

## **October 23<sup>rd</sup> news:**

### **International:**

#### **- Shinzo Abe secures strong mandate in Japan's general election**

Japan's prime minister, Shinzo Abe, has secured a strong mandate from Japan voters. His party crushed untested opposition parties in 22<sup>nd</sup> October general election.

Abe's Liberal Democratic party (LDP) and its junior coalition partner Komeito were on course to win 311 seats, keeping its two-thirds "supermajority" in the 465-member lower house, an exit poll by TBS television showed. Some other broadcasters had the ruling bloc slightly below the two-thirds mark.

A supermajority would allow Abe to propose changes to the constitution, which currently restricts its military to a defensive role. Most voters, however, oppose reform.

### **What is the method of Japanese election?**

The Japanese political system has **three types of elections**:

General elections to the House of Representatives held every four years (unless the lower house is dissolved earlier), elections to the House of Councillors held every three years to choose one-half of its members, and local elections held every four years for offices in prefectures, cities, and villages.

Elections are supervised by election committees at each administrative level under the general direction of the Central Election Administration Committee, an attached organization to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC).

The minimum voting age in Japan's non-compulsory electoral system was reduced from twenty to eighteen years in June 2016. Voters must satisfy a three-month residency requirement before being allowed to cast a ballot.

### **National:**

#### **Narendra Modi launches 'Ro-Ro' ferry service in Gujarat**

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, launched the first phase of the roll-on-roll off service at a rally in Ghogha. The first phase budget is Rs 615 crore. The service is between Ghogha in Saurashtra and Dahej in south Gujarat. This is the first of its kind project not only in India but also in South-East Asia

### **What is Ro-Ro ferry service?**

The RO-RO ferry services are vessels made to carry wheeled cargo that are driven on and off the ferry on their own wheels or using a platform vehicle. The wheeled cargo includes, cars, trucks, semi-trailer trucks, trailers, and railroad cars.

The term RO-RO is generally reserved for large ocean-going vessels. The vessels have either built-in or shore-based ramps that allow the cargo to be efficiently rolled on and off the vessel when in port. This is in opposite to the lift-on and lift-off (lo-lo) vessels, which use a crane to load and unload cargo.

## **Economy:**

### **RIL and ONGC agreement on Infra sharing**

Maharatna Company Oil and Natural Gas Corporation and MukeshAmbani-led Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) have entered into an agreement.

With this agreement, RIL and its partner BP Plc, will be able to transport gas from their newer fields in Krishna Godavari Basin (KG-D6) block using a sub-sea pipeline passing through edges of ONGC's block in the neighbourhood. The DGH recently gave its nod to the contractors for the right of use.

Interestingly, this is not the first time that the two rivals have attempted an agreement. A few years ago, the two had entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to explore the possibility of sharing infrastructure on the East Coast of the country.

The MoU was aimed at working out the modalities for sharing infrastructure, identifying additional requirements as well as firming up commercial terms. At that time ONGC had said that the MoU would not only minimise its initial capital expenditure but also expedite its field development.

The concept of infrastructure-sharing is very common among international players in oil and gas exploration and production business, as it brings down cost. In India, it has been arbitrary, a senior official in the DGH said, adding that it also leads to duplication of facilities as each would like to create their own infrastructure.

## **Sports:**

### **India wins Asian Hockey tourney**

India on 22<sup>nd</sup> October ended its 10-year wait for continental triumph when it defeated Malaysia 2-1 in a close final to clinch its third Asia Cup hockey title in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

India, which won the Asia Cup in 2003 (Kuala Lumpur) and 2007 (Chennai), scored off field goals through Ramandeep Singh (third minute) and LalitUpadhyay (29th). The ever-improving Malaysia, however, fought valiantly. Its efforts bore fruit in the 50th minute when ShahrilSaabah pulled a goal back.

India, ranked sixth in the world, was in for a nervous final 10 minutes but the defence did enough to hold on.

### **About Asian Hockey tourney?**

ASHF(ASIAN HOCKEY FEDERATION) Asia Cup is an international men's and women's field hockey tournament governed by the Asian Hockey Federation(ASHF).

It was introduced in 1982 for men's competition and the women's competition was added a year later as non-official championship until the official tournament held in 1985.

### **First venue**

The very first ASIAN HOCKEY CUP tournament was held in Karachi, Pakistan in 1982.

### **India's hosting of the Cup**

India hosted the event twice, in New Delhi in 1989 and in Chennai in 2007.

### **Kidambari Srikanth wins**

Kidambari Srikanth continued his phenomenal run as he defeated South Korea's Lee Hyun Il to win Denmark Open 2017 title on 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

### **Kohli breaks Ponting record**

Virat Kohli made his 200<sup>th</sup> ODI special as he scored his 31st ODI hundred on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, while playing against New Zealand, in Wankhede stadium, Mumbai. The Indian skipper is now second only to legendary Sachin Tendulkar (49) in the list of most ODI hundreds.