

October 30th news:

National:

INS Virat to become museum

The Andhra Pradesh government intends to convert the Navy's warhorse aircraft carrier into a museum and a hotel in the sea, depending on the logistics. The ship will be brought to Kakinada for refurbishment as soon as the DPR is approved by the Union government.

Law panel wants more autonomy for tribunals

The Law Commission of India has recommended that a Committee led by the Chief Justice of India should be in charge of the appointments of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Judicial Members of the various central tribunals, which form a pillar of the country's justice delivery system.

The tribunals perform an important and specialized role in justice mechanism. They take a load off the already over-burdened courts. They hear disputes related to the environment, armed forces, tax and administrative issues

The Commission has suggested a common nodal agency, possibly under the Law Ministry, to both monitor the working of the tribunals and to ensure uniformity in the appointment, tenure and service conditions for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members. As of now, tribunals function under the very government department which may be a litigation before them, and probably, against which they may have to pass orders.

Every order emanating from the tribunal or its appellate forum, wherever it exists, attains finality, the Commission recommended.

The Commission said tribunals must have benches in different parts of the country so that people of every geographical area may have easy access to justice. It further noted that reappointment of chairman and others compromises the independence and fairness of the tribunal.

In its report titled 'Assessment of Statutory Frameworks of Tribunals in India', submitted to the Law Ministry on Friday, the panel said, "though the disposal rate of the tribunals in comparison to the filing of cases per year had been remarkable — 94% — the pendency remains high".

Economy:

India ships wheat through Chahabar Port

The Iranian port of Chahabar processed a maiden shipment of wheat from India's western seaport of Kandla to Afghanistan on 29th October.

Chahabar port lies outside the Persian Gulf on the Gulf of Oman and can be easily accessed from India's western coast. The wheat shipment has therefore bypassed Pakistan - Pakistan earlier refused India

trade access to Afghanistan via its territory. The consignment will be transported overland to Afghanistan from Chabahar

The shipment is a part of commitment made by India to supply 1.1 million tons of wheat for free to the people of Afghanistan and is the first shipment to Afghanistan through the Chabahar port since the Trilateral Agreement on Establishment of International Transport and Transit Corridor was signed during a visit to Iran by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in May 2016. At the time, Modi was the first Indian prime minister to visit Iran in 15 years, and he pledged up to \$500 million to develop and operate two terminals at Chabahar port as part of a trilateral engagement between India, Iran and Afghanistan.

The use of Chabahar port is seen as a major boost to India's efforts to connect with Central Asia and Russia, and it could facilitate Indian imports of iron ore, sugar and rice as well as crude oil from Iran.

Sports:

India wins series 2-1 against New Zealand

India defeated New Zealand in the third One day International and won the series by 2-1 margin on the 29th of October

- Virat Kohli became the first Indian captain to win seven successive bilateral series in ODIs — between June 2016 and October 2017.
- Kohli is the sixth Indian and the 19th overall to complete 9,000 runs or more in ODIs.
- Kohli has taken just 194 innings to race to 9000 runs in ODIs — the quickest in ODIs, surpassing the 205 innings taken by Abraham de Villiers. Kohli has taken just nine years 72 days to reach this milestone — the least time taken by a batsman to complete 9000 runs