosphere of extremism and violence**, the Trudeau Government's actions endangered their safety.
- It was also conveyed that **India reserves the right to take further steps** in response to the Trudeau Government's support for extremism, violence and separatism against India.

- Earlier, **India strongly rejected claims** that the Indian High Commissioner in Canada and other diplomats are 'persons of interest' in a matter related to an investigation in that country.
- In response to diplomatic communication from Canada regarding the matter, the External Affairs Ministry termed these as preposterous imputations and ascribed them to the political agenda of the Trudeau Government which is centred around vote bank politics.

India Expels 6 Canadian Diplomats After Recalling High Commissioner



- MEA pointed out that since Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau made **certain allegations in September last year, the** Canadian Government has not shared a shred of evidence with India, despite many requests. New Delhi said this latest step follows interactions that have again witnessed assertions without any facts. The Ministry stressed that this leaves little doubt that on the pretext of an investigation, there is a deliberate strategy of smearing India for political gains.
- It stated that the Trudeau Government has consciously provided space to violent extremists and terrorists to harass, threaten and intimidate Indian **diplomats and community leaders in Canada**. This has included death threats to them and Indian leaders and all these activities have been justified in the name of freedom of speech.

India, Colombia

- **Audiovisual Co-production Agreement** between India and Colombia will be signed in New Delhi.
- Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Dr. L. Murugan will be the signatories representative of India and Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, Jorge Enrique Rojas Rodriguez will be the signatories representing his country.

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting



Audiovisual Co-production Agreement between India and Colombia; To Boost Co-Production and Strengthen Cultural Ties

Colombia becomes the 17th country to sign such agreement with India

Posted On: 14 OCT 2024 8:33PM by PIB Delhi



The **Audiovisual Co-production Agreement** between India and Colombia will be signed on 15.10.2024 at 4PM at the National Media Centre, New Delhi.

The signatories representing India and Colombia will be **Dr. L. Murugan**, Hon'ble Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting and His Excellency **Mr. Jorge Enrique Rojas Rodriguez**, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Colombia respectively.

- This agreement is expected to benefit producers from both countries in pooling their creative, artistic, technical, financial and marketing resources for the co-production.
- The agreement will also lead to the **exchange of art and culture among the two countries**. It will also create goodwill and better understanding among the people of both countries thereby boosting cultural ties between the two countries.
- **Currently, India has co-production treaties with 16 countries, resulting in 29 projects over the last five years.** Colombia is the 17th country with which India is signing a Co-Production Agreement.

EAM Jaishankar To Visit Islamabad

- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will embark on a **two-day visit to Islamabad** to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit.
- The External Affairs Minister had earlier remarked that his Pakistan visit is for a **multilateral event and he had ruled out** bilateral talks. This will be the first high-level visit of an Indian Foreign Minister to the neighbouring nation in nine years. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is a permanent intergovernmental international organisation.



- **It comprises nine member states** – India, Iran, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. The SCO focuses on strengthening mutual trust among the Member States, promoting their effective cooperation in politics, trade, economy, research, technology, and culture.

Anusandhan National Research Foundation

- **Anusandhan National Research Foundation** announced the launch of its first two initiatives, the **Prime Minister Early Career Research Grant (PMECRG)** and the **Mission for Advancement in High-Impact Areas -Electric Vehicle (MAHA-EV) Mission**.
- **PMECRG invites early career researchers** to join the country's transformative journey and contribute to the advancement of India's scientific excellence and innovation.
- On the other hand, **the MAHA- EV Mission is designed** to build a robust research and development ecosystem for Electric Vehicle (EV) components,

particularly Battery Cells, Power Electronics, Machines, and Drives (PEMD) and Charging Infrastructure.

ANRF Initiates Prime Minister Early Career Research Grant

Empowers and supports the early career researchers in their pursuit of research excellence, providing them with an enabling environment to effectively conduct research with ease and flexibility.

Eligibility

- Applicant holding a PhD/MD/MS/MDS/MVSc degree and working in recognized institutions
- Age limit: 42 years (with 3-year relaxation for SC/ST/OBC/differently abled & women candidates)*
- Applicant is eligible to apply within two years of joining the institution*

■ Grant Amount: Rs 60 lakh plus overhead for 3 years
■ Maximum of 700 grants per year

Start Date: 14.10.2024
Last Date: 19.11.2024

*One time relaxation
Details available at www.anrfonline.in

ANRF launches 1st Mission for Advancement in High-Impact Areas (MAHA)- EV Mission

Objectives

- Enhance domestic R&D capabilities on Electric Vehicle (EV) components to achieve strategic advantages in EVs for self-reliance and global competitiveness
- Position India as a hub for development of EV components

Technology Verticals for establishment of e-Nodes

- Tropical EV Batteries & Battery Cells
- Power Electronics, Machines, and Drives (PEMD)
- Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

General Conditions

- Applicants (Lead PI and PIs) must hold a regular academic/research position in a recognized academic institution/national laboratory/any other recognized R&D institution in India with a proven track record in the relevant domain
- Participation of relevant industry/PSU/start-ups is mandatory

Stakeholders Meeting:
October 26, 2024 (11 AM onwards) at IIT-Bombay
Visit: anrfonline.in

Timelines
Call Opening Date: 14.10.2024
Call Closing Date: 25.11.2024

- **Both initiatives aim to play a transformative role** in bridging the gap between academic research and industrial application. PMECRG aims to boost the creativity, innovation, and excellence of early career researchers and accelerate India's research-driven aspirations.
- **Furthermore, the MAHA- EV Mission** will support industry-aligned translational research in Electric Vehicles, an area of national priority.

e-Migrate Portal

- External Affairs Minister **Dr S Jaishankar** inaugurated the **eMigrate V2.0** web portal and Mobile App in Delhi. The eMigrate portal promotes safe and legal mobility channels for Indian migrants.
- In his address, Dr Jaishankar asserted that the launch of the **eMigrate V2.0 portal** is a testament to the government's efforts to create safe, transparent and inclusive mobility for Indians.
- He said the revamped version of the portal is a symbol of the government's commitment to protecting the rights and dignity of Indian workers in foreign lands.

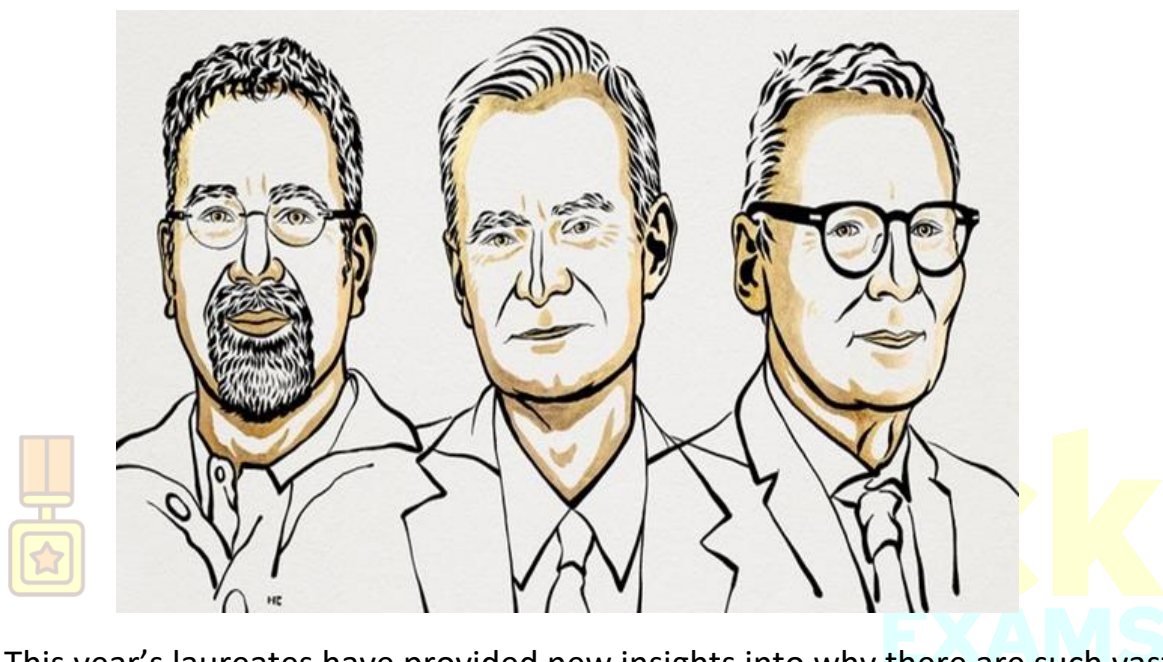


- The Minister said this is important because it also aligns **with Goal 10 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals** which promotes the facilitation of orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and mobility of people. He stated that there is a global need for workers who have domain-specific knowledge of their field. He noted that this need for a well-trained workforce in different geographies is only going to grow further.
- Dr Jaishankar added that this is reflected in the pace at which India has undertaken negotiations with different countries on migration and mobility since 2015.
- **The External Affairs Minister said facilitating those** who travel abroad, to study or who are residing abroad, and looking after their welfare, is a central objective of the government's foreign policy.
- The External Affairs Minister highlighted that in the last few years, passport issuance has almost doubled.
- **Ministry has leveraged the use of technology** to enhance the efficiency of the eMigrate portal. Dr Jaishankar was happy to note that the portal will also provide social security to migrants.

Nobel In Economics

- **U.S.-based economists Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson** have won the **2024 Nobel Prize in Economics**. It is for their groundbreaking research on how institutions shape prosperity.
- **The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences** praised their work for highlighting the role of strong societal institutions in fostering economic growth, reducing inequality, and improving the rule of law.

- The award recognizes their contributions to understanding **how institutional quality impacts** global development.
- The prestigious award, formally known as the **Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences** in Memory of **Alfred Nobel**, is the **final prize** to be given out this year and is worth **11 million Swedish krona** (1.1 million US dollars).
- Acemoglu and Johnson are at MIT, while Robinson works at the University of Chicago.



- This year's laureates have provided new insights into why there are such vast differences in prosperity between nations. One important explanation is persistent differences in societal institutions.
- **By examining the various political and economic systems** introduced by **European colonisers, Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James Robinson** have been able to demonstrate a relationship between institutions and prosperity. They have also developed theoretical tools that can explain why differences in institutions persist and how institutions can change.

ITU-WTSA

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate **the International Telecommunication Union ITU – World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) 2024** at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.
- The Prime Minister will also **inaugurate the 8th edition of India Mobile Congress 2024** during the programme.

- **WTSA is the governing conference for the standardization work** of the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Agency for Digital Technologies, **organised every four years.**
- It is for the **first time that the ITU-WTSA** will be hosted in India and the Asia-Pacific. It is a pivotal global event that will bring together more than three thousand industry leaders, policy-makers and tech experts from over 190 countries, representing telecom, digital, and ICT sectors.



- **WTSA 2024 will provide a platform for countries** to discuss and decide the future of standards of next-generation critical technologies like 6G, AI, IoT, Big Data, cybersecurity, etc.
- Hosting this event in **India will provide the country** with an opportunity to play a key role in shaping the global telecom agenda and setting the course for future technologies. Indian startups and research institutions are set to gain critical insights into developing Intellectual Property Rights and Standard Essential Patents.
- **India Mobile Congress 2024** will showcase India's innovation ecosystem, where leading telecom companies and innovators will highlight advancements in **Quantum technology and Circular Economy** along with a spotlight on 6G, 5G use-case showcase, cloud and edge computing, IoT, semiconductors, cybersecurity, green tech, satcom and electronics manufacturing.
- **India Mobile Congress, Asia's largest digital technology forum**, has become a well-known platform across the globe for showcasing innovative solutions, services and state-of-the-art use cases for industry, government, academics, startups and other key stakeholders in the technology and telecom ecosystem.

- **The India Mobile Congress 2024** will showcase over 400 exhibitors, about 900 startups, and participation from over 120 countries. The event also aims to showcase more than 900 technology use case scenarios and host more than 100 sessions and discussions with over 600 global and Indian speakers.

Junior World Cup Of Shooting In 2025

- **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF)** President Luciano Rossi confirmed that India will host the ISSF Junior World Cup in 2025.
- **Mr. Rossi was addressing a press conference**, ahead of the ISSF World Cup Final Rifle/ Pistol/ Shotgun in New Delhi yesterday. Mr. Rossi also hailed India's increasing contribution to the development and growing popularity of shooting around the world.



- **India continues to be a significant force** in the world of shooting not only with its talented athletes but also through its commitment to expanding the sport's infrastructure and reach, Mr. Rossi said. Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo, president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) was present during the occasion.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which Country Used An 'Anaconda Strategy' Against Taiwan

- A. Israel
- B. Australia
- C. Russia
- D. China

ANSWER: D

2. Chaukhamba Peak Is Located In Which State

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Assam
- D. Sikkim

ANSWER: A

3. Taurus Missile Is Jointly Developed By Which Countries

- A. Russia and China
- B. Myanmar and Nepal
- C. France and Australia
- D. Germany and Sweden

ANSWER: D

4. Name Of Memorial Inaugurated For Soldiers Who Died In Sikkim's Flash Floods

- A. Prerna Sthal
- B. Veer Smarak
- C. Amar Jawan Jyoti
- D. None of the Above

ANSWER: A

5. Koraput Kalajeera Rice Got GI Status, Is Cultivated In Which State

- A. Punjab
- B. Odisha
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: B

6. Which Chronic Health Issue Is Strongly Associated With High Dietary Intake Of Advanced Glycation End Products

- A. Heart disease
- B. Osteoporosis
- C. Hypertension
- D. Diabetes

ANSWER: D

7. Which Country Is Host Of World Pickleball Championship Series

- A. Myanmar
- B. China
- C. India
- D. Nepal

ANSWER: C

8. Phata Byung Hydroelectric Project Is Built On Which River

- A. Mandakini
- B. Tons
- C. Sarda
- D. Dhauliganga

ANSWER: A

9. Kirkuk Which Was Seen In The News, Is Located In Which Country

- A. Israel
- B. Iraq
- C. Australia
- D. Greece

ANSWER: B

10. Active Galactic Nuclei Highlighted In Research, Are Found In Which Type Of Astronomical Object

- A. Dwarf galaxies
- B. Supernova remnants
- C. Planetary nebulae
- D. Globular clusters

ANSWER: A

11. Konyaks, Are The Largest Tribes Of Which State

- A. Nagaland
- B. Assam
- C. Manipur
- D. Odisha

ANSWER: A

12. What Are “Globba Tyrnaensis And Globba Janakiae”

- A. New species of medicinal herbs
- B. New species of plants from the ginger family
- C. Rare species of cactus
- D. Newly discovered species of frogs

ANSWER: B

13. Who Has Been Unanimously Re-elected As The Chairperson Of The Parliamentary Committee On Official Language

- A. Dharmendra Pradhan
- B. JP Nadda
- C. Rajnath Singh
- D. Amit Shah

ANSWER: D

14. Sardar Sarovar Dam, Is Built On Which River

- A. Krishna
- B. Kaveri
- C. Narmada
- D. Godavari

ANSWER: C

15. Which Day Is Observed As “International Day Of Democracy” Annually

- A. 15 September
- B. 16 September
- C. 17 September
- D. 18 September

ANSWER: C

16. Ministry Of Agriculture Is Planning To Launch The 'Smart Precision Horticulture Programme' Under Which Scheme

- A. National Horticulture Mission (NHM)
- B. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)
- C. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
- D. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)

ANSWER: D

17. Which Country Announced Plans To Cull 200 Elephants Due To Severe Drought

- A. Vietnam
- B. Indonesia
- C. Zimbabwe
- D. Singapore

ANSWER: C

18. The 1st Sports Event To Offer Equal Prize Money To Men & Women

- A. BWF world championship
- B. US Open
- C. Australia Open
- D. NBA world championship

ANSWER: B

19. Gingee Fort Nominated For UNESCO World Heritage Site, Located In Which State

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Karnataka
- D. Maharashtra

ANSWER: B

20. James Augustus Hickey Is Also Known As

- A. Father of Indian media
- B. Father of Indian Press
- C. Father of Indian Television
- D. Pioneer of Photography

ANSWER: B