

Headlines at a Glance - 4th October 2021

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India and Sri Lanka holds 'Mitra Shakti' military exercise in Ampara

The two-week long joint military exercise involving India and Sri Lanka, 'Mitra Shakti' concluded on Thursday. In the last few days, forces from both sides participated in operational drills focussed on possible terrorist scenarios. Army officials said that these drills stressed on coordination and joint battle procedures. Focussing on counter-insurgency and counter-terror operations, an Infantry company from both countries participated in the exercise. Brigadier Alok Chandra from the Indian side and Brigadier Ajith Pallawela from the Sri Lankan side were the military observers for the exercise. The exercise is very important for military ties between the two countries in the backdrop of the growing influence of China in the Indian Ocean region.

SOURCE: The Indian Express

Environment Minister commences tiger rallies across 51 reserves

Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav on Saturday kicked off tiger rallies in 18 tiger range states across 51 reserves in the country as part of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" and Wildlife Week celebrations. The rallies will cover a distance of over 7,500 km in seven days (2 October to 8 October) traversing the diverse and picturesque landscapes spanning across India. The minister kicked off the rally virtually in three tiger reserves — Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple (BRT) Tiger Reserve in Karnataka, Navegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra and Sanjay Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh — by waving a green flag. Yadav also released guidelines on sustainable eco-

tourism in forest and wildlife areas, field guide for monitoring the Ganges and Indus river dolphins, associated aquatic fauna and habitat; and Nagar Van guidelines.

SOURCE: The Hindu

Process of renunciation of Indian citizenship simplified

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has simplified the process for Indians who want to renounce their citizenship. Provisions have been made for applicants to upload documents online, with an upper limit of 60 days for the renunciation process to be completed. Over 6.7 lakh Indians renounced their citizenship between 2015-19, the Lok Sabha was informed in February. In 2018, the MHA revised the Form XXII under the Citizenship Rules for declaration of renunciation of citizenship, which for the first time included a column on “circumstances/reasons due to which applicant intends to acquire foreign citizenship and renounce Indian citizenship”.

SOURCE: The Hindu

9th Meeting of the India-UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investments held

Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and Member of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan met for the ninth meeting of UAE-India High Level Joint Task Force on Investments in Dubai on Saturday. The discussions ranged from investments, impact of Covid-19 and normalisation of air travel. The Joint Task Force was established in 2013 for promoting economic ties between the UAE and India. At this meeting of the Joint Task Force, the two nations took note of the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on global trade and investment. Both parties reiterated the importance of continuing to strengthen the deep economic ties between them. The progress of ongoing discussions for the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement was reviewed also during the meeting. In this regard, both sides appreciated the efforts made to expedite discussions towards a well-balanced agreement that will considerably promote trade and investment between both countries.

SOURCE: Livemint