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PLACES IN NEWS

2025 - OCTOBER 05 - OCTOBER 11

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Places in News - World

1. Mauritius

Mauritius

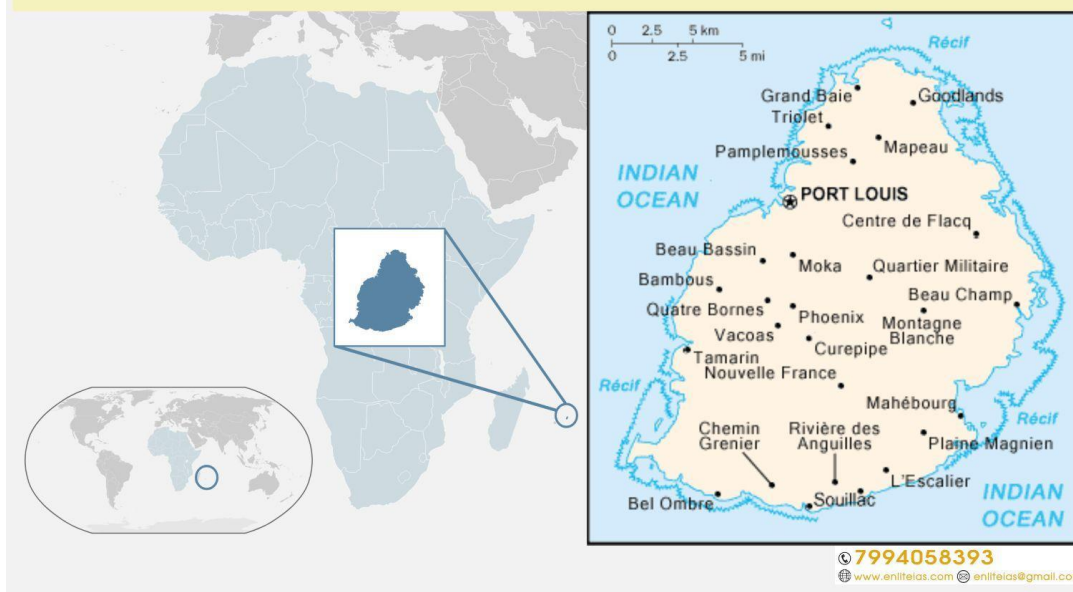


Why in news?

- INS Sutlej, a specialised hydrographic survey vessel of the Indian Navy arrived at Port Louis to undertake 18th Joint Hydrographic Survey at Mauritius.

Mauritius

- **Location:** Mauritius is an Indian Ocean island country.
- **Capital:** Port Louis.
- **Maritime Border:** It shares a maritime border with Madagascar and Reunion Island.
- **Groupings:** Member of the African Union, the Commonwealth of Nations, the Indian Ocean Commission, and the Indian Ocean Rim Association.



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2. Argentina and Mar del Plata Canyon

Argentina



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Why in the news?

- A groundbreaking expedition to Argentina's Mar del Plata Canyon uncovered over 40 potential new deep-sea species, including glass squids and pink lobsters.

Argentina

- **Location:** Argentina is a South American country.
- **Capital:** Buenos Aires
- **Fact:** The second-largest country in South America after Brazil.
- **Bordering Countries:** Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay, Brazil, Uruguay.
- **Bordering Waterbodies:** South Atlantic Ocean, Drake Passage.
- **Disputed Territory:** Falkland Islands with Britain
- **Climate:** Temperate Climate
- **Local Wind:** Pampero Winds
- **Desert:** Patagonia
- **Grasslands:** Pampas
- **Economic Significance:** Part of Lithium Triangle.

ARGENTINA



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Mar del Plata Canyon

- **Location:**
 - Situated along the continental margin off the coast of Buenos Aires Province, Argentina.
 - Lies about 250–300 km offshore from the city of Mar del Plata in the South-Western Atlantic Ocean.
 - It is one of the largest submarine canyons on the Argentine continental margin system.
- **Geological & Oceanographic Features:**
 - **Type:** Submarine canyon — a deep, steep-sided valley incised into the continental slope and rise.
 - **Depth:** Reaches approximately 3,000–3,500 metres below sea level, extending from the continental shelf to the deep Atlantic basin.

- **Seafloor Composition:** Dominated by fine sand mixed with terrigenous material (land-derived sediments) and planktonic foraminifera substrate (microfossil deposits).
- **Formation:** Shaped by turbidity currents, sediment erosion, and underwater landslides transporting material downslope.
- **Hydrographic Characteristics:**
 - The region is highly productive, influenced by the Argentine Shelf-break Front, a permanent oceanographic front marking a sharp boundary between contrasting water masses:
 - ★ Sub-Antarctic shelf waters (cold, nutrient-rich), and
 - ★ Cooler, more saline waters of the Falkland-Malvinas Current.
 - This interaction creates a thermohaline front (temperature-salinity gradient), leading to nutrient upwelling, high plankton productivity, and rich marine biodiversity.


3. Syria

Syria



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SYRIAN



Why in the news?

- Syria held its first parliamentary elections, nearly a year after a rebelled offensive unseated longtime autocratic leader Bashar al-Assad.

Syria

- **Location:** Syria is a Western Asian country located in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Levant.
- **Capital:** Damascus
- **Borders Countries:** Turkey , Iraq , Jordan, Israel and Lebanon.
- **Maritime Border Countries:** Cyprus lies to the west across the Mediterranean Sea
- **Major Rivers in Syria:** Euphrates, Tigris
- **Disputed Territories:** Golan heights with Israel

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4. Senegal

Senegal



Why in the news?

- Rift Valley Fever, a zoonotic disease claims 18 lives in Senegal.

Senegal

- **Location:** Senegal is the westernmost country in Africa.
- **Capital:** Dakar
- **Borders:** Mauritania, Mali, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal nearly surrounds Gambia.
- **Maritime Border:** Cape Verde.
- **Geography**
 - Located in Sahel region.
 - The region has tropical climate
- **International Grouping:** ECOWAS, African Union.



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