



DAILY PT POINTERS

17th October, 2023



The Hindu: Governance / Economy (Page 1)

SC refers electoral bonds case to 5-judge Constitution Bench

Top court cites 'importance of issue' for the decision; says it received plea seeking the shift; the case, as scheduled earlier, will be listed on Oct. 31

Contentious scheme

The anonymity that electoral bonds allow in political donations has caused concern ever since its introduction in 2018

■ CPI(M), Association for Democratic Reforms and Common Cause move the Supreme Court claiming the scheme legalises anonymous and unlimited political donations

■ The Finance Act, 2017 exempts electoral bonds from disclosure under the Representation of the People Act, 1951

■ Petitioners say 95% of the electoral bonds sold have been in favour of one political party



- The Government of India has notified the Electoral Bond Scheme in 2018
- As per provisions of the Scheme, Electoral Bonds may be purchased by a person, who is a citizen of India or incorporated or established in India.
- A person being an individual can buy Electoral Bonds, either singly or jointly with other individuals.
- Only the Political Parties registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951) and which secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last General Election to the House of the People or the Legislative Assembly of the State, shall be eligible to receive the Electoral Bonds.
- The Electoral Bonds shall be encashed by an eligible Political Party only through a Bank account with the Authorised Bank.
- The Electoral Bonds shall be valid for fifteen calendar days from the date of issue and no payment shall be made to any payee Political Party if the Electoral Bond is deposited after expiry of the validity period

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu : Health (Page 9)

Palliative care, a way to reduce financial distress for people with life limiting diseases

It is the moral obligation of the health system to take care of people, especially when they are suffering from life-long and life-limiting illnesses. Early initiation of palliative care in patients with advanced disease has shown to reduce health expenditure by up to 25%



- **Palliative care** is a branch of medicine that looks at improving the quality of life of those having life-limiting illnesses like cancers, end-stage kidney disease, debilitating brain disorders, complications of diabetes, and heart disease among others.
- It is different from other medical specialities as it focuses on alleviating uncontrolled symptoms of the incurable illnesses mentioned above, and preventing non-beneficial investigations, and treatments.
- It takes into consideration not just the physical dimension of health but also actively looks at the social and economic realities of the patient and the family.
- Early initiation of palliative care in patients with advanced disease has shown to reduce health expenditure by up to 25%. Palliative care is provided through outpatient visits, inpatient visits, and home-based care.
- currently, palliative care is not covered under most insurance schemes in India.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: Polity and Governance (Page 10)

Centre revokes IIPS Director's suspension after he resigns

Suspension of K.S. James was lifted on the basis of what the Health Ministry termed 'material changes in the circumstances'; another order said he had tendered his resignation on August 7 'owing to personal grounds', which was accepted



- IIPS, an autonomous organization under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- It is a premier teaching and research institute with a global recognition.
- It is a leader in survey research and data analytics in the country
- It has been the nodal agency conducting all the five rounds of National Family Health Survey.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu : Space (Page 12)

Two-hour long maiden test flight of Gaganyaan mission to commence at 7 am on October 21

The success of this test flight will set the stage for the remaining qualification tests and unmanned missions, leading to the first Gaganyaan mission with Indian astronauts.

October 16, 2023 02:50 pm | Updated 05:27 pm IST - Bengaluru:

THE HINDU BUREAU

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- Gaganyaan project envisages demonstration of human spaceflight capability by launching crew of 3 members to an orbit of 400 km for a 3 days mission and bring them back safely to earth, by landing in Indian sea waters.
- The objective of Gaganyaan programme is to demonstrate indigenous capability to undertake human space flight mission to Low Earth Orbit (LEO) and will lay the foundation for a sustained Indian human space exploration programme in the long run.
- India's heaviest rocket, Launch Vehicle Mark 3 (LVM3), has been identified as the launch vehicle for the Gaganyaan Mission.

Indian Express: Governance / Health (Page 1)

Supreme Court rejects plea to end 26-week pregnancy

A bench led by Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud also says that neither of the two AIIMS reports 'indicates that a termination is immediately necessary to save the life of the petitioner'.

- The Supreme Court declined permission to a married woman to terminate her over 26-week pregnancy, saying the AIIMS medical board had found “no substantial foetal abnormalities” and a pre-term delivery carried the risk of being born with physical and mental deformities.

Do you know ?

- **MTP (Amendment) Act, 2021** had introduced a key change in Section 3 by extending the upper limit for termination of pregnancy from **20 to 24 weeks**.
- **Section 5 of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act** prescribes medical termination if the pregnancy was “immediately necessary to save the life of the pregnant woman”.
 - CJI said the term ‘life’ used in this provision cannot be equated to the broader meaning in which ‘life’ is used in Article 21 of the Constitution. Article 21 upholds an individual’s fundamental right to a dignified, meaningful life.

Indian Express: Economy (Page 15)

Angel tax for start-ups: What CBDT has clarified after scrutiny notices

What is angel tax for start-ups? What were the changes to angel tax rules in this year's budget? What has the CBDT said now?

- Amid notices being sent to start-ups, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has stepped in to direct its officers to **not carry out scrutiny of angel tax provisions** for start-ups recognised by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

Angel tax:

- Angel tax (income tax at the rate of 30.6 per cent) is levied when an unlisted company issue shares to an investor at a price higher than its fair market value (FMV).
- Earlier, it was imposed only on investments made by a resident investor, but Finance Act, 2023, brought in an amendment to bring consideration received from non-residents for the issue of shares by an unlisted company within the ambit of section 56(2)(viib) of the Income-tax Act, 1961.
- This section prescribes that if such consideration for the issue of shares exceeds the Fair Market Value (FMV) of the shares, it shall be chargeable to income tax under the head 'Income from other sources'. This will come into effect from Assessment Year 2024-25.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB : Economy / IR

PM to inaugurate the Global Maritime India Summit 2023 on 17th October

PM to unveil 'Amrit Kaal Vision 2047' - long term blueprint for the Indian Maritime blue economy

PM to inaugurate, dedicate to nation and lay the foundation stone of projects worth more than Rs
23,000 crore



- The summit is the biggest Maritime Event in the country. It will witness participation of Ministers from across the globe representing countries from Europe, Africa, South America, Asia (including central Asia, Middle East and BIMSTEC region).
- The summit will also be attended by Global CEOs, Business leaders, Investors, Officials, and other stakeholders from across the world.
- The three day summit will discuss and deliberate key issues of the maritime sector including ports of the future; decarbonisation; coastal shipping & Inland water transportation; shipbuilding; repair and recycling; finance, insurance & arbitration; maritime clusters; innovation & technology; maritime safety and security; and maritime tourism, among others.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB : Defence

Ministry of Defence signs contract with Cochin Shipyard Limited for Mid Life Upgrade and Re-Powering of INS Beas

Posted On: 16 OCT 2023 2:33PM by PIB Delhi



- The Ministry of Defence signed a contract for Mid Life Upgrade and Re-Powering of "INS Beas" with Kochi-based M/S Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) at an overall cost of Rs. 313.42 Cr.
- INS Beas is the first of Brahmaputra Class Frigate to be re-powered from Steam to Diesel Propulsion.


HEADLINES OF THE DAY



Live Mint : Miscellaneous

International Day for Eradication of Poverty 2023: Date, theme, history and significance

3 min read • 17 Oct 2023, 06:00 AM IST

Join us 

Deepak Upadhyay

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, celebrated annually on October 17, aims to promote understanding and dialogue between people living in poverty and the wider society. Ending poverty is not just helping the poor – it is giving every woman and man the chance to live with dignity.

- The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, celebrated annually on October 17
- It aims to promote understanding and dialogue between people living in poverty and the wider society.
- The theme of International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2023 is “Decent Work and Social Protection: Putting dignity in practice for all”
- Through resolution 47/196 adopted on 22 December 1992, the UN General Assembly declared 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.

Do you know ?

- According to the United Nations, 8.4% of the world’s population, or as many as 670 million people, were living in extreme poverty at the end of 2022.
- An estimated 7% of the global population – around 575 million people – could still find themselves trapped in extreme poverty by 2030.