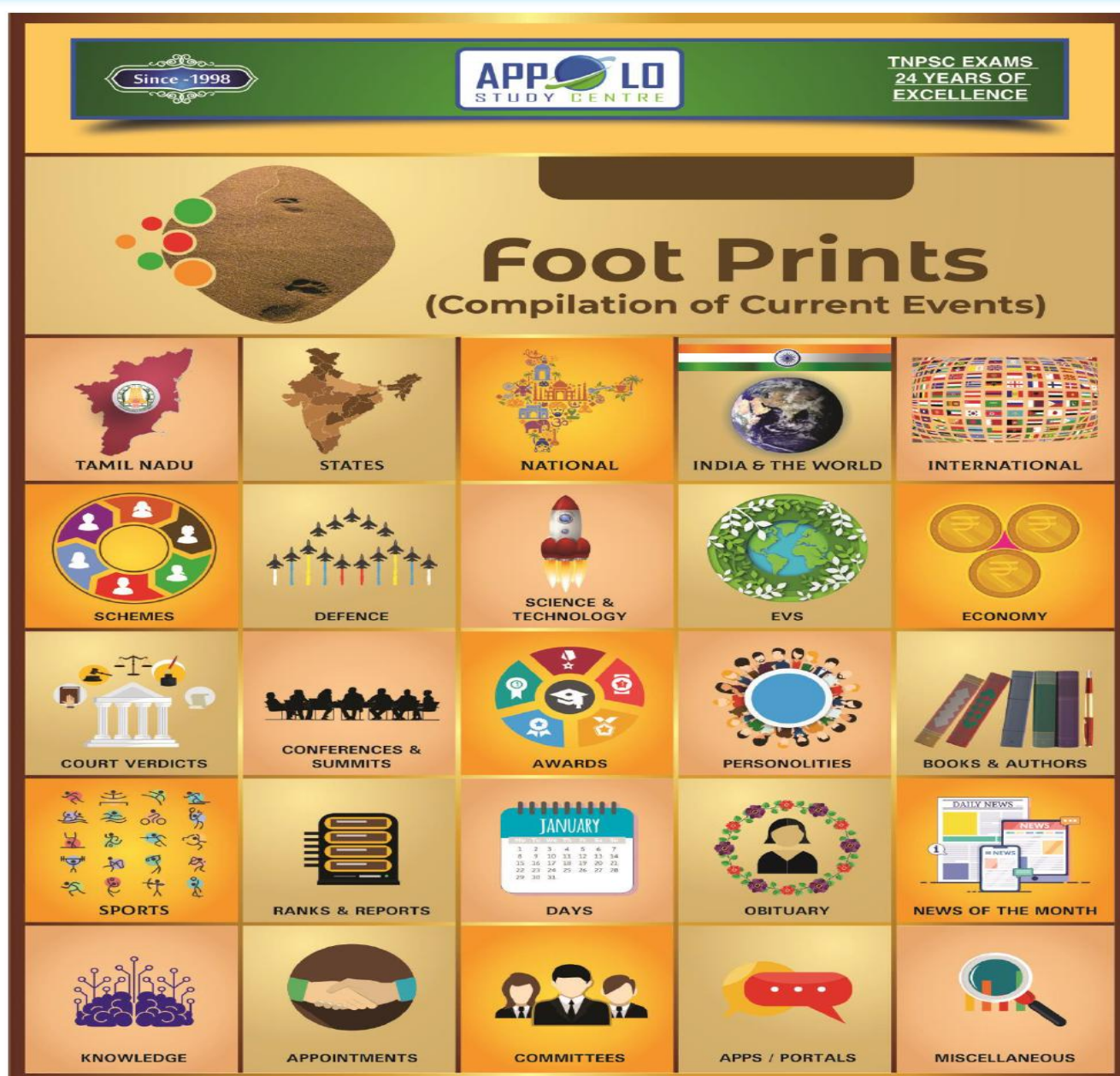




MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JULY - DECEMBER, 2024



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TAMIL NADU

- **Tamil Nadu Passes Bill to Increase Prison Terms and Fines for Illicit Liquor Offences**
 - ✓ The Tamil Nadu (TN) Legislative Assembly adopted a Bill that makes punishment more stringent for offences pertaining to prohibited liquor such as denatured spirits and methanol.
 - ✓ The Bill aims to amend the **Tamil Nadu Prohibition Act, 1937**.

- **Naan Mudhalvan Scheme - Over 25,000 Polytechnic Students Get Jobs**
 - ✓ A total of 25,888 students from polytechnic colleges across Tamil Nadu have landed jobs in various sectors through the State government's Naan Mudhalvan scheme, as on June 18, 2024.
 - ✓ Under the scheme, the government is helping students from polytechnic colleges secure lucrative jobs in domestic and multinational firms.

- **T.N. releases draft Tamil Nadu Space Industrial Policy 2024**
 - ✓ The Tamil Nadu government released the draft Tamil Nadu Space Industrial Policy 2024, which aims to create direct and indirect employment prospects for nearly 10,000 persons in 10 years and also promises a slew of incentives to the players in the sector.

- **State-aided Schools should be treated on a Par with Government Schools**
 - ✓ The State Education Policy (SEP) drafted by the Justice D. Murugesan Committee is learnt to have observed that formal schooling must begin only at Class I in all institutions on "completion of five years" as on July 31 of an academic year.
 - ✓ The stages of schooling are to be understood as 5+3+2+2, forming respectively, the primary stage, the upper primary stage, secondary stage, and higher secondary stage."

- **CM invites MPs, MLAs to Launch Expansion of Two Govt. Schemes**
 - ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin is scheduled to take part in a function in Dharmapuri on July 11 to launch the expansion of the 'Makkaludan Mudhalvar' initiative.
 - ✓ He is also scheduled to take part in another function in Tiruvallur on July 15 to expand the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme.
 - ✓ It is set to be expanded to State-aided schools in rural areas from July 15.

- **Renaming of TANGEDCO**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation (TANGEDCO) was renamed as the Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNPDC).
- ✓ There are about 3.37 crore consumers of various categories.
- ✓ As many as 8.11 lakh new service connections were provided during 2023-24.

- **Educational Development Day in Schools**
- ✓ The 122nd birth anniversary of Perunthalaivar Kamaraj is being celebrated today. On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government, Chief Minister and Ministers pay respects to Kamaraj.
- ✓ Kamaraj's birthday is celebrated as Educational Development Day in schools.

- **Rally taken out in City to Mark World Population Day**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu's Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) stood at 13 per 1,000 live births, while the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) was 45.6 per one lakh live births, Health Minister Ma. Subramanian said on Saturday.
- ✓ At an event held to mark World Population Day, he said the country's IMR was 28 per 1,000 live births and the MMR stood at 97 per one lakh live births.

- **T.N. Emerges as 'Front Runner' in 13 Sustainable Development Goals**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has been classified a 'front runner' in 13 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, according to the latest SDG India Index 2023-24, released by the Union government's think-tank NITI Aayog.
- ✓ According to the report, Tamil Nadu took the third spot with a composite score of 78, surpassing the national average of 71.

- **New India Literary Programme or Puthiya Bharatha Ezhutharivu Thittam**
- ✓ The School Education Department has identified over six lakh illiterate people, aged over 15, across Tamil Nadu and has begun classes to provide them with basic literacy this year under the New India Literary Programme or Puthiya Bharatha Ezhutharivu Thittam 2022-27.
- ✓ Krishnagiri district has recorded the maximum number of illiterate people (61,622).

- **TN-RISE Initiative**
- ✓ From August 2024, around 130 enterprises and startups led by women entrepreneurs across Tamil Nadu will get mentored under the Tamil Nadu Rural Incubator and Start-up Enabler (TN-RISE) initiative.
- ✓ "From January to June this year, we conducted 31 district boot camps, attracting approximately 2,500 enterprises.
- ✓ Providing guidance TN-RISE operates as a special purpose vehicle under the

- **Single-Window System of getting Building Permission**
 - ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday launched a single-window system through which building permissions for plots measuring up to 2,500 sq.ft. and having a built-up area of up to 3,500 sq.ft. could be obtained based on self-certification.
 - ✓ This would apply to the construction of residential buildings with a ground or ground and one floor (not exceeding seven metres in height).

- **T.N.'s Assistance Package for Manjulai Workers**
 - ✓ They also received 25% of the ex-gratia for opting to retire, it informed the Tamil Nadu government, as per the report.
 - ✓ "Steps will be taken through the Labour Welfare Department to get the workers the 75% of the ex-gratia that is due, their monthly pension as per the rules, and all legal entitlements".

- **T.N's MMR drops to 45.5 in 2023-24**
 - ✓ Going by the Health Management Information System (HMIS) data, Tamil Nadu's Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) recorded a significant drop during 2023-24, declining by over six points to reach 45.5 per one lakh live births.
 - ✓ In fact, during the same period, Virudhunagar Health Unit District (HUD) recorded nil maternal deaths, according to health officials.

- **CM to Launch Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme in Coimbatore**
 - ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Wednesday announced that he would launch the Tamil Pudhalvan scheme in Coimbatore on August 9.
 - ✓ The scheme is similar to the Pudhumai Penn initiative launched for girls.
 - ✓ It aims at providing a monthly assistance of 1,000 to boys who studied in government schools from Classes VI to XII, and are pursuing higher education.
 - ✓ Boys who studied in Tamil-medium government-aided schools, too, would benefit from the scheme.

- **T.N. to Fund Education of Govt. School Students in Top Institutes**
 - ✓ The Tamil Nadu government will bear the higher educational expenses of students from State government schools who have been admitted to prestigious institutions in various parts of the country, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said on Friday.
 - ✓ The government would also bear the initial cost of travel for students of State government schools who enrolled in prestigious institutions abroad, he said.
 - ✓ A total of 447 students from State government schools had been admitted to institutions in India and abroad.

- **Centre for Innovation in Governance set up in T.N.**
 - ✓ A Centre for Innovation in Governance has been set up at the State Planning Commission.
 - ✓ A first-of-its-kind initiative in the country, the centre aims at fostering an innovative ecosystem in governance in the State.
 - ✓ It will provide support to government departments and district administrations in piloting innovative projects, and building capacity in various technologies that will augment effective governance in the State.
- **T.N. Tech City Project to be established in Madhavaram**
 - ✓ The Tamil Nadu government is planning to establish the T.N. Tech City Project in Madhavaram in north Chennai.
 - ✓ The aim of this project is to attract both global and domestic investments in various sectors, including information technology (IT), IT-enabled services (ITeS), global capability centers (GCC), Fintech, and Deeptech.
- **T.N. to Establish New Pharmacies**
 - ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, in his Independence Day address on Thursday, announced the establishment of **Mudhalvar Marundhagams** across the State.
 - ✓ These pharmacies, to be launched next year, aim at providing generic medicines at subsidised rates.
- **CM Honours Brave Nurse, Cong. Veteran, ISRO Scientist at I-Day Fete**
 - ✓ **Sabeena**, a nurse from the Nilgiris who saved over 35 human lives after the Wayanad landslides, was on Thursday honoured with the Tamil Nadu government's **Kalpana Chawla Award for Courage and Daring Enterprise**.
 - ✓ Mr. Stalin also presented the **Thagaisal Thamizhar Award** to veteran Congress leader **Kumari Ananthan**. Mr. Ananthan's persistent efforts led to permission granted for him to speak in Tamil in Parliament in 1978.
 - ✓ The Chief Minister conferred the **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award** on **ISRO scientist P. Veeramuthuvel**, the project director of Chandrayaan-3.
- **'42% of women employed in India's factories reside in T.N.'**
 - ✓ Inaugurating a 706.50-crore industrial housing facility at Sipcot Industrial Park in Vallam Vadagal in Sriperumbudur, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Saturday said that 42% of the women working in India's factories were residing in Tamil Nadu.
- **Monitor Homes Meant For Children in Conflict with Law**
 - ✓ The Department of Children Welfare and Special Services has constituted the Tamil Nadu Empowered Committee on Special Services for Children, a special

monitoring committee, which will oversee the maintenance of Government Homes, Special Homes, Place of Safety, and After-Care Homes across the State, meant for children in conflict with law.

➤ **Centenary Commemorative Coin Honouring M. Karunanidhi**

- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh released a 100 coin honouring M. Karunanidhi's birth centenary.
- ✓ Muthuvel Karunanidhi is a writer, politician and former President of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.
- ✓ He served as CM of Tamil Nadu for over 5 terms.

➤ **Tamil Nadu Investment Conclave 2024**

- ✓ CM inaugurates 19 industrial projects, ask businessmen to be T.N.'s brand ambassadors.
- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin inaugurated 19 industrial projects entailing investments to the tune of 17,616 crore and laid the foundation for 28 projects worth 51,157 crore at the Tamil Nadu Investment Conclave 2024, that was held in Chennai on Wednesday.

➤ **Udhayanidhi launches initiatives to support start-up ecosystem in the State**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (StartupTN): "With the aim of providing global exposure and connection to start-up companies operating in our State, the Tamil Nadu government established the Global Startup Coordination Centre in Dubai. Similar centers will soon be established in Singapore and the United States." Mr. Udhayanidhi added,
- ✓ "The Tamil Nadu government is enabling companies to access international business markets to participate in business exhibitions.

➤ **Singapore's Sembcorp to invest on Green Ammonia Plant in Thoothukudi**

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government on Wednesday announced that Singapore-headquartered Sembcorp will invest 36,238 crore on a state-of-the-art green ammonia plant in Thoothukudi.
- ✓ The plant will initially produce 2,00,000 tonnes of green ammonia per annum for export to Japan.

➤ **State's Revised Scholarship Scheme**

- ✓ The number of graduates from the Scheduled Caste (SC) and the Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities availing themselves of the State government's scholarship scheme to study masters or doctoral degrees in top global universities has increased in the past couple of years.

- ✓ The State launched the overseas scholarship scheme for SC/ ST graduates in 2003.
- **U.S. Renewable Energy Firm to Invest 400 cr. in Tamil Nadu**
- ✓ American renewable energy firm Ohmium would set up a unit in Chengalpattu district at an investment of 400 crore to produce green hydrogen and manufacture electrolyzers.
- ✓ The unit is expected to generate 500 jobs.
- **Anna University gets Patent for Innovative Drone Technology**
- ✓ Researchers at the Madras Institute of Technology, Anna University, Chennai, have developed a path-breaking technology that is claimed to open up a new era of drone operations.
- ✓ The Indian Patent Office, Intellectual Property India, has granted patent for the airborne-based intelligent autonomous landing system.
- **Fortune 500 Company to Set up Global Capability Centre in T.N.**
- ✓ Assurant, a Fortune 500 insurance and finance firm, will set up a Global Capability Centre in Chennai.
- ✓ A memorandum of understanding was signed between the firm and Guidance Tamil Nadu in Chicago, in the presence of Chief Minister M.K. Stalin.
- ✓ The Atlanta-headquartered firm provides disaster management products and services.
- **Tamil Nadu releases Repowering, Refurbishment & Life Extension Policy for Wind Power Projects**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Repowering, Refurbishment & Life Extension Policy for Wind Power Projects – 2024 has been released to encourage developers to replace old wind turbines and promote optimum utilisation of wind energy resources.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu is one of the leading States in India's renewable energy sector, having a substantial renewable energy generation capacity of 22,754 MW as on 30 June, 2024.
- **Tamil Nadu Govt. Unveils Cyber Security Policy 2.0**
- ✓ The Cyber Security Policy 2.0, released by the Tamil Nadu government recently, lists the steps for ensuring the protection of assets of the government through guidelines, and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for audit, compliance and monitoring of cyber threats and attacks.
- **Tamil Nadu Sanctions 500 Crore For Irrigation Tank Rejuvenation**

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government has approved 500 crore to rejuvenate 5,000 minor irrigation tanks in rural areas.
- ✓ This project is aimed at improving water storage and managing local water resources, especially for agriculture.

- **Tamil Nadu Pumped Storage Projects Policy 2024**
- ✓ Following the policies for wind and small hydel power projects, the state government has introduced the 'Tamil Nadu Pumped Storage Projects Policy 2024' on Saturday.
- ✓ As part of its objectives, the policy states it aims to create an attractive investment environment for both public and private sector entities, including clear regulatory frameworks, financial incentives and streamlined approval processes to reduce the risks and uncertainties associated with investments.

- **TN Government Inked a Pact with Caterpillar**
- ✓ U.S. machinery manufacturer Caterpillar will set up its equipment manufacturing facilities in Tamil Nadu. An MoU with Autodesk to provide skill development for youth and to support MSMEs and startups was signed during Chief Minister MK Stalin's ongoing visit to the U.S.

- **Indus Valley Civilisation: CM Hails Sir John Marshall**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday hailed the late English archaeologist, Sir John Marshall, over the discovery of the Indus Valley Civilisation.
- ✓ In a social media post, Mr. Stalin recalled that it was exactly 100 years ago, on September 20, 1924, that the late archaeologist announced the discovery of the Indus Valley Civilisation, "reshaping the history of the Indian subcontinent".

- **Gingee Fort, Nominated for World Heritage Site Tag**
- ✓ A team from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), including an expert from the International Commission on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), is set to visit the Gingee Fort in Villupuram district, which has been nominated by the Central government, along with 11 other forts that make up the Maratha Military Landscapes, for the UNESCO World Heritage Site tag for 2024-25.

- **Delta Region to get First Mini TIDEL Park**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu is set to open two mini TIDEL parks – one in Thanjavur and the other in Salem. They will be inaugurated by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin.

- ✓ The mini TIDEL park in Thanjavur – the first in the delta region – has been set up at a cost of 30.50 crore.
- ✓ Situated in Pillaiyarpatti village, the park spans 55,000 sq. ft across three floors.
- ✓ The facility in Salem has been built at a cost of 29.50 crore.

➤ **Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission**

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission is pursuing the Ramsar designation for two more bird sanctuaries in Ramanathapuram, with the aim of enhancing conservation in the region.
- ✓ The designation is granted under the Ramsar Convention, an international treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands. Ramanathapuram is home to five bird sanctuaries – Therthangal, Sakkarakottai, Melaselvanoor-Keelaselvanoor, Kanjirankulam, and Chitrangudi.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu boasts 18 Ramsar sites, the highest in India.

➤ **Tamil Nadu Now Houses 50 SIPCOT Industrial Parks**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu's 50th SIPCOT industrial park will go live at Panapakkam near Ranipet town along with the Tata Motors-JLR project this week.
- ✓ According to details provided by the State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu (SIPCOT), some of the major upcoming industrial parks are at Adhagapadi in Dharmapuri; Allikulam in Thoothukudi; E. Kumaralingapuram in Virudhunagar; Nagamangalam in Krishnagiri; and Melma in Tiruvannamalai.

➤ **TN-Alert, a Mobile App**

- ✓ The government has devised a mobile app 'TN-Alert' in order to provide people with real-time information on weather and rainfall in Tamil Nadu and it will help them plan precautionary measures accordingly.
- ✓ Weather forecast, amount of rainfall received and storage in dams forms part of info that could be accessed from the mobile app.

➤ **Tamil Nadu Tops in Factory Employment**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu employed the highest number of people in manufacturing, according to the results of the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) 2022-23, released by the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation on Monday.
- ✓ As per the ASI, 1,84,94,962 people were engaged in factories across India, and Tamil Nadu accounted for 15% of them.
- ✓ The State also had the highest number of factories, accounting for 15.66% of a total of 2,53,334 units, the survey said.

➤ **Home Based Elderly Care Support Assistant**

- ✓ On the occasion of International Day for Older Persons, the Tamil Nadu government on Tuesday launched a three-month certificate course for “Home Based Elderly Care Support Assistant.”
- ✓ The course, which will be offered in the 36 government medical colleges in the State, will have a total intake of 975 candidates.

➤ **Tamil Nadu Unveils Pig Breeding Policy**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu has unveiled a ‘pig breeding policy’ aimed at enhancing pig rearing in the state to ensure nutritional security.
- ✓ The policy includes infrastructure development, such as establishment of a bacon factory, promoting value addition of pork products for higher farmer profitability, development of a cooperative-based market chain, and implementing quarantine facilities for imported animals.

➤ **First to earn Tag of ‘Govt. Scientific Expert’ in Wildlife Forensics**

- ✓ The Advanced Institute of Wildlife Conservation (AIWC) in Vandalur, an institution set up by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department, has become the first institution from southern India to be officially recognised as a government scientific expert.

➤ **T.N. will add 30 GW of Renewable Energy Capacity in the next six years**

- ✓ The State will add 30 gigawatt (GW) of renewable energy capacity in the next six years, said Aneesh Sekhar, Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Ltd.
- ✓ The total renewable energy capacity is 24 GW.
- ✓ The set target of 50% of energy consumption coming from renewable energy sources by 2030.

➤ **Pink Autorickshaws**

- ✓ The state government will partially fund ‘pink autorickshaws’ that will be operated by women in Chennai to ensure the safe travel of women and children.
- ✓ The government will provide `1 lakh each as grant to 250 women residing in Chennai to buy CNG/hybrid autorickshaws.

➤ **Border Martyrs Day**

- ✓ Leaders in Tamil Nadu paid tributes to those who sacrificed for the state's inclusion of Tamil-speaking areas on Border Martyrs Day.
- ✓ The day marks the state's formation based on linguistic reorganization on November 1, 1956.

➤ **Padham Padhukaapom Thittam**

- ✓ The Tamilnadu State government has issued a G.O to start the Paadham Paadhukappom Thittam for diabetes patients.
- ✓ This scheme aims to facilitate early identification of diabetic foot and prevent amputation.

➤ **Kanavu Asiriyar Programme**

- ✓ A total of 54 teachers under the Kanavu Asiriyar 2023 (Dream Teacher) programme of the School Education Department left for an educational tour to France on October 22, and are set to return on Monday.
- ✓ Fifty of the teachers are from government schools and four from government-aided schools.

➤ **ASI Plans Excavation on Megalithic Burial Site at Amoor Village**

- ✓ The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Chennai Circle has planned to undertake excavation at Amoor, a protected site located on the banks of lower Palar River valley near Thiruporur in Chengalpattu district.
- ✓ The ASI, in 1921, had discovered a megalithic burial site having cists and cairns in a 130-acre odd parcel of land located in Amoor village, in the lower Palar valley, official sources said.

➤ **Uttachathai Uruthi Sei**

- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin launched the Phase II of 'Uttachathai Uruthi Sei' – nutritional intervention programme for malnourished children and their mothers at Ariyalur.
- ✓ Buoyed by the success of the nutrition interventional programme for malnourished children and their mothers in the state, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin launched the second phase of the "Uttachathai uruthi sei" for Rs 22 crore at Vaaranavasi Children's Center, in the district on Friday.

➤ **Tamil Nadu's Green Energy Corridor-II Initiative**

- ✓ The Green Energy Corridor-II (GEC-II) Scheme is a project for Tamil Nadu, which aims to enhance the state's renewable energy transmission capacity.
- ✓ The initiative is part of a larger national effort to integrate renewable energy sources into the grid.
- ✓ The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has outlined this plan in its recent report.

➤ **Tamil Nadu's AI Mission: Centre of Excellence**

- ✓ Kumar Jayant, Additional Chief Secretary of the Department of Information Technology and Digital Services, announced Tamil Nadu's initiative to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) with an AI lab.
- ✓ This move is aimed at fostering research, development, and supporting startups and academic institutions.

- **Ainthinai Scheme: Govt. to Set Up Units for Value Addition to Tribal Agro Products**
- ✓ The Department of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare is taking steps to finalise the establishment of value-addition units for tribal agro products under its Tolkudiyinar Velanmai Melanmai Thittam, also called as project Ainthinai – a land-based cluster approach for socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities.

- **T.N. plans Hub to Tackle Health Risks Linked to Climate Change**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government will set up a 'One Health and Climate Hub' at the Department of Health and Family Welfare to address the interconnected challenges of human, animal, and environmental health in the face of climate change.

- **Vizhuthugal – One Stop Centre**
- ✓ Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday inaugurated the 'Vizhuthugal – One Stop Centre', at Kannagi Nagar in Sholinganallur in Chennai, with the objective of providing health-related rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities.

- **India's First Vertical Lift Rail Bridge, Pamban 2.0**
- ✓ The new Pamban rail bridge is likely to be operational within a fortnight, after inspection by Southern Circle Railway Safety Commissioner A M Chaudhari on November 13 and 14.
- ✓ The first of its kind in India, this vertical lift bridge is inspired by the dynamic rail bridges of Germany and Spain.

- **Tamil Nadu Endangered Species Conservation Fund**
- ✓ The State government has issued an order to establish the Tamil Nadu Endangered Species Conservation Fund with an initial corpus of 50 crore, aiming to protect the endangered and critically endangered species.

- **Kalaigiar Kaivinai Thittam**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu launched the "Kalaigiar Kaivinai Thittam" to empower artisans and craftsmen.

- ✓ The scheme has been launched to benefit all sections of people who are engaged in 25 trades/crafts.
- ✓ The artisans will get credit support of Rs 3 lakh, including a subsidy of 25 per cent (a maximum of Rs 50,000).

- **India's First Diabetes Biobank has been set up in Chennai**
- ✓ Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in partnership with the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation (MDRF) has established India's first diabetes biobank in Chennai.
- ✓ This biobank will study the cause of diabetes and its unique pattern in India.
- ✓ The biobank contains blood samples from two major ICMR-funded studies.

- **17 SIPCOT Parks to be equipped with Creche Facilities**
- ✓ The State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu (SIPCOT) plans to establish creche facilities at 17 of its industrial parks.
- ✓ This is in addition to the already existing 63 creches located across 13 SIPCOT industrial parks.

STATE

➤ **Kerala's Vizhinjam International Port**

- ✓ First Mothership Docks at Kerala's Vizhinam International Port.
- ✓ The 'San Fernando' from China is the first container ship to dock at Vizhinjam International Sea Port.
- ✓ The Vizhinjam International Seaport Thiruvananthapuram it is planned to be India's first deep water container transshipment port, currently under trial run in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

➤ **First State in India to publish People's Biodiversity Register (PBR)**

- ✓ Kerala is set to become the first State in India to publish the People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) across all local bodies.
- ✓ This document is dynamic, requiring periodic updates on ecosystem details, landscapes, species, and traditional knowledge.

➤ **Odisha Launches India's First 'Rice ATM'**

- ✓ Odisha has introduced India's first round-the-clock grain dispensing machine, known as the Annapurta Grain ATM, designed to transform the Public Distribution System (PDS) for ration cardholders.
- ✓ Officially launched by Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister Krushna Chandra Patra, this innovative machine is located at a warehouse in Mancheswar and developed in collaboration with the World Food Programme.

➤ **Madhya Pradesh Pioneers Cash for Sanitary Napkins Scheme**

- ✓ The state of Madhya Pradesh, under the leadership of Dr Mohan Yadav, has taken a revolutionary step in addressing menstrual health and hygiene.
- ✓ In a first-of-its-kind move in India, the state government has launched a scheme to provide cash directly to adolescent girls for purchasing sanitary napkins.

➤ **78th Independence Day**

- ✓ On 15th August 2024, 78th Independence Day celebrated in India.
- ✓ The Prime Minister hoisted the national flag at the iconic Red Fort and inspected the Guard of Honour.
- ✓ The Government of India has declared the theme for this year to be Viksit Bharat, or Developed India.

➤ **Delhi Airport 1st In Country To Get 'Net Zero Carbon Emission' Status**

- ✓ Delhi's IGI Airport has become the first Indian airport to achieve the status of 'Net Zero Carbon Emission Airport' (Level 5 certification) under the Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) programme of Airport Council International (ACI).
 - ✓ Initially the airport had set a target of achieving a net zero carbon emission by 2030.
- **Krishi-Decision Support System (DSS)**
- ✓ Centre unveils new system to study weather, crop patterns.
 - ✓ The Union Agriculture Ministry launched a digital geo-spatial platform, Krishi-Decision Support System (DSS), which will share real-time data-driven insights on weather patterns, soil conditions, crop health, crop acreage, and advisories with all stakeholders such as farmers, experts, and policymakers.
 - ✓ The platform can also be helpful in monitoring drought.
- **Strategic Alliance for Smart Laboratory on Clean Rivers (SLCR) in Varanasi**
- ✓ The Green Strategic Partnership between India and Denmark has led to the creation of the Smart Laboratory on Clean Rivers (SLCR) in Varanasi.
 - ✓ The project features a hybrid lab model at IIT-BHU and an on-field living lab at the Varuna River, fostering collaboration among government bodies, academic institutions, and local communities.
- **In Himachal Pradesh Minimum age of Marriage for Women increased**
- ✓ In Himachal Pradesh, the minimum age of marriage for women has been increased from 18 to 21 years.
 - ✓ On 27 August 2024, Himachal Pradesh State Assembly passed a Bill for increasing the minimum age.
 - ✓ The Bill amends the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.
- **'Aparajita' Bill**
- ✓ West Bengal Assembly has unanimously passed the 'Aparajita Woman and Child Bill (West Bengal Criminal Laws and Amendment) 2024', marking a significant development in the state's legal framework against sexual crimes.
 - ✓ This bill introduces the death penalty for individuals convicted of rape if their actions result in the victim's death or leave her in a vegetative state.
- **World's First Asian King Vulture Conservation Centre**
- ✓ On September 6, 2024, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the Jatayu Conservation and Breeding Centre in Bharivaisi, Campiorganj Range of the Gorakhpur Forest Division.

- ✓ This groundbreaking facility marks a significant milestone in wildlife conservation as the world's first dedicated conservation and breeding center for the Asian King Vulture, also known as the red-headed vulture.
- **Goa Maritime Symposium 2024**
- ✓ The Indian Navy hosted the fifth edition of the Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS) 2024 from 23-24 September under the aegis of the Naval War College, Goa.
- ✓ Conducted in the newly inaugurated Chola building, this year's theme was "Common Maritime Security Challenges in the IOR – Progressing Lines of Effort to Mitigate Dynamic Threats such as Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing and Other Illegal Maritime Activities."
- **NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform Chapter**
- ✓ Telangana becomes the first state to get NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform chapter.
- ✓ NITI Aayog in association with WE Hub and the Telangana government, launched the first State Chapter of Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP).
- ✓ The platform aims to promote and support women entrepreneurs across sectors.
- **Kaimur Approved as Bihar's Second Tiger Reserve**
- ✓ The central government has given its in-principle approval for Bihar's second tiger reserve in Kaimur district.
- ✓ This decision follows a proposal from the Bihar government to develop the Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary (KWLS) into a tiger reserve.
- **India's First Integrated Waste Management City**
- ✓ Gorakhpur City in Uttar Pradesh is set to establish India's first Integrated Waste Management City-cum-Learning Centre by September 2025, aiming to create a garbage-free environment.
- ✓ The primary goal is to process various waste types, producing charcoal and Bio-CNG.
- **India's First Yoga Policy to Become Global Yoga Hub**
- ✓ Uttarakhand, famously known as "Devbhoomi," is set to become the first Indian state to implement a dedicated Yoga Policy, aimed at transforming the state into a global yoga destination.
- **Go-To Global Destinations for 2025**
- ✓ Madhya Pradesh has been recognized as one of the 'Go-To Global Destinations for 2025' by the Wall Street Journal (WSJ).

- ✓ The honour highlights the state's rich heritage, unique wildlife and exceptional natural beauty. This global recognition reinforces Madhya Pradesh's position as a world-class tourist destination.



NATIONAL

➤ **India's Green Hydrogen Push**

- ✓ The World Bank has approved a second round of \$1.5 billion in financing to help India accelerate its development of low-carbon energy.
- ✓ The initiative aligns with India's National Green Hydrogen Mission and energy transition targets, including achieving 500 GW of installed renewable energy capacity by 2030 and reaching net zero by 2070.

➤ **First Country to Prepare a List of its Entire Animal Species**

- ✓ In a major milestone, India has managed to prepare a comprehensive list of animal species that exist in India.
- ✓ With this, India has become the only country to make a checklist of entire national fauna. The list covers 1,04,561 species.

➤ **Three New Criminal Laws will come into effect on Monday (July 1)**

- ✓ **The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA)**, passed in Parliament last December, will replace the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860, the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), 1973, and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 respectively.

➤ **Asia's Largest Flight Training School**

- ✓ Air India is establishing South Asia's largest flight training school in Maharashtra's Amravati district with an investment of over 200 crore.
- ✓ Scheduled to open in the first quarter of the next financial year, this initiative aims to secure a steady pipeline of pilots for the airline, which will require 500-700 pilots annually to support its expansion plans following a mega order of 470 Airbus and Boeing aircraft in 2023.

➤ **NIRMAN Portal**

- ✓ Union Minister for Coal and Mines, G Kishan Reddy has launched a portal "Noble Initiative for Rewarding Mains Aspirants of National Civil Services Examination (NIRMAN)" in New Delhi.
- ✓ In alignment with the vision "Mission Karmayogi" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, this is a unique CSR scheme by Coal India Limited for meritorious youth of its operating districts who have qualified the Preliminary round of UPSC examination (for Civil Services & Forest Service) in 2024.

➤ **Project PARI**

- ✓ Project PARI (Public Art of India), an initiative by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, being executed by Lalit Kala Akademi and National Gallery of Modern Art seeks to bring forth public art that draws inspiration from millennia of artistic heritage (lok kala/lok sanskriti) while incorporating modern themes and techniques.
- **SEHER Program**
- ✓ Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) and TransUnion CIBIL have launched SEHER, a credit education program designed to empower women entrepreneurs in India.
- ✓ SEHER aims to provide financial literacy content and business skills, facilitating access to essential financial tools for growth and employment creation.
- **India Launches First National Toll-Free Anti-Narcotics Helpline**
- ✓ India is set to launch its first national toll-free anti-narcotics helpline, '1933', alongside an email service under the name MANAS (Madak Padarth Nisedh Asuchna Kendra).
- **UGC's ASMITA Project**
- ✓ The Ministry of Education and the University Grants Commission (UGC) have launched an ambitious project aimed at enhancing Indian language literature in higher education.
- ✓ The initiative, named ASMITA (Augmenting Study Materials in Indian Languages through Translation and Academic Writing), aims to develop 22,000 books in Indian languages over the next five years.
- **India's Longest and Largest Urban Tunnel**
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's longest and largest urban tunnel project, the Thane Borivali Twin Tunnel, developed by the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA).
- ✓ This Rs. 16,600 crore project will reduce travel time between Thane and Borivali from over an hour to just 12 minutes, cutting the travel distance by 12 km.
- **Royal Burial Mounds of Assam now on UNESCO World Heritage List**
- ✓ The Charaideo Moidams, a 700-year-old mound-burial system of the Ahom dynasty from Assam, were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List on Friday, making them the 43rd property from India to be included in the prestigious index.
- ✓ The announcement was made at the 46th session of the World Heritage Committee being held in Delhi.

- ✓ “This historic recognition brings global attention to the unique 700-year-old mound burial system of the Ahom kings at Charaideo.
- **New Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre**
 - ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated a new Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) of the Coast Guard in Chennai on Sunday.
 - ✓ At the event, he also inaugurated two new Coast Guard units – the Regional Marine Pollution Response Centre (RMPPRC) in Chennai and a Coast Guard Air Enclave in Puducherry – through video-conferencing.
- **Six New Parliamentary Committees for 2024-25**
 - ✓ The **Lok Sabha speaker** on August 17, named the constituents of the **six new Parliamentary Committees** including the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) which examines government expenditure. Ganesh Singh, BJP MP from Satna, Madhya Pradesh has been appointed as the chairperson of the **Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes**.
- **Six New Parliamentary Committees for 2024-25**
 - ✓ Public Account committee
 - ✓ Committee on Public Undertakings
 - ✓ Committee on Estimates
 - ✓ Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
 - ✓ Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes
 - ✓ Joint Committee on Office of Profit
- **Union Cabinet approves proposal to Bolster Biotech Manufacturing**
 - ✓ The Union Cabinet on Saturday cleared a proposal to bolster biotechnology-based manufacturing, called BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) Policy for Fostering High Performance Biomanufacturing.
 - ✓ To be steered by the Department of Biotechnology, the aim is to have it catalyse a technology revolution “just as the IT industry revolutionised life in the 1990s”.
 - ✓ High performance biomanufacturing is the ability to produce products from medicine to materials, address farming and food challenges, and promote manufacturing of bio-based products through integration of advanced biotechnological processes. “
- **Five New Districts for Ladakh**
 - ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Monday that five new districts – Zaskar, Drass, Sham, Nubra and Changthang – would be created in the Union Territory of Ladakh for “bolstering governance in every nook and cranny”.

- ✓ Ladakh now has two districts – Leh and Kargil – with autonomous hill development councils.
- **She-Box Portal**
 - ✓ The government has launched the She-Box portal to make workplaces safer for women.
 - ✓ Women and Child Development Minister Annpurna Devi launched the portal in New Delhi today. She-Box portal is a centralized platform for registering and monitoring complaints of sexual harassment of women at the workplace.
 - ✓ This platform provides facility to file complaints, track its status and ensure a time-bound processing of complaints by Internal Committees.
- **Indian Government Launches 'AgriSure' Fund to Support Agritech Startups**
 - ✓ The **Indian government has introduced a 750 crore (approximately \$90 million) fund named 'AgriSure' to support agritech startups.**
 - ✓ The fund aims to provide financial assistance in the form of both **equity and debt capital** to startups and agripreneurs in the agriculture sector.
 - ✓ Alongside AgriSure, the government launched an integrated agri-investment portal called **KrishiNivesh**.
 - ✓ The portal is designed to serve diverse stakeholders such as farmers, entrepreneurs, and industries by providing **easy access to information** on various Central and state government schemes.
- **New Treatment Regimen for Multidrug-Resistant TB**
 - ✓ The Union Health Ministry on Friday approved the introduction of a new treatment regimen for multidrug-resistant tuberculosis in India.
 - ✓ The BPaLM regimen consisting of four drugs – Bedaquiline, Pretomanid, Linezolid, and Moxifloxacin – has proven to be a safe, more effective and quicker treatment option than the previous MDR-TB treatment procedure, the Ministry said.
- **Rangeen Machhli App**
 - ✓ Launch of “Rangeen Machhli” App: A Milestone for India’s Ornamental Fisheries Sector.
 - ✓ In a significant development for India’s ornamental fisheries sector, Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh Alias Lalan Singh, unveiled the “Rangeen Machhli” mobile application.
 - ✓ The launch event took place at the prestigious ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA) in Bhubaneswar, marking a new era in the

dissemination of knowledge and resources for ornamental fish enthusiasts and professionals alike.

➤ **Port Blair Renamed As Sri Vijaya Puram**

- ✓ Home Minister of India Shri. Amit Shah has announced the decision on renaming the Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar Islands to Sri Vijaya Puram.
- ✓ The decision has been taken to free the nation from the colonial imprints as the Andaman and Nicobar Islands have an “unparalleled place” in the country’s freedom struggle and history.
- ✓ Sri Vijaya Puram symbolizes the victory achieved in India’s freedom struggle and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands’ unique role in it.

➤ **Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry (BHASKAR)**

- ✓ Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) will launch BHASKAR.
- ✓ Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry (BHASKAR) is a digital platform aimed at strengthening India’s startup ecosystem.
- ✓ BHASKAR initiative is designed to centralize, streamline, and enhance collaboration among stakeholders of entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- ✓ BHASKAR will bridge the gap between investors, startups, mentors, and other stakeholders.

➤ **India’s First Namo Bharat Rapid Rail**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called the current era as the golden period for India.
- ✓ PM was addressing a gathering after inaugurating the various developmental projects worth over 8 thousand crore rupees at GMDC ground in Ahmedabad.
- ✓ He also virtually flagged off the Country’s first Namo Bharat Rapid Rail between Ahmedabad and Bhuj and six other Vande Bharat Trains.
- ✓ Indian Railways has revolutionized the notion of metro travel by introducing Namo Bharat Rapid Rail.

➤ **'One nation, one election' Bill cleared by Union Cabinet**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet has cleared the proposal for simultaneous Lok Sabha and state assembly elections, based on a report led by ex-president Ram Nath Kovind.
- ✓ The bill is expected to be introduced in the upcoming winter session of Parliament.
- ✓ The report suggests 18 constitutional amendments, moving towards synchronized elections for Lok Sabha, state assemblies, and later local bodies.

➤ **White Revolution 2.0**

- ✓ 'White Revolution 2.0' has been launched by the Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah.
- ✓ It has been launched with an action plan for the formation and strengthening of 2 lakh new Multipurpose Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies, and dairy and fishery cooperatives.
- ✓ Under White Revolution 2.0, the government has set a target to increase milk procurement by dairy cooperative societies by 50 per cent over the next five years.
- ✓ This program is focused on four key areas - empowering women farmers, enhancing local milk production, strengthening dairy infrastructure and boosting dairy exports.

➤ **Government Released New Draft Guidelines on Passive Euthanasia**

- ✓ Union Health Ministry released a new draft of guidelines on passive euthanasia.
- ✓ The new guidelines suggest that doctors should make considered decisions on withdrawing life support for terminally ill patients based on specific conditions.
- ✓ The guidelines aim to ensure that decisions have been taken in the best interest of patients by considering factors like brainstem death and informed refusal by the patient or their kin.
- ✓ The 'Draft Guidelines for Withdrawal of Life Support in Terminally Ill Patients' also states that doctors should not consider the decision to not start a life-supporting measure in a terminally ill patient that is unlikely to benefit the patient.

➤ **India Launches Cruise Bharat Mission to Boost Tourism**

- ✓ The 'Cruise Bharat Mission' is a new project launched by the Indian government to promote cruise tourism in India.
- ✓ Union Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal officially inaugurated at Mumbai port on the cruise ship 'Empress'.
- ✓ The mission aims to tap into India's potential as a major cruise destination and increase the number of people who travel by cruise ships.
- ✓ The goal is to double cruise passenger traffic by the year 2029.

➤ **Swachh Bharat Mission Completes 10 Years Since Its Implementation**

- ✓ A clean India (Swachh Bharat) would be the best tribute India could pay to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150 birth anniversary in 2019," said Shri Narendra Modi as he launched the Swachh Bharat Mission at Rajpath in New Delhi.
- ✓ On 2nd October 2014, Swachh Bharat Mission was launched throughout the length and breadth of the country as a national movement.

- **Cabinet Endorses National Mission to Enhance Oilseed Production**
 - ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds), a landmark initiative aimed at boosting domestic oilseed production and achieving self-reliance (Atmanirbhar Bharat) in edible oils.
- **PM Launches Welfare Package for Tribal Villages**
 - ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday launched the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan, a package for basic scheme saturation in tribal-majority villages across 550 districts, at an event in Jharkhand's Hazaribag district.
 - ✓ The package, originally coined as the PM Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA), was cleared by the Union Cabinet last month as an umbrella package to implement existing schemes in 63,000 Scheduled Tribe-majority villages.
- **Marathi, Four more Languages get Classical Tag**
 - ✓ The Union Cabinet on Thursday approved classical language status to Marathi, Bengali, Assamese, Pali, and Prakrit.
 - ✓ The demand for classical status for Marathi has been pending since 2013 and the approval comes just ahead of the Assembly election in Maharashtra.
 - ✓ The approval for Bengali comes amid Durga Puja, the biggest festival in West Bengal.
 - ✓ India has had six classical languages till now – Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Sanskrit, and Odia. Tamil was the first language to be given classical status in 2004, followed by Sanskrit in 2005.
- **All Agri Sector Initiatives Brought Under 2 New Schemes**
 - ✓ The Union Cabinet on Thursday decided to merge all Central schemes in the agriculture sector into two new schemes, Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PMRKVY) and Krishonnati Yojana (KY).
 - ✓ The PM-RKVY, with an allocation of 57,074.72 crore, is aimed at promoting sustainable agriculture and the KY will address food security and agricultural self-sufficiency, with a fund of 44,246.89 crore.
 - ✓ Both schemes will be implemented through the State governments.
- **NCERT joined hands with Amazon**
 - ✓ NCERT joined hands with Amazon to improve textbook availability across the country.

- ✓ National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has tied up with Amazon Seller Services Pvt. Ltd to provide original NCERT textbooks at the printed price.
 - ✓ Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced that these books will be available across the country.
- **Govt. Approves Continuation of Free Fortified Rice Supply**
- ✓ The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the continuation of supply of free fortified rice under various welfare programmes from July 2024 to December 2028.
 - ✓ The move is aimed at addressing anaemia and micronutrient deficiency.
 - ✓ Fortified rice will be provided free under programmes such as the Targeted Public Distribution System, Integrated Child Development Service, and PM POSHAN, in all the States and UTs.
- **Centre sets up Three AI Research Hubs on Health, Agri and Cities**
- ✓ The Centre on Tuesday announced setting up of three centres of excellence (CoE) in artificial intelligence (AI) in healthcare, agriculture and sustainable cities.
 - ✓ While the CoE in healthcare will be led by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Delhi, the IIT in Ropar, Punjab will lead the one on agriculture.
 - ✓ The IIT-Kanpur has been given the charge of developing a CoE in sustainable cities.
 - ✓ The CoEs will function with industries and start-ups.
- **Justice Will no Longer be 'Blind': Supreme Court Embraces New Symbolism**
- ✓ The Supreme Court (SC) of India has unveiled a redesigned version of the 'Lady Justice' statue, marking a significant departure from its colonial past.
 - ✓ Traditionally depicted with a blindfold and a sword, the new statue now features 'Lady Justice' with open eyes and the Constitution of India in place of the sword, reflecting the judiciary's commitment to constitutional values and justice that "sees everyone equally".
- **Cabinet nod for 1,000-cr. VC Fund for Space Firms**
- ✓ The Union Cabinet has approved a 1,000-crore venture capital fund to support firms in the space tech domain, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced on Thursday.
 - ✓ The fund, to be set up under the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre.

- ✓ It will deploy the amount over a period of five years, with a planned deployment of 150 crore in the financial year 2025-26, followed 250 crore each in the next three financial years and 100 crore in 2029-30.
- **Centre to Re-launch Mission to preserve Ancient Manuscripts**
- ✓ The Union Ministry of Culture is set to “revive and relaunch” the National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) and is mulling the formation of an autonomous body to help preserve ancient texts in India.
- ✓ Presently, NMM is a part of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts. The new body, likely to be named the National Manuscripts Authority, will be an autonomous entity under the Ministry, sources told The Hindu.
- **Govt. Doubles Loan Limit under Mudra Yojana to 20 lakh**
- ✓ The government has doubled the loan limit under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) to 20 lakh to promote entrepreneurship in the country.
- ✓ This increase aspires to further the overall objective of the Mudra Scheme which is funding the unfunded, the Finance Ministry said in a statement.
- ✓ “The limit of Mudra loans will be enhanced to 20 lakh from the current 10 lakh for those entrepreneurs who have availed and successfully repaid previous loans under the ‘Tarun category.’
- **India’s First Writer’s Village Opens in Dehradun**
- ✓ India’s first ‘Writer’s Village’ was inaugurated in Dehradun by former President Ram Nath Kovind, along with Uttarakhand Governor Lt Gen Gurmeet Singh (retd) and Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami.
- ✓ This unique village aims to foster creativity and provide a nurturing environment for writers from across the country, establishing Dehradun as a new cultural hub for literary talent.
- **Gujarat Semiconductor Policy 2022-2027**
- ✓ Gujarat has become India’s 1 state to implement a dedicated semiconductor policy.
- ✓ ‘Gujarat Semiconductor Policy 2022-2027’ has been introduced by Gujarat government.
- ✓ The policy aims to solidify position of Gujarat as a leader in semiconductor self-reliance.
- **Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve: India’s 56th Tiger Reserve**

- ✓ Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, **Shri Bhupender Yadav**, recently announced the notification of the **Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve** in Chhattisgarh as the **56th Tiger Reserve** in India.
- ✓ This monumental step in wildlife conservation marks a significant milestone for the country's efforts to preserve its tiger population and biodiversity.

➤ **Special Dolphin Ambulance Project**

- ✓ The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) is introducing a special Dolphin Ambulance with a budget of 1 crore to rescue and assist distressed Ganga River Dolphins, India's national aquatic animal.
The initiative, 'Advancing Rescue System for the Protection of Stranded Ganges River Dolphins,' also aims to boost awareness and community training for dolphin conservation.

➤ **VISION Portal**

- ✓ Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the Viksit Bharat Initiative for Student Innovation and Outreach Network (VISION) in New Delhi.
- ✓ The initiative is aimed at nurturing education, skill development, and innovation among underprivileged children.
- ✓ He emphasized how the portal could act as a gateway for those in remote areas to access mentorship and training.

➤ **India's First Constitution Museum**

- ✓ India's first Constitution Museum was inaugurated by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.
- ✓ The inauguration of the Constitution Museum is dedicated to the nation with an aim to encourage the youth of India, the leaders of tomorrow, to embrace the Constitution of India as a beacon of knowledge that will shape and govern the future of our country.
- ✓ The year 2024 commemorates the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution.

➤ **57th Tiger Reserve: Ratapani Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh**

- ✓ The Union Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav, has officially announced the notification of the Ratapani Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh as India's 57th Tiger Reserve.
- ✓ This remarkable step emphasizes India's commitment to tiger conservation and highlights the nation's dedication to preserving its rich biodiversity.

➤ **Boilers Bill, 2024**

- ✓ A bill to replace the 100-year-old Boiler Act passed by the Rajya Sabha.
 - ✓ On 4 December, a bill to provide for regulation of boilers, protection of life and property from danger of explosion of steam boilers, and uniformity in registration was approved by the Rajya Sabha.
 - ✓ The aim of the Boilers Bill, 2024, is to repeal the century-old Boilers Act, 1923.
 - ✓ The bill also provides for ensuring the safety of people working inside boilers.
- **Anna Chakra Platform**
- ✓ Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi has unveiled '**Anna Chakra**', a groundbreaking supply chain optimization tool for the Public Distribution System (PDS).
 - ✓ Developed in partnership with the World Food Programme and IIT-Delhi, the system leverages advanced algorithms to optimize food-grain movement across the country's logistics network.
- **Railways Amendment Bill 2024**
- ✓ The current Bill proposes to simplify the legal framework by incorporating the proposals of the Indian Railway Board Act, 1905 in the Railways Act, 1989.
 - ✓ It aims to provide statutory backing to the Railway Board, which has functioned without such sanction since its inception.
 - ✓ The Bill proposes the decentralising financial and operational decision-making to zones, empowering them to manage the budgets, infrastructure works, and recruitment.
- **Senior Citizens' Free Treatment Scheme gets 25 Lakh Members**
- ✓ As many as 25 lakh persons have enrolled so far for the Ayushman Vay Vandana Card senior citizens aged 70 and above which was launched on October 29.
 - ✓ This followed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's announcement of the expansion of the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) to include all senior citizens in this age category.
- **PM launches LIC's 'Bima Sakhi Yojana'**
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched the 'Bima Sakhi Yojana' of LIC here under which two lakh woman insurance agents will be appointed over the next three years. 'Bima Sakhi Yojana', an initiative of State-owned LIC, is designed to empower women aged 18-70 years who are Class X pass.
- **Multipurpose Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (MPACS) Launched**
- ✓ The Government of India has recently inaugurated 10,000 new Multipurpose Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (MPACS) to enhance rural development,

aims to modernize the cooperative sector and improve financial access for farmers.

✓ The launch coincides with Atal Bihari Vajpayee's birth centenary.

➤ **India's Record Coal Production in 2023-24**

- ✓ India's coal production reached unprecedented levels in the fiscal year 2023-24, totalling 997.826 million tonnes.
- ✓ This marked an impressive increase of 11.71% from the previous year's output of 893.191 million tonnes.
- ✓ The government's 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative aims to enhance self-reliance in coal production.



SCHEMES

➤ **Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana**

- ✓ The Postal Department under the Union Ministry of Communication has launched the Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana to promote research and scholarship in philately among students across India.
- ✓ Announced by the Postmaster General of North Gujarat Region, Ahmedabad, Krishna Kumar Yadav, during the closing ceremony of the 'The Ideal and Great Stamps' Paintings exhibition, the scheme aims to foster the hobby of stamp collection among children.

➤ **'Vigyan Dhara' Scheme by Department of Science and Technology**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister has approved the continuation of three umbrella schemes merged into a unified central sector scheme called 'Vigyan Dhara' under the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- ✓ The scheme is designed to enhance efficiency in fund utilization and ensure better synchronization among the sub-schemes and programs.

➤ **SPICED Scheme**

- ✓ Spices Board Launches SPICED Scheme to Boost Spice Exports and Productivity.
- ✓ The Spices Board of India has introduced the SPICED scheme, a strategic initiative to enhance spice exports and productivity.
- ✓ This scheme, officially named 'Sustainability in Spice Sector through Progressive, Innovative and Collaborative Interventions for Export Development,' will be implemented throughout the remainder of the 15th Finance Commission cycle.

➤ **Unified Pension Scheme**

- ✓ Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, today approved the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS).
- ✓ The salient features of the UPS are: Assured pension: 50% of the average basic pay drawn over the last 12 months prior to superannuation for a minimum qualifying service of 25 years.
- ✓ This pay is to be proportionate for lesser service period upto a minimum of 10 years of service.

➤ **RESET Programme**

- ✓ Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya today launched the "Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training" (RESET) Programme on the occasion of National Sports Day in New Delhi.

- ✓ The programme will support retired athletes on their career development journey by empowering them with the necessary knowledge and skills and making them more employable.
- **DRDO Seven New Projects Awarded to Industries Under Technology Development Fund Scheme**
 - ✓ The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) has taken a significant step towards promoting self-reliance in the defense sector by awarding seven new projects to industries under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme.
 - ✓ These projects aim to address various requirements of the Armed Forces and the aerospace & defense sectors, while simultaneously nurturing the growth of industries, particularly MSMEs and start-ups, in these domains.
- **Agri Fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises (AgriSURE)**
 - ✓ The Government of India is set to launch the 'Agri Fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises' (AgriSURE) to support start-ups and agripreneurs through investments in sector-specific, sector-agnostic, and debt Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs), as well as direct equity support to start-ups working in agriculture and allied sectors.
 - ✓ This initiative aims to foster innovation and sustainability in India's agricultural sector through the establishment of a Rs 750 crore Category-II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF).
- **'One Scientist, One Product' Scheme**
 - ✓ The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is set to unveil a groundbreaking initiative that promises to revolutionize the landscape of agricultural and animal husbandry research in India.
 - ✓ The 'One Scientist-One Product' programme, scheduled for launch on July 16, marks a significant milestone in the organization's commitment to advancing agricultural science and technology.
- **Modified Interest Subvention Scheme**
 - ✓ The Centre plans to increase the upper limit of the short-term crop loans under the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) from Rs 3 lakh to Rs 5 lakh.
 - ✓ Modified Interest Subvention Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme, 100% funded by the Government of India.
 - ✓ It was launched in the year 2006-07 with a view to provide short term Agri-loans availed by farmers through Kisan Credit Card (KCC) for their working capital requirements at concessional rate of interest.

➤ **PM Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyaan**

- ✓ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday announced that the Union government will launch the PM Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyaan with the aim of achieving full saturation of basic facilities among five crore Scheduled Tribe families across 63,000 villages in tribal-majority areas and aspirational districts.
- ✓ The scheme, designed after the PM-JANMAN to achieve saturation of basic facilities for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups, will be for Scheduled Tribe populations across the country.

➤ **Model Skill Loan Scheme**

- ✓ 'Model Skill Loan Scheme' launched by Government to provide education and skill development opportunities to 25,000 youth.
- ✓ The revised Model Skill Loan Scheme launched by Minister of State and Minister of State for Education, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in New Delhi.
- ✓ It aims to provide access to skill courses to the youth of the country without any financial barriers.

➤ **Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme**

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government has brought the Tamil medium-aided school students from Classes VI to XII under the monthly assistance scheme of Rs 1,000 per month.
- ✓ The Tamil Pudhalvan scheme of the state government provides monthly financial assistance of Rs 1,000 to Tamil medium-educated government school students.
- ✓ With the expansion to government-aided schools, 3.28 lakh boys are expected to benefit from the scheme during the fiscal 2024-25.
- ✓ "An amount of Rs 360 crore has been sanctioned for the Tamil Pudhalvan scheme," reads a government order.

➤ **Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to launch a groundbreaking initiative called "Jal Sanchay Jan Bhagidari" in Surat, Gujarat.
- ✓ This initiative represents a significant step towards enhancing community involvement in water conservation efforts across India.
- ✓ The launch aligns with the ongoing "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" campaign, reinforcing the Prime Minister's vision of collaborative water management to ensure long-term water security for the nation.

- **Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) Programme**
 - ✓ To boost research in higher institutes, the PAIR programme launched.
 - ✓ The central government will launch the Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) programme designed to elevate research capabilities in higher education institutions (HEIs) by linking top-tier research institutions with those where research capability is limited, creating a collaborative mentorship environment.
- **Union Cabinet Approves Health Cover for All Aged 70 and Above**
 - ✓ The Union Cabinet has extended the benefits of the Ayushman Bharat PM Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) to all senior citizens aged 70 and above, irrespective of their income.
 - ✓ Announced by Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, the scheme will provide free treatment up to Rs 5 lakh per year, benefiting around 6 crore individuals and 4.5 crore families.
- **New Scheme to Provide 'Digital Identities' to Fisheries Industry Workers**
 - ✓ A key highlight was the launch of the National Fisheries Development Program (NFDP) portal, which will provide digital identities to fisheries industry workers and enterprises across the value chain.
 - ✓ This initiative is under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY), a sub-scheme of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), enabling fish workers to access benefits like institutional credit, performance grants, and aquaculture insurance.
- **Cabinet Approves 2,000-Crore 'Mission Mausam'**
 - ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved 'Mission Mausam' on September 11, 2024, with an outlay of 2,000 crore over two years.
 - ✓ The mission, led by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, aims to enhance research and development in atmospheric sciences and improve weather forecasting and management.
 - ✓ The initiative will integrate advanced observation systems, high-performance computing, and technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning to set new standards in weather prediction.
- **PM E-DRIVE Scheme for Electric Vehicle Revolution**
 - ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) Scheme to promote electric mobility in India.

- ✓ The scheme, with an outlay of Rs 10,900 crore over two years, aims to expedite EV adoption, improve air quality, and reduce the environmental impact of transportation.

➤ **NPS-Vatsalya Scheme**

- ✓ In pursuance of the announcement in the Union Budget 2024-25, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will launch the NPS-Vatsalya scheme on September 18 in New Delhi.
- ✓ NPS Vatsalya scheme will allow parents to save for their children's future by investing in a pension account and ensuring long-term wealth with the power of compounding.
- ✓ The scheme offers flexible contributions and investment options, allowing parents to invest Rs. 1,000 annually in the name of the child.

➤ **Bio-RIDE Scheme**

- ✓ Union Cabinet has approved the Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development (Bio-RIDE) scheme to boost biotechnology research, innovation, and entrepreneurship with an outlay of 9,197 crore for the 15th Finance Commission period (2021-22 to 2025-26).
- ✓ The scheme merges two existing programs – Biotechnology Research and Development (R&D) and Industrial and Entrepreneurship Development (I&ED) – and introduces a new component called 'Bio-manufacturing and Bio-foundry.'
- ✓ This initiative aims to foster innovation, **strengthen bio-entrepreneurship**, and elevate India's global position in bio-manufacturing and biotechnology.

➤ **Wildlife Habitats Development Scheme**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet has approved the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats scheme for the 15th Finance Commission Cycle.
- ✓ The scheme supports key initiatives like Project Tiger, Project Elephant, and Development of Wildlife Habitat.
- ✓ The initiative focuses on boosting technological interventions, including the use of AI, camera traps, and conservation genetics for wildlife monitoring.
- ✓ The scheme benefits 55 tiger reserves, 33 elephant reserves, and 718 protected areas, contributing to both wildlife conservation and climate resilience.

➤ **PM-RKVY and Krishonnati Yojana for Sustainable Agriculture**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet has recently approved the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare's proposal to consolidate various Centrally Sponsored Schemes

(CSS) into two main umbrella schemes: the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) and the Krishonnati Yojana (KY).

- ✓ This strategic move aims to promote sustainable agriculture through PM-RKVY and enhance food security and agricultural self-sufficiency via KY.

➤ **Humsafar Policy**

- ✓ 'Humsafar Policy' has been launched by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari.
- ✓ This policy has been launched to improve national highway travel and boost wayside amenities.
- ✓ The policy will enhance the convenience of traveling on national highways.
- ✓ It will accelerate the development of wayside amenities.
- ✓ Commuters will gain from the "Humsafar" policy by having access to standardised, clean, and well-maintained facilities.

➤ **From Learning to Leading the PM Internship Scheme**

- ✓ The Prime Minister's Internship Scheme was launched on October 3, 2024.
- ✓ This ambitious initiative, implemented through an online portal, aims to provide one crore young individuals with valuable internship opportunities over the next five years, allowing them to immerse themselves in diverse business environments and explore various professions.

➤ **"SAMARTH" (Scheme for Capacity Building in Textiles Sector)**

- ✓ "SAMARTH" (Scheme for Capacity Building in Textiles Sector) extended by the government till March 2026.
- ✓ SAMARTH is a demand-driven and employment-oriented mass skilling programme of the Ministry of Textiles.
- ✓ The objective of the scheme is to encourage and support the industry in employment generation in the organised textile and related sectors.

➤ **PM Young Achievers Scholarship Award Scheme for Vibrant India (PM-YASASVI)**

- ✓ The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has implemented the PM Young Achievers Scholarship Award Scheme for Vibrant India (PM-YASASVI).
- ✓ PM-YASASVI Scheme is a comprehensive umbrella scheme aimed at uplifting students from Other Backward Classes (OBC), Economically Backward Classes (EBC), and Denotified Tribes (DNT) by providing them with access to quality education during their formative years.
- ✓ PM YASASVI aims to ensure a more streamlined and impactful approach to supporting the educational needs of socially and economically disadvantaged students.

➤ **Ayushman Vaya Vandana Card**

- ✓ Under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), the Ayushman Vaya Vandana Card has been launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ It expanded the Ayushman Bharat scheme benefits of health coverage of up to 5 lakh annually for every citizen aged 70 years and above, irrespective of income or economic status.

➤ **Mobile App for Hassle-Free Birth and Death Registration Launched**

- ✓ On October 29, 2024, Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched the Civil Registration System (CRS) mobile application, aimed at integrating technology into governance and simplifying the registration of births and deaths.
- ✓ This initiative aligns with the government's Digital India vision, designed to provide citizens with a seamless and efficient way to register vital events at any time, from any location, and in their state's official language.

➤ **PM-Vidyalaxmi Scheme for Higher Education**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the PM-Vidyalaxmi scheme on November 6, 2024, aimed at providing financial support to meritorious students seeking higher education.
- ✓ The scheme ensures collateral-free, guarantor-free loans for students enrolling in top 860 Quality Higher Education Institutions (QHEIs) across India, covering tuition fees and other educational expenses.

➤ **Scheme for Strengthening the Medical Device Industry**

- ✓ The Scheme for Strengthening the Medical Device Industry has been launched by the government.
- ✓ This scheme will give a boost to the medical devices industry.
- ✓ It is a comprehensive scheme which targets critical areas of the medical device industry, covering manufacturing of key components and accessories, skill development, support for clinical studies, etc.

➤ **One Day One Genome**

- ✓ The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and the Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC) have launched the 'One Day One Genome' initiative to map and highlight India's microbial wealth.
- ✓ Announced by India's G-20 Sherpa, Amitabh Kant, the initiative aims to showcase the critical role of unique bacterial species in India's environment, agriculture, and human health.

- ✓ This project will leverage genome sequencing to explore and unlock the microbial world's immense potential for various advancements.

➤ **One Nation One Subscription**

- ✓ The Union Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) scheme, allocating 6,000 crore for 2025-2027.
- ✓ This initiative aims to provide seamless access to high-impact scholarly articles and journals for nearly 1.8 crore students, faculty, and researchers across 6,300 government-managed higher education and R&D institutions.

➤ **PAN 2.0 Project of Income Tax Department**

- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the PAN 2.0 Project of the Income Tax Department.
- ✓ The existing Permanent Account Number will be the same.
- ✓ The PAN 2.0 Project is an e-Government initiative.
- ✓ It aims to improve the digital experience of taxpayers.

➤ **Union Cabinet Launched the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF)**

- ✓ The National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) has been launched as a standalone Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- ✓ The mission has been launched with a financial outlay of 2,481 crore.
- ✓ The mission aims to move farmers towards natural farming methods.
- ✓ National Mission on Natural Farming has been designed to support farmers in reducing the cost of cultivation by decreasing reliance on externally purchased inputs.

➤ **Bima Sakhi Yojana**

- ✓ On 9th December, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the 'Bima Sakhi Yojana' in Panipat, Haryana, aimed at empowering women by creating job opportunities in the insurance sector.
- ✓ Under this scheme, women will become agents of the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), enabling them to sell insurance and earn an income.
- ✓ This initiative is part of the broader efforts to promote women's empowerment and economic independence.

➤ **Central 'Smile Sub-Scheme'**

- ✓ Central 'Smile Sub-Scheme': 970 lives rehabilitated, 169 families rehabilitated.
- ✓ The SMILE (Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise) sub-scheme is a central government initiative aimed at the comprehensive rehabilitation of individuals, including children, engaged in begging.

- **Yuva Sahakar: Cooperative Enterprise Support and Innovation Scheme**
- ✓ The “Yuva Sahakar – Cooperative Enterprise Support and Innovation Scheme” was recently introduced by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- ✓ The primary objective is to support newly formed cooperative societies.
- ✓ These societies must have been operational for at least three months.

- **FAME-III: New Milestone for Electric Mobility in India**
- ✓ India is aggressively advancing its electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem, and the launch of the PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) scheme marks a significant step in this journey.
- ✓ The scheme aims to promote electric mobility and reduce the country's dependence on fossil fuels.
- ✓ The Faster Adoption & Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME) scheme is gearing up for its third phase (FAME-III), expected to roll out within the next two months.
- ✓ The government is determined to ensure that India becomes a global leader in electric mobility, with a vision of a ‘Viksit Bharat.’

- **Jalvahak**
- ✓ Jalvahak has been introduced by Sarbananda Sonowal, the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways.
- ✓ Jalvahak is the cargo promotion scheme to increase freight traffic on three national waterways.
- ✓ The goal of Jalvahak is to encourage the transportation of long-distance cargo across national waterways on the Barak, Brahmaputra, and Ganga rivers.

- **Viksit Panchayat Karmayogi Initiative**
- ✓ The ‘Viksit Panchayat Karmayogi’ initiative was launched on Good Governance Day and commemorates the 100th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- ✓ The initiative aims to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) through enhanced governance tools and knowledge.

- **SVAMITVA Scheme**
- ✓ SVAMITVA scheme is an initiative aimed at empowering rural property owners and Prime Minister Narendra Modi will distribute over 58 lakh property cards, enhancing ownership rights in villages.

- ✓ The primary goal of the SVAMITVA scheme is to provide property ownership documentation, reduce property disputes, and improve village-level planning.



COURT VERDICT

➤ **Divorced Muslim Women Entitled to Secular Remedy: SC**

- ✓ The Supreme Court on Wednesday held that divorced Muslim women are entitled to maintenance under the “secular” Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.
- ✓ The court agreed with amicus curiae, senior advocate Gaurav Agrawal, that a remedy under the secular statutory provision of Section 125 of the Cr.PC cannot be foreclosed for divorced Muslim women by virtue of enactment of a personal law remedy under the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986.
- ✓ A divorced Muslim woman is entitled to all rights of maintenance available to other equally situated women in the country.

➤ **Watching ‘Child Sex Abuse’ Material is an Offence: SC**

- ✓ The Supreme Court on Monday held that viewing in private, downloading, storing, possessing, distributing or displaying pornographic acts involving children attract criminal liability under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and the Information Technology Act.

INTERNATIONAL

➤ **Japan Introduces Holographic Technology in New Banknotes**

- ✓ On July 3, Japan will introduce new banknotes featuring what it claims to be the world's pioneering use of advanced holography.
- ✓ This technology creates the illusion of historic figures' portraits rotating in 3D on the bills, serving as a key anti-counterfeit measure.
- ✓ This marks the first redesign of the banknotes in 20 years.

➤ **Keir Starmer next Prime Minister of the United Kingdom**

- ✓ After election results, Keir Starmer is set to be the next prime minister of the United Kingdom.
- ✓ Keir Starmer is all set to become the next Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. Labour Party secured over 412 seats out of 650 in the elections, which ended the rule of 14 years of Conservative government. 326 seats are required to form the government in the United Kingdom.

➤ **India Assumes Chair of Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre**

- ✓ India, represented by Rajendra Singh of the National Disaster Management Authority, has taken over the Chair of ADPC from China for 2024-25.
- ✓ ADPC, an autonomous organization, focuses on disaster risk reduction and climate resilience in Asia and Pacific.
- ✓ India and 8 countries Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand are the founding members of ADPC.

➤ **Jordan Becomes First Country to Eliminate Leprosy**

- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) has officially recognized Jordan as the first country in the world to eliminate leprosy.
- ✓ This recognition was praised by WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.
- ✓ Jordan's success is a huge milestone in public health.
- ✓ It shows that with the right strategies, countries can not only eliminate diseases but also reduce the negative social and economic effects of those diseases.

➤ **Dissanayake Sworn in as Sri Lanka's President**

- ✓ Sri Lanka's newly elected President Anura Kumara Dissanayake on Monday promised to strengthen democracy and "work hard to win people's trust", with the disclaimer that he is no "magician".

- **India and Germany will sign a Pact on Labour Mobility and Skill Recognition**
 - ✓ India and Germany will sign a pact on labour mobility and skill recognition to facilitate the movement of workers.
 - ✓ Under this agreement, skilled professionals will be hired by German industries.
 - ✓ It will be the first agreement under the G20 “Skills-based migration pathways” framework.

- **Kazan Declaration**
 - ✓ The 16th BRICS Summit concluded with the adoption of the Kazan Declaration.
 - ✓ It is a comprehensive document outlining key areas of cooperation and the bloc's unified stance on global issues.
 - ✓ The theme of the Declaration is "Strengthening Multilateralism for Just Global Development and Security".
 - ✓ The declaration emphasises the need for peaceful resolution through diplomacy.
 - ✓ The summit underscored the importance of the G20 in global decision-making

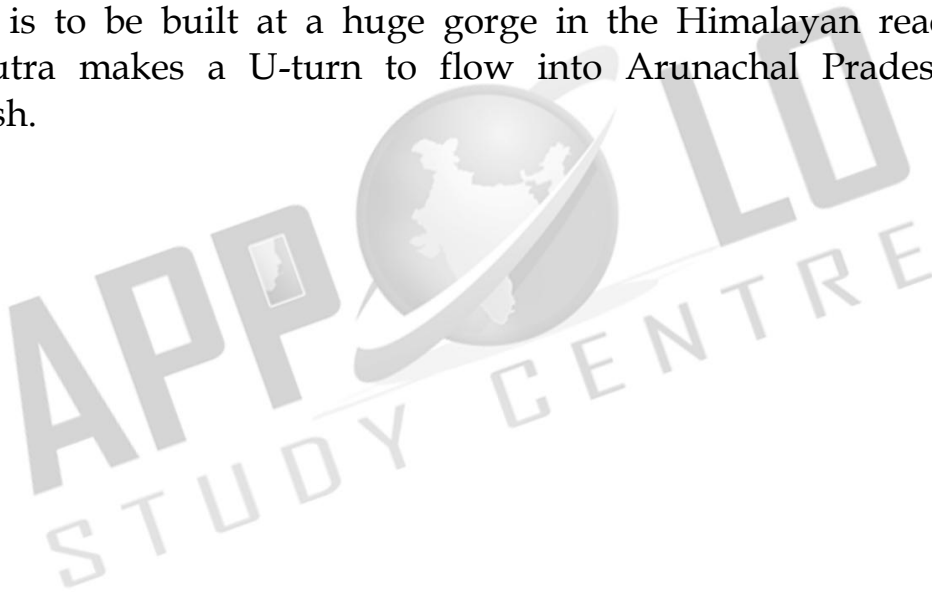
- **International Solar Alliance**
 - ✓ India has been elected as President of International Solar Alliance for 2 years until 2026.
 - ✓ France has been elected as co-President of International Solar Alliance for 2 years until 2026.
 - ✓ Ashish Khanna will succeed Dr. Ajay Mathur as ISA Director General. He will assume the role in 2025. India’s solar capacity has expanded from less than 2 GW in 2014 to 90 GW.

- **Brazil Officially Hands Over G20 Presidency to South Africa**
 - ✓ Brazil officially transferred the Group of 20 (G20) Presidency to South Africa during the closing ceremony of the annual G20 summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
 - ✓ This marks a historic milestone as South Africa becomes the first African nation to lead the G20, with a robust agenda planned for its presidency.

- **Australia Bars Under-16s From Social Media**
 - ✓ Australia has enacted a world-first legislation to ban children under 16 from social media platforms, such as TikTok, Facebook, and Instagram, as part of its effort to protect minors from online harm.
 - ✓ The law imposes hefty fines of up to **AUD 50 million for non-compliance**, with social media companies given a year to implement the changes.

- **India to chair UN Commission on Narcotic Drug**

- ✓ The Indian Embassy in Austria **announced that** India has been chosen to Chair the 68th Session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND).
 - ✓ India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna, Ambassador Shambhu S Kumaran, officially assumed the Chairmanship of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs.
 - ✓ This is the first time that India has been named to Chair this important UN body.
- **China Approves world's largest \$137 Billion Dam on Brahmaputra River**
- ✓ The Chinese government has given its green signal to the construction of the world's largest dam on the river Yarlung Zangbo/Tsangpo (known as the Brahmaputra in India) on the eastern rim of the Tibetan plateau.
 - ✓ The dam, part of China's 14th Five-Year Plan, could generate over 300 billion kWh of electricity annually.
 - ✓ The dam is to be built at a huge gorge in the Himalayan reaches where the Brahmaputra makes a U-turn to flow into Arunachal Pradesh and then to Bangladesh.



INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

➤ **India and Russia Aim for \$100 Billion Trade**

- ✓ India and Russia have set a target to increase bilateral trade to \$100 billion by 2030, emphasizing economic collaboration in energy, trade, manufacturing, and fertilizers.
- ✓ Discussions included balancing trade, reducing non-tariff barriers, and exploring an India-Eurasian Economic Union Free Trade Area.

➤ **India and Russia have Doubled Rupee-Rouble Payments in 2024**

- ✓ India and Russia have doubled their payments in national currencies (rupee-rouble) since last year despite sanctions by the U.S. and European Union, says Russia's state-controlled and largest bank, Sberbank, that handles a majority of payments for Indian exports to Russia.
- ✓ Rupee deposits by Indian corporates have also increased multifold in 2024.

➤ **India-Bhutan**

- ✓ Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri and his Bhutanese counterpart Aum Pema Choden co-chaired the 3rd India-Bhutan Development Cooperation Talks in Thimpu.
- ✓ During the meeting, the Bhutanese side presented the Project Tied Assistance (PTA) proposals as well as the first tranche of the PTA projects to be implemented during the 13th Five-Year Plan period.
- ✓ In a statement, External Affairs Ministry said, the two sides approved a total of 61 projects amounting 4,958 crore rupees in various sectors.

➤ **India and U.S. Sign Cultural Property Agreement to Protect Heritage**

- ✓ India and the U.S. signed a cultural property agreement that aims to enhance cooperation to protect the cultural heritage of both countries.
- ✓ The agreement aims to prevent the illegal trade of cultural property.
- ✓ It simplifies the process of returning looted and stolen antiquities to their country of origin.
- ✓ The U.S.-India Cultural Property Agreement was negotiated under U.S. law implementing the 1970 UNESCO Convention.

➤ **UK and India**

- ✓ Governments of India and the UK just started the Technology Security Initiative (TSI).

- ✓ The goal is to improve their **strategic relationship as technology** becomes more important for national security and economic growth.
 - ✓ The **India-UK Roadmap 2030** lists a number of areas where leaders from both countries want to work together, including technology.
 - ✓ This system will handle trade problems involving important and new technologies, allowing for a full discussion on the most important areas for cooperation.
- **New Water Technology Centre at IIT Madras**
- ✓ India and Israel joined hands for a new water technology centre at IIT Madras.
 - ✓ India and Israel have inked a pact to establish a new water technology centre at IIT-Madras. Both countries issued a Joint Statement of Intent to establish a Center of Water Technology at IIT, Madras.
 - ✓ This tripartite agreement has been signed by the Embassy of Israel, IIT Madras, and the AMRUT mission of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
 - ✓ The Center of Water Technology's aim is to become a hub for innovation, research, and capacity-building in water technologies.
- **India & Poland**
- ✓ PM Modi has landed in Warsaw, marking the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to the country since 1979.
 - ✓ This visit coincides with the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Poland and is aimed at revitalizing and elevating bilateral ties to a new level.
 - ✓ PM Modi laid a wreath and paid tribute to The Dobry Maharaja Memorial in Warsaw.
 - ✓ PM honoured the brave soldiers who fought in World War II. Indian and Polish troops fought side by side in this historic battle.
- **India-China Sign Border Deal After Four-Year Negotiations**
- ✓ India and China signed a border deal after four years of negotiations.
 - ✓ This agreement focuses on disengagement along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh.
 - ✓ The agreement allows both nations to resume patrolling in previously established areas along the LAC.
 - ✓ Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri announced a breakthrough in patrolling arrangements, marking the end of the military standoff.

➤ **India-Albania**

- ✓ India and Albania held bilateral consultations in Tirana. During the consultations, both sides undertaken a comprehensive review of bilateral, regional, and international issues.
- ✓ Bilateral discussions included political relations, trade, cultural relations, and people-to-people contacts.
- ✓ Discussions also covered cooperation between the two countries in the international arena.

➤ **Yuga Yugeen Bharat National Museum**

- ✓ India has partnered with France Museums Développement to establish Yuga Yugeen Bharat National Museum as a global cultural landmark.
- ✓ This ambitious project is an integral part of the Central Vista Redevelopment Project and is set to span approximately one lakh 55 thousand square meters across the iconic North and South Blocks in New Delhi.

➤ **India, Kuwait**

- ✓ Kuwait has bestowed its highest honour, the Order of Mubarak Al Kabeer, to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ The External Affairs Ministry said, this is the 20th international honour given to Prime Minister Modi by a country.
- ✓ The Order of Mubarak Al Kabeer is a knighthood order of Kuwait.
- ✓ It is awarded to Heads of State and foreign Sovereigns and to members of foreign royal families in sign of friendship.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

➤ **Global IndiaAI Summit 2024**

- ✓ Global IndiaAI Summit 2024 will be hosted by India. The Global IndiaAI Summit 2024 will be held on July 3-4 in New Delhi.
- ✓ The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is organizing the summit.
- ✓ The summit will focus on advancing AI development in seven key areas outlined by the India AI Mission: compute capabilities, foundational models, datasets, application development, future skills, startup financing, and safe AI.

➤ **24th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)**

- ✓ The 24th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) took place on July 4, 2024, in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- ✓ This important gathering brought together leaders from various countries to discuss regional cooperation and security issues.

➤ **'Colombo Process'**

- ✓ India chaired its first meeting as Chair of the 'Colombo Process' at the Permanent Representative Level **Meeting in Geneva**, marking a significant moment in regional migration cooperation.
- ✓ The Colombo Process, comprising **12 Asian member states**, focuses on enhancing governance and opportunities for overseas employment. Under India's leadership, priorities include financial sustainability, membership expansion, and collaboration with regional bodies like the **Abu Dhabi Dialogue**.

➤ **India-Russia Annual Summit**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on a three day official visit to Russia and Austria. In the first leg of his visit, Mr. Modi will be in Moscow for the 22nd Annual Summit between India and Russia.
- ✓ The annual summit would provide an opportunity for Prime Minister Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin to review the whole range of bilateral issues, including defence, trade linkages, investment ties, energy cooperation, education, culture, and people-to-people exchanges.

➤ **World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES)**

- ✓ From November 20 to 24, 2024, India will host the inaugural World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in Goa.
- ✓ India is among the world's largest film producing countries.

- ✓ WAVES will be a leading platform for discussion, trade cooperation, and innovation in the Media & Entertainment (M&E) sector.
- **32nd International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE-2024)**
- ✓ India will host the 32nd International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE) in New Delhi from August 2-7, 2024, marking a 66-year hiatus since its last hosting in 1958.
- ✓ The conference, held every three years, will take place at the Pusa Institute and focus on “Transformation Towards Sustainable Agri-Food Systems.”
- **The 32nd International Conference of Agricultural Economists**
- ✓ The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the 32nd International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE) at National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC) Complex, New Delhi on August 3.
- ✓ Around 1,000 delegates from around 75 countries took part in the conference.
- **India To Host BIMSTEC Business Summit**
- ✓ The Ministry of External Affairs of the Government of India in association with Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) will host the 1st BIMSTEC Business Summit in New Delhi on August 6, 2024.
- ✓ The first edition of the Business Summit aims to foster greater regional collaboration through robust trade and investment relations among the member countries of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).
- **International Conference on Hunger Free World**
- ✓ “Environmental sustainability and keeping farmers’ welfare in centrality are the core of M.S. Swaminathan’s vision for evergreen revolution,” said Revenue Minister of Karnataka, Krishna Byre Gowda, in Chennai on Wednesday.
- ✓ One is environmental sustainability with climate change and the challenges it poses to the agriculture systems. Another theme that Professor Swaminathan forced us to take cognisance of was the issue of farmers’ welfare.”
- **28th Central & State Statistical Organizations Conference**
- ✓ The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (has organized the 28th conference of central and state statistical organizations.
- ✓ The theme of this conference was the ‘Use of Data for Decision Making-Strengthening State Statistical System.’

- ✓ A wide range of subjects of common interest between Central and State Government departments were discussed during the conference.
 - ✓ Representatives of more than 30 Central Ministries and departments with State and Union Territories attended the conference.
- **India-EU Conference**
- ✓ The European Union (EU), in collaboration with organising partner Global Counter-Terrorism Council (GCTC) and with India's Ministry of External Affairs as a strategic partner, will be hosting a crucial regional conference on August 21-22.
 - ✓ The two-day EU-India Track 1.5 Conference in New Delhi brings together experts, policymakers, academia and law enforcement officials from South Asia (India, Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka) and Europe, who are at the forefront of the fight against digital extremism.
- **Global Muthamizh Murugan Conference 2024**
- ✓ Recently, the Muthamizh Murugan Global Conference in Palani showcased Tamil culture and spirituality, drawing over one lakh devotees from around the world.
 - ✓ The conference's objectives include spreading the core principles of Murugan worship, making his philosophical doctrines accessible, uniting global devotees.
 - ✓ It features about 1,300 research papers presented by Tamil scholars from around the globe, including the US, Canada, the UK, Australia, Sri Lanka, Singapore, and Mauritius.
- **INDUS-X Summit 2024**
- ✓ The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum announced the third edition of the India-US Defense Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X) Summit at Stanford University on Sept 9-10, 2024.
 - ✓ The summit will focus on leveraging private investment to advance defense innovation and will feature top policymakers, panel discussions, and a tech expo.
- **ASSOCHAM Environment And Carbon Conference**
- ✓ Union minister of state for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kirti Vardhan Singh has inaugurated the ASSOCHAM Environment and Carbon Conference in New Delhi.
 - ✓ The theme of the conference is 'Fostering a collaborative ecosystem for achieving net zero by 2070'.
 - ✓ He said that the government is working to achieve **net zero by 2070**, as well as fulfill the **Vikshit Bharat 2047** vision.

- **World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in Goa**
 - ✓ The Government of India will host the inaugural World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) to bolster India's media and entertainment industry and extend its global influence.
 - ✓ The Summit is being held in Goa from November 20th to November 25th this year.
 - ✓ WAVES is poised to become a significant platform for icons of the media and entertainment fraternity worldwide, focusing on entertainment economics and technology.
- **India-US Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (Indus-X) Summit**
 - ✓ The third edition of the India-US Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (Indus-X) Summit will be held at Stanford University in California in early September.
 - ✓ The theme of the 3rd Indus-X Summit is "Harnessing investment opportunities to enhance cross-border defence innovation ecosystem."
 - ✓ INDUS-X, launched in June 2023, aims to strengthen the strategic technology partnership and defence industrial cooperation.
- **First Joint Commander's Conference of Indian Armed Forces**
 - ✓ On September 4-5, 2024, a significant event took place in the military landscape of India.
 - ✓ The first Joint Commander's Conference of the Armed Forces was held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, marking a new era in the coordination and integration of India's military forces.
 - ✓ This two-day conference, presided over by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, brought together top military brass to discuss crucial issues facing the armed forces and to strategize on the future of India's defense capabilities.
- **Indian Coast Guard Participates in 20th HACGAM**
 - ✓ In a significant move towards enhancing maritime security and cooperation in Asia, the Indian Coast Guard participated in the 20th Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM) held in Incheon, South Korea.
 - ✓ This important gathering, which took place from September 2-6, 2024, brought together coast guard agencies from across Asia to discuss crucial maritime issues and strengthen collaborative efforts.
- **India-Saudi Arabia Joint Committee on Defense Cooperation (JCDC)**
 - ✓ India and Saudi Arabia enhanced defence ties in the 6th Joint Committee meeting. The 6th meeting of the India-Saudi Arabia Joint Committee on Defense Cooperation (JCDC) was held in Riyadh on Sept 4.

- ✓ The discussion included various aspects of military collaboration, including joint exercises, expert exchanges, training programs, and industry cooperation. Both sides reached a consensus to improve overall defence cooperation.
- ✓ The Joint Defense Cooperation Committee is a mechanism to promote the objectives of defence cooperation.
- **2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation**
 - ✓ India's aviation sector has experienced significant growth, evolving into one of the largest and most dynamic markets in the world.
 - ✓ With the 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation scheduled from September 11-12, 2024, in New Delhi, India is set to reinforce its leadership in aviation.
 - ✓ The conference, co-hosted by ICAO and the Ministry of Civil Aviation, will focus on exploring new opportunities for growth, infrastructure, and collaboration, especially in regional connectivity.
- **SEMICON India 2024**
 - ✓ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated SEMICON India 2024 at India Expo Mart in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, on September 11, 2024.
 - ✓ The three-day conference, running from September 11 to 13, showcases India's semiconductor strategy and policy with the aim of positioning the country as a global semiconductor hub.
- **2nd International Conference on Green Hydrogen**
 - ✓ On September 11, 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the 2nd International Conference on Green Hydrogen, which is being held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from September 11-13, 2024.
 - ✓ The conference aims to position India as a leader in the global green hydrogen ecosystem by discussing recent technological advances and fostering strategic investments and partnerships to accelerate green hydrogen adoption.
- **4th Global Renewable Energy Investor's Meet**
 - ✓ PM Modi inaugurated the 4th RE-INVEST Summit in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, celebrating India's achievement of over 200 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity.
 - ✓ Modi emphasized India's commitment to a green future, being the 1st G-20 nation to meet its Paris climate goals.
 - ✓ The summit highlights innovations in renewable energy with PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana aimed at making every home a power producer.

➤ **Fourth Quad Leaders' Summit In US**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a visit to the US from 21st to 23rd September. He will take part in the fourth Quad Leaders' Summit in Wilmington, Delaware, on 21st September.
- ✓ Following the request by the US to host this year's Summit, India has agreed to host the next Quad Summit in 2025.
- ✓ Mr. Modi will address the 'Summit of the Future' at the UN General Assembly in New York on the 23rd of September.
- ✓ The theme of the summit is 'Multilateral Solutions for a Better Tomorrow'.

➤ **International WASH Conference 2024**

- ✓ International WASH Conference 2024 concluded at 8th India Water Week.
- ✓ The International WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Conference was organized by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti on the occasion of the 8th India Water Week was organized in New Delhi between 17-19 September 2024.
- ✓ This three-day gathering was centered on the theme 'Sustaining Rural Water Supply'.

➤ **World Food India 2024**

- ✓ World Food India 2024 started from 19 September 2024 in New Delhi. It is a four-day mega event. It will continue till 22 September 2024.
- ✓ More than 90 countries, 26 States and Union Territories, and 18 Central Ministries are taking part in the event.
- ✓ Japan is a partner country. Vietnam and Iran are taking part as focus countries.
- ✓ World Food India 2024 is 3rd edition of India's biggest food summit.
- ✓ Ministry of Food Processing Industries launched 1st edition of World Food India in 2017.

➤ **World Green Economy Forum, 2024**

- ✓ The World Green Economy Forum 2024, held in Dubai, brings together global leaders to address pressing environmental issues under the theme "Empowering Global Action: Unlocking Opportunities and Advancing Progress".
- ✓ Summit held in: Dubai, UAE, on October 2nd and 3rd, 2024.
- ✓ The forum's goal is to drive positive transformation towards a net-zero future.

➤ **Hamburg Sustainability Conference**

- ✓ Union Minister of New and Renewable Energy, Pralhad Joshi, on a three-day visit to Germany.
- ✓ During his visit, the minister will attend the two-day Hamburg Sustainability Conference.
- ✓ He will also hold a series of bilateral meetings with ministers from Germany, the United Kingdom, and other senior officials to boost cooperation in sustainable development, green hydrogen, low-cost finance, and the entire renewable energy value chain.

➤ **India Digital Agri Conference 2024**

- ✓ The India Digital Agri Conference 2024 was held in New Delhi, co-organized by the Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) and IIT Ropar TIF – AwaDH.
- ✓ The event aimed to explore how digital technology can change the way farming is done in India, offering farmers new tools to improve their work.
- ✓ This mission is all about modernizing agriculture by using technology and data.

➤ **19th East Asia Summit (EAS)**

- ✓ On 11 October 2024, the Prime Minister of India took part in the 19th East Asia Summit (EAS) held in Vientiane, Lao PDR.
- ✓ His presence highlighted India's dedication to working with other nations in the Indo-Pacific region, a vast area that includes the Indian and Pacific Oceans.
- ✓ The Prime Minister emphasized the important part that ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) plays in shaping the future of the Indo-Pacific.

➤ **ASEAN Summit: Enhancing Regional Ties and Connectivity**

- ✓ The recently concluded 44th and 45th ASEAN Summits in Vientiane, Laos (October 8-11) brought together leaders from ASEAN countries and partners, emphasizing resilience and connectivity across key areas.
- ✓ With nearly 90 documents adopted, the summits focused on strengthening ASEAN's role in the Indo-Pacific, addressing supply chain connectivity, sustainable agriculture, and climate change.

➤ **NITI Aayog to Host International Methanol Seminar**

- ✓ The Second International Methanol Seminar and Expo 2024, hosted by NITI Aayog, will be held on October 17-18, 2024, at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi.
- ✓ This event is part of India's Methanol Economy Programme, launched in 2016 in collaboration with the Methanol Institute, USA.
- ✓ The seminar will focus on the role of methanol as a low-carbon fuel and its significance in the global energy transition, with an emphasis on green shipping.

➤ **BRICS Summit**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a visit to Russia on October 22 and 23 to attend the BRICS Summit, the Ministry of External Affairs announced on Friday.
- ✓ The summit of the informal group of states comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) is being held in Russia's Kazan.
- ✓ The PM is also “expected to hold bilateral meetings with his counterparts from BRICS member countries and invited leaders” on the sidelines.

➤ **2024 BRICS Summit: Expanding Cooperation and New Milestones**

- ✓ The 2024 BRICS Summit, held in Kazan, Russia, from October 22-24, marks a significant turning point for the group as Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the UAE join its ranks following their inclusion at the 2023 summit.
- ✓ The event centers around the theme, “Strengthening Multilateralism for Fair Global Development and Security,” with key discussions on alternative global payment systems, dedollarization, and enhanced cooperation.

➤ **Asia Clean Energy Summit 2024**

- ✓ The Asia Clean Energy Summit (ACES), a cornerstone event of the annual Singapore International Energy Week (SIEW), is held on the 11th edition from October 22-24, 2024, in Singapore.
- ✓ This premier conference and exhibition brings together experts, innovators, and policymakers to advance clean energy solutions in Asia.

➤ **First Asian Buddhist Summit**

- ✓ Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the International Buddhist Confederation, is organizing the First Asian Buddhist Summit (ABS) on 5th and 6th November in New Delhi.
- ✓ The theme of this summit is ‘Role of Buddha Dhamma in Strengthening Asia’.
- ✓ The Summit will bring together Sangha leaders, scholars, experts and practitioners from various Buddhist traditions across Asia.

➤ **India's Updated Biodiversity Action Plan Launched at COP 16**

- ✓ MoS for Environment Kirti Vardhan Singh launched India's updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan at COP 16 in Colombia.
- ✓ The NBSAP emphasizes a collaborative approach, addressing challenges in ecosystem and wetland restoration, and sustainable coastal area management.
- ✓ The plan aims to halt biodiversity loss by 2030, with a vision for harmonious living with nature by 2050.

➤ **Anti-Terrorism Conference-2024**

- ✓ The government will bring a National Counter Terrorism Policy soon.
 - ✓ On 7 November, a two-day 'Anti-Terrorism Conference-2024' was organized by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in New Delhi.
 - ✓ During this, the Home Minister also announced that the Home Ministry will soon introduce a National Counter-Terrorism Policy and Strategy to fight terrorism, terrorists and the entire ecosystem that supports them.
- **COP29: The Crucial Climate Summit in Baku, Azerbaijan**
- ✓ The 29th UN Climate Summit, COP29, kicked off in Baku, Azerbaijan, on November 11, 2024, with discussions set to focus on vital climate finance mechanisms, particularly the new "New Collective Quantified Goal" (NCQG).
 - ✓ The summit, running until November 22, aims to address urgent global climate issues and secure financial commitments to assist developing nations in combating the devastating effects of climate change, caused largely by greenhouse gas emissions.
- **India Game Developer Conference 2024**
- ✓ The 16th India Game Developer Conference (IGDC) is underway in Hyderabad.
 - ✓ This three-day event, organized by the Game Developer Association of India (GDAI), is set to draw approximately 20,000 attendees.
 - ✓ It will showcase the rapid growth of India's gaming sector.
 - ✓ The conference aims to explore the future of gaming on a global scale. Discussions will focus on how India can further establish itself as a leader in the gaming sector.
- **Baku Call Launched On Climate Action For Peace**
- ✓ COP29 Presidency today launched the Baku Call on Climate Action for Peace, Relief, and Recovery (BCCAP), an initiative addressing the urgent link between climate change, conflict, and humanitarian needs.
 - ✓ It recognizes that climate impacts, such as water scarcity, food insecurity, and displacement, can fuel conflict, particularly in vulnerable regions.
 - ✓ The Call was introduced by Azerbaijani Minister of Foreign Affairs Jeyhun Bayramov at a high-level panel, which included ministers and envoys from various countries to develop a strategy for preventing conflict and increasing support for climate- and conflict-vulnerable nations.
- **G20 Summit Underway In Brazil**
- ✓ Brazilian President Luiz Inancia Lula De Silva welcomes all the heads of the member states, invites and an international organization for the 1st plenary

session of the 19th G20 Summit, on the “Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty”.

- ✓ The alliance is the initiative taken under the Brazilian Presidency.
- ✓ The session sees the presence of heads of the Troika members- PM Ramaphosa of South Africa, Lua De Silva of Brazil and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ India has taken the lead in the G20 with an impressive 7 per cent GDP growth rate projected for 2024.

➤ **Global Soil Conference 2024**

- ✓ The Global Soil Conference 2024 took place in New Delhi.
- ✓ The Indian Society of Soil Science (ISSS) organized the conference, and notable attendees included experts from various fields.
- ✓ The theme focused on soil health and its environmental significance.
- ✓ New technologies can enhance soil quality and farmer productivity.
- ✓ Preventing soil degradation is crucial for future generations.

➤ **ASSOCHAM AI Leadership Meet 2024**

- ✓ The Ministry of Science and Technology has launched India’s first Artificial Intelligence (AI) data bank that is aimed at propelling innovation and boosting the country’s national security.
- ✓ The initiative will provide researchers, startups, and developers access to high-quality, diverse datasets essential for creating scalable and inclusive AI solutions.
- ✓ The event, themed “AI for India: Advancing India’s AI Development – Innovation, Ethics, and Governance”, showcased India’s strategic roadmap for harnessing the transformative potential of AI.

➤ **India Hosts 1st Global Cooperative Conference**

- ✓ India will host the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) Global Cooperative Conference in New Delhi from November 25 to 30, 2024.
- ✓ This marks the first time in the 130-year history of the ICA that the global cooperative movement’s premier event will be held in India.
- ✓ Around 3,000 delegates, including 1,000 international delegates from over 100 countries.
- ✓ Theme: “Cooperatives Build Prosperity for All”

➤ **13th National Seed Congress**

- ✓ The 13th National Seed Congress (NSC) 2024, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare, was inaugurated on November 28, 2024, by Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan via virtual address.

- ✓ The three-day event is hosted at the International Rice Research Institute South Asia Regional Centre (ISARC), Varanasi, bringing together over 700 delegates from various sectors.
- **Asia-Oceania Meteorological Satellite Users' Conference**
- ✓ The 14th Asia-Oceania Meteorological Satellite Users' Conference (AOMSUC-14) is scheduled to be held from December 4-6, 2024, in New Delhi.
- ✓ The conference will be hosted by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), and the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- ✓ The main aim of the conference is to promote the significance of satellite observations. About 150 participants from different countries will participate in this event.
- **Chennai to Host World Maritime Conference 2024**
- ✓ The World Maritime Technology Conference (WMTC) is a premier global event held every three years under the auspices of the World Maritime Technology Congress.
- ✓ This prestigious gathering brings together industry leaders, professionals, and experts in maritime technology and allied sectors from across the globe.
- ✓ The 2024 edition of WMTC will be hosted in Chennai, India, from December 4-6, by the Institute of Marine Engineers (India) Chennai Branch.
- **India to host World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES)**
- ✓ India will host the World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES) for the first time in 2025.
- ✓ The WAVES Summit is poised to serve as a global platform for India's creative talents, fostering collaborations and showcasing the country's potential as a hub for world-class content creation.
- ✓ The Summit will also highlight India's advancements in animation, gaming, entertainment technology, and regional and mainstream cinema.

COMMITTEES

➤ **India Hosts 46th UNESCO World Heritage Committee Session**

- ✓ In a landmark event for India's cultural diplomacy, the nation is set to host the 46th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee from July 21-31, 2024.
- ✓ This prestigious gathering will take place at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, bringing together delegates from around the world to discuss and decide on matters of global cultural significance.

➤ **World Heritage Young Professionals Forum 2024**

- ✓ India is hosting the UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting for the first time, alongside the 2024 World Heritage Young Professionals Forum in New Delhi.
- ✓ From July 14 to 23, young professionals from around the world will gather to enhance their skills in heritage preservation and sustainable development.
- ✓ The forum, organized by the Ministry of Culture and the Archaeological Survey of India, focuses on integrating global heritage concepts with local Indian heritage management.

➤ **46th Session Of World Heritage Committee**

- ✓ 46th Session of the World Heritage Committee will be held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from 21st July to 31st July.
- ✓ India is hosting this event for the first time and Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the session on the 21st of this month.
- ✓ This ceremony will be graced by Madam Audrey Azoulay, Director General of UNESCO.

DEFENCE

Category	Exercise/Event	Details	Dates/Location
World's Largest Naval Exercise	RIMPAC	The Indian Navy joins RIMPAC, the world's largest naval exercise hosted by the US Navy's Indo-Pacific Command. 29 countries participate.	Ongoing until August 1, 2024, Hawaii
Bilateral Military Exercise	Maitree Exercise 2024	Joint military exercise between the Indian Army and the Royal Thai Army to strengthen military ties.	July 1-15, 2024, Fort Vachiraprakan, Thailand
Joint Military Exercise	Nomadic Elephant	The 16th edition of India-Mongolia joint exercise, focusing on communication and operations in semi-urban and mountainous areas.	July 3-16, 2024, Umroi, Meghalaya
Military Technology	Indigenous Light Tank Zorawar	DRDO unveils the prototype of the indigenous Zorawar Light Tank, soon to undergo extensive trials.	India
Defence Infrastructure	Testing Facilities in T.N.	MoD signs MoU to set up three testing facilities in Chennai for UAS, EW, and EO under Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor.	Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
Multinational Air Exercise	Exercise Pitch Black	IAF's Su-30 MKIs participate in this biennial aerial warfare exercise led by the Royal Australian Air Force.	July 12-Aug 2, 2024, Australia
Unmanned Aerial System	CAMCOPTER S-100	India enters deal with Schiebel for the Camcopter S-100 UAS to enhance naval capabilities.	India
Multinational Military Exercise	KHAAN QUEST 2024	Indian Army joins the multinational military exercise KHAAN QUEST 2024 for peacekeeping capabilities.	July 27-Aug 9, 2024, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
Multinational Air Exercise	Tarang Shakti 2024	India hosts its first multinational air exercise, showcasing defense capabilities and cooperation with around 30 countries.	Aug 6-14, 2024, Sular, Tamil Nadu
Naval Partnership Exercise	Maritime Partnership Exercise	INS Tabar participates in Maritime Partnership Exercise with Russia's Navy ship Soobrazitelny, involving complex naval maneuvers.	July 30, 2024, St. Petersburg, Russia
Bilateral Air Exercise	Exercise Udara Shakti	IAF strengthens ties with Malaysia through bilateral air exercises focused on operational coordination.	Aug 5-9, 2024, Kuantan, Malaysia
Strategic Military	Parvat Prahaar	Indian Army conducts strategic military	Ladakh, India

Category	Exercise/Event	Details	Dates/Location
Exercise		exercise focusing on high-altitude warfare near India-China border.	
Bilateral Military Exercise	Mitra Shakti	Annual bilateral exercise between the Indian Army and the Sri Lankan Army focusing on military cooperation.	Aug 12-25, 2024, Maduru Oya, Sri Lanka
Long Range Glide Bomb	GAURAV	DRDO successfully conducts the maiden test flight of the Long Range Glide Bomb (GAURAV), an air-launched glide bomb.	Odisha, India
Naval Partnership Exercise	Maritime Partnership Exercise	INS Tabar participates in Maritime Partnership Exercise with the Spanish Navy in the Mediterranean.	Aug 25-27, 2024, Malaga, Spain
Nuclear Submarine	INS Arighat	India commissions its second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, INS Arighat, joining INS Arihant in the nuclear triad.	Visakhapatnam, India
Bilateral Naval Exercise	Exercise Varuna	Indian Navy's P-8I aircraft participates in Exercise Varuna with the French Navy in the Mediterranean, focusing on tactical drills.	Sep 2-4, 2024, Mediterranean Sea
Joint Military Exercise	Yudh Abhyas 2024	20th edition of India-US joint military exercise focusing on tactical operations and defense cooperation.	Sep 9-22, 2024, Rajasthan, India

Category	Exercise/Event	Details	Dates/Location
India-Oman Joint Military Exercise	Al Najah V	Fifth edition of India-Oman joint military exercise; 60 personnel each from Indian Mechanised Infantry Regiment and Oman Frontier Force participating.	Sept 13-26, 2024, Rabkoot Training Area, Salalah, Oman
Multinational Naval Exercise	Exercise Kakadu	Hosted by Australia; Indian Navy's P8I participating with 30+ nations, theme: 'Regional Cooperation through Trusted and Proven	Darwin, Australia

		Partnerships.'	
Bilateral Air Exercise	Exercise Eastern Bridge VII	Indian Air Force (MiG-29s, Jaguar, C-17 Globemaster III) and Royal Oman Air Force participating.	Masirah Air Force Base, Oman
Disaster Management Symposium	Exercise AIKYA	NDMA and Army Southern Command event to enhance disaster preparedness and stakeholder collaboration.	Chennai, India
India-Kazakhstan Joint Military Exercise	KAZIND 2024	Annual military exercise focusing on counter-terrorism in sub-conventional scenarios.	Sept 30-Oct 13, 2024, Auli, Uttarakhand
Defence Innovation Event	DefConnect 4.0	Organized by iDEX-DIO to promote indigenous defence innovation; inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.	Manekshaw Centre, Delhi
Multilateral Naval Exercise	Malabar Exercise 2024	Hosted by India; participants include USA, Japan, and Australia.	Oct 8-18, 2024, Visakhapatnam
Military Equipment	T-90 Bhishma Tank	First overhauled T-90 Bhishma tank rolled out, showcasing indigenous maintenance capabilities.	India
Maritime Exercise	IBSAMAR	Joint exercise among Indian, Brazilian, and South African	Oct 6-18, 2024, Simon's Town, South Africa

		navies.	
Bilateral Naval Exercise	Naseem Al Bahr	India-Oman bilateral naval exercise with INS Trikan and Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft.	Oct 13-18, 2024, off Goa coast
Combat Exercise	Swavlamban Shakti	Sudarshan Chakra Corps exercise to integrate niche and emerging technologies for combat readiness.	Oct 17-22, 2024, Babina Field Firing Ranges, Jhansi
Nuclear Submarine Development	India's Fourth Nuclear Submarine	Launch of India's fourth nuclear-powered SSBN, S4*, in Visakhapatnam.	Visakhapatnam, India
Bilateral Naval Collaboration	Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX)	First Indian-German naval exercise focused on interoperability and regional stability.	Bay of Bengal, India
India-Singapore Naval Exercise	SIMBEX 2024	Showcasing maritime collaboration and shared security objectives.	Oct 23-29, 2024, Visakhapatnam
India-US Special Forces Exercise	VAJRA PRAHAR	15th edition focused on military cooperation and tactical interoperability.	Nov 2-22, 2024, Orchard Combat Training Centre, Idaho, USA
India-Indonesia Joint Exercise	GARUD SHAKTI 24	Joint special forces exercise; 25 personnel from Parachute Regiment (Special Forces).	Nov 1-12, 2024, Jakarta, Indonesia
India-Vietnam Joint Exercise	VINBAX 2024	Fifth edition; personnel from Army and Air Force	Nov 4-23, 2024, Ambala, Haryana

		participating for the first time.	
Tri-Services Exercise	Poorvi Prahaar	Showcasing synergy among Army, Navy, and Air Force; MARCOS commandos actively participating.	Nov 8-17, 2024, Eastern India
India-Australia Military Exercise	AUSTRAHIND	Annual exercise focusing on urban and semi-desert operations under the UN mandate.	Nov 8-18, 2024, Pune, India
Space Defence Exercise	Antariksha Abhyas	First-of-its-kind exercise to address threats to space-based assets.	Nov 11-13, 2024, India
Coastal Defence Exercise	Sea Vigil 24	Largest nationwide coastal defence exercise involving six ministries and 21 organizations.	Nov 20-21, 2024, Indian coastline
Search and Rescue Workshop	SAREX 24	Enhancing maritime search and rescue capabilities with national and international stakeholders.	Nov 27-30, 2024, Kochi, India
India-Singapore Army Exercise	Agni Warrior 2024	Enhancing artillery best practices and cultural exchanges.	Nov 28-30, 2024, Devlali Field Firing Ranges, Maharashtra
AI Training Platform	Eklavya	Online learning platform for Indian Army officers, developed with BISAG-N.	India
India-Cambodia	CINBAX	Focused on	Dec 1-8, 2024,

Joint Exercise		establishing a Joint Training Task Force for counter-terrorism.	Pune, India
India-Malaysia Joint Military Exercise	HARIMAU SHAKTI-2024	Jungle-based counter-insurgency operations with 78 Indian and 123 Malaysian personnel.	Dec 1-15, 2024, Bentong Camp, Malaysia
Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile	K-4 Missile	Successfully tested from INS Arighaat; enhances India's nuclear triad capabilities.	Visakhapatnam, India
Trilateral Air Combat Exercise	Desert Knight	Strengthens interoperability among India, France, and UAE.	Arabian Sea
India-Sri Lanka Naval Exercise	SLINEX 2024	Strengthens maritime cooperation and bilateral relations.	Dec 17-20, 2024, Visakhapatnam
AI Incubation Initiative	Indian Army AI Incubation Centre (IAIIC)	Focused on AI-driven solutions for operational efficiency and readiness.	Bengaluru, India
India-Nepal Army Exercise	SURYA KIRAN 2024	Annual exercise reflecting strong cultural ties and defence cooperation.	Dec 31, 2024-Jan 13, 2025, Saljhandi, Nepal

ECONOMY

➤ **India's Exports Exceeded USD 200 Billion**

- ✓ India's exports exceeded USD 200 billion in the first quarter (April-June) of 2024-25.
- ✓ The government has said that it is optimistic about reaching its USD 800 billion annual target.
- ✓ India's total exports, which include both merchandise and services reached \$65.47 billion in June, up 5.4% from the previous year, according to data from the commerce ministry. From \$34.32 billion to \$35.20 billion, merchandise exports increased.
- ✓ There has been a substantial rise in exports to nations including Singapore, China, Russia, Iraq, and the United Arab Emirates.

➤ **IMF Raises India's GDP Forecast to 7% for 2024-25**

- ✓ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has revised India's GDP growth forecast for the current fiscal year to 7%, up by 20 basis points from earlier projections.
- ✓ This upward revision is attributed to improved consumption prospects, particularly in rural areas.
- ✓ However, the IMF has retained a slower growth rate of 6.5% for the next fiscal year.

➤ **KEY FEATURES OF BUDGET 2024-2025**

➤ **Budget Theme**

- ✓ Roadmap for the pursuit of 'Viksit Bharat'.

➤ **Focus on Four Major Groups**

- ✓ **Mahilayen** (Women)
- ✓ **Garib** (Poor)
- ✓ **Yuva** (Youth)
- ✓ **Annadata** (Farmer)

➤ **Key Financial Details for 2024-25**

- Total Receipts
- ✓ **Total Receipts (excluding borrowings):** 32.07 lakh crore
- Total Expenditure
- ✓ **Total Expenditure:** 48.21 lakh crore

➤ **Nine Budget Priorities in pursuit of 'Viksit Bharat'**

- ✓ Productivity and resilience in Agriculture

- ✓ Employment & Skilling
 - ✓ Inclusive Human Resource Development and Social Justice
 - ✓ Manufacturing & Services
 - ✓ Urban Development
 - ✓ Energy Security
 - ✓ Infrastructure
 - ✓ Innovation, Research & Development
 - ✓ Next Generation Reforms
- **Venture Capital Fund of Rs 1,000 crore for expanding the Space Economy**
- ✓ In the budget, a venture capital fund of Rs 1,000 crore has been announced to expand the space economy by five times in the next 10 years.
 - ✓ This venture fund is a step toward addressing the issue of funding faced by nascent ventures in this capital-intensive domain.
 - ✓ The government's vision is to increase India's share in the global commercial space economy to 10% by 2030.
 - ✓ India is aiming to set up 'Bharatiya Antariksha Station' by 2035 and is planning to send the first Indian to the Moon by 2040.
- **India aims for \$30 Trillion Economy by 2047**
- ✓ India aims to become a USD 30 trillion economy by 2047, the 100th anniversary of its independence.
 - ✓ According to a plan by NITI Aayog, called 'Vision for Viksit Bharat @ 2047', the goal is to raise the average income per person to USD 18,000 per year. This plan is designed to help India avoid getting stuck at a middle-income level.
 - ✓ 'Viksit Bharat,' or 'Developed India,' embodies India's goal for sustainable development by 2047, focusing on reducing poverty, achieving gender equity, and ensuring environmental sustainability.
- **Indo Pacific Economic Framework**
- ✓ India has been elected as Vice Chair of the Supply Chain Council. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry termed it a significant milestone for the country.
 - ✓ The Ministry said that India and 13 other Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) partners have established three supply chain bodies under the landmark Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity Agreement relating to supply chain resilience.
 - ✓ Ministry said that the USA has been elected as Chair of the Supply Chain Council.
- **GST Collection Surges 10.3% in July 2024 to 1.82 Lakh Crore**

- ✓ In July 2024, India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections rose by 10.3% to 1,82,075 crore, marking a significant increase from 1,65,105 crore in July 2023.
- ✓ This uptick highlights strong domestic consumption and economic resilience.
- **'Space sector contributed 20,000 crore to India's GDP over the last decade'**
- ✓ India's space sector has directly contributed about \$24 billion (20,000 crore) to India's Gross Domestic Product over the last decade.
- ✓ It has directly supported 96,000 jobs in the public and private sector. For every dollar produced by the space sector, there was a multiplier effect of \$2.54 to the Indian economy and India's space force was 2.5 times "more productive" than the country's broader industrial workforce.
- **Real Gross State Domestic Product**
- ✓ Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan registered the highest growth in real gross state domestic product (GSDP).
- ✓ In FY24, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan are the leading states among the 10 largest States in terms of growth in real gross state domestic product.
- ✓ Telangana's economy registered a growth of 9.2 per cent to reach a real GSDP of 7.9 lakh crore in FY24.
- ✓ It is faster than the national GDP growth of 8.2 per cent.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu's economy grew 8.2 per cent to reach 15.7 lakh crore in size while Rajasthan's economy grew 8 per cent.
- ✓ The services sector is the main contributor to the economic growth of all large states.
- **India Economy to be Third-Largest by 2030-31**
- ✓ India economy to be third-largest by 2030-31: S&P Global As per S&P Global India, India to become the world's third-largest economy by 2030-31.
- ✓ India is projected to grow at an annual rate of 6.7 per cent.
- ✓ India emerged as the fastest-growing large economy with gross domestic product (GDP) growth at the rate of 8.2 per cent in the financial year (FY) 2024.
- ✓ India's medium-term prospects are healthy and filled with opportunities in multiple sectors.
- **Textile Sector is Expected to Grow to nearly 350 Billion Dollars by 2030**
- ✓ As per the trade data for August 2024, the sector has seen 11 per cent year-on-year growth in ready-made garments.
- ✓ More over 90 thousand crore rupees of investment is expected to flow through the PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Park and Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes in the next 3-5 years.

- ✓ Seven PM Mitra parks are sanctioned across the country and each park is expected to attract an investment of Rs 10,000 crore.
- ✓ It will generate 1 lakh direct employment and 2 lakh indirect employment.
- **India's Economic Growth Projected at 7-7.2% for FY25**
- ✓ Deloitte India's latest Economic Outlook projects that India's economy will grow between 7.0% and 7.2% in the fiscal year 2024-25, despite a recent slowdown where GDP expanded by only 6.7% year-on-year in Q1 of FY25.
- ✓ This growth is driven by favorable domestic conditions, including strong manufacturing activity, stable oil prices, and anticipated easing of U.S. monetary policy, which could boost capital inflows.
- **Fastest Growing G20 Economy India's 7% GDP Growth Tops G20 Chart**
- ✓ India has emerged as the fastest-growing economy among G20 countries, with a projected GDP growth rate of 7% for 2024.
- ✓ This remarkable achievement highlights India's economic resilience and potential amidst global challenges.
- ✓ The rankings, released during the ongoing G20 summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, underscore the disparity in growth rates among G20 nations and set the stage for discussions on sustainable development, global governance reforms, and strategies to combat poverty, hunger, and inequality.
- **State Seeks Inclusion of Economic Contribution as Criterion for Devolution**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government has suggested that a State's contribution to the country's economy be made a criterion within the formula for horizontal devolution.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has sought a weightage of 15% to this criterion. Gujarat and Telangana have made similar suggestions.
- ✓ For instance, if Tamil Nadu accounted for 8% of the country's GDP, the State's share, based on this criterion, would be 8%.
- ✓ As a whole, the State had recommended a 35% weightage to income distance.
- **T.N.'s Investment Needs Amount to 6.84 Lakh Crore**
- ✓ In a memorandum to the 16th Finance Commission, the Tamil Nadu government said the investment needs of the State stood at 6.84 lakh crore.
- ✓ Besides, it required 5.32 lakh crore for meeting infrastructure needs in urban areas.
- ✓ The funding requirement in the power sector was 62,000 crore, and the investment needs for industrialisation was 43,600 crore.

- ✓ For modernisation of buses and public transport systems, 7,000 crore was required.
- ✓ For nurturing the blue economy, support for secondary and tertiary healthcare, and restoration of waterbodies, 5,000 crore each was required, the State said.

➤ **Tamil Nadu GST Collections in 2024-25**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu has seen a robust 20.12% growth in State Goods and Services Tax Collections (SGST) in the first half of fiscal of year 2024-25.
- ✓ It is the highest growth rate among the key comparable States for which data is available.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu's State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) collection grew 20.12% to 35,414.05 crore in the first half of the year 2024-25.
- ✓ It was 29,481.97 crore in the comparable period last year.

➤ **GST Collection for November Rises by 8.5% to 1.82 Trillion**

- ✓ India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue rose by 8.5% to 1.82 lakh crore in November 2024, compared to 1.68 lakh crore in the same month last year.
- ✓ The growth is primarily driven by higher revenues from domestic transactions, with GST from domestic transactions increasing by 9.4%.
- ✓ This increase is significant, though it follows a previous high of 1.87 lakh crore in October, which marked the second-best collection in GST history.
- ✓ In April 2024, India recorded its highest-ever GST collection of over 2.10 lakh crore.

➤ **Indian Pharmaceutical Sector**

- ✓ By 2030, the Indian pharmaceutical sector is expected to have grown 58% to \$130 billion.
- ✓ With \$27.85 billion in export revenue, India solidifies its standing as the "Pharmacy of the World."
- ✓ The Indian pharmaceutical sector is currently worth \$55 billion. By 2047, it is expected to reach \$450 billion.
- ✓ With \$27.85 billion in exports to date, India is firmly establishing itself as the "Pharmacy of the World."
- ✓ The pharmaceutical industry in India is predicted to keep growing, reaching a \$1 trillion market by 2047.

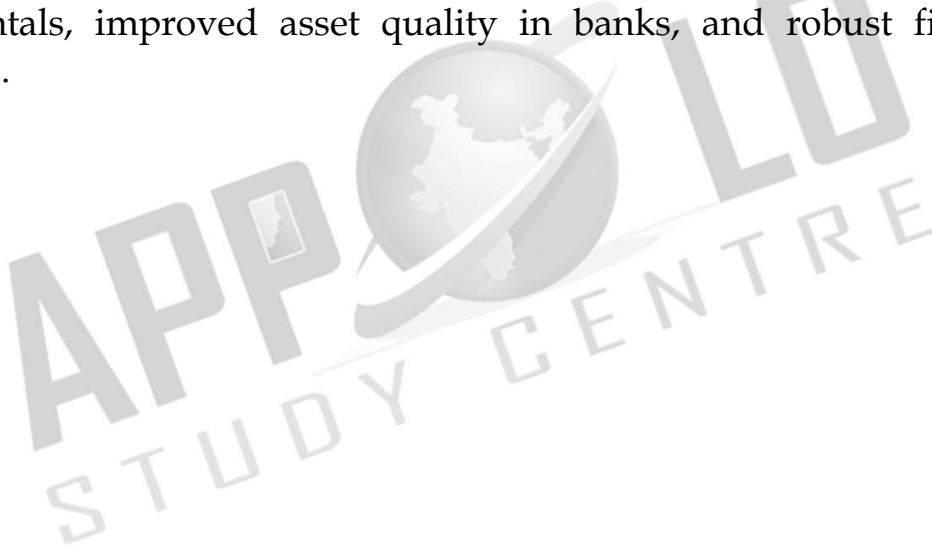
➤ **India's Data Centre set for \$100 Billion Investment by 2027**

- ✓ India's data centre industry is transforming, with investments projected to surpass \$100 billion by 2027.

- ✓ The sector has attracted approximately \$60 billion in investment from 2019 to 2024, reflecting its appeal to global and local investors.
- ✓ Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have emerged as prime locations for data centres.
- ✓ Their robust infrastructure and supportive government policies have established them as leaders in the sector.
- ✓ Mumbai holds the largest share, contributing 49% of India's total data centre capacity.

➤ **GDP to Grow at 6.6% in FY25: RBI**

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in its December 2024 Financial Stability Report (FSR), projected India's GDP growth at 6.6% for FY25, driven by a revival in rural consumption, increased government spending, and strong services exports.
- ✓ Despite a moderation in GDP growth to 6% in H1 FY25 from 8.2% in H1 FY24, the RBI highlighted India's economic resilience, supported by sound macroeconomic fundamentals, improved asset quality in banks, and robust financial system indicators.



APPOINTMENT

➤ **Dr. Soumya Swaminathan**

- ✓ On a pro bono basis, Professor Dr. Soumya Swaminathan has been appointed as the Principal Advisor for the National Tuberculosis Elimination Program at the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- ✓ As Principal Advisor, Prof. Swaminathan will provide technical advice on the overall strategy for achieving the program goals, suggest policy directions and necessary curriculum reforms for optimal results, and advise on research strategy.

➤ **Lt Gen Sadhna Saxena Nair**

- ✓ Lt Gen Sadhna Saxena Nair has become the first woman to be appointed as Director General Medical Services (Army).
- ✓ Lt Gen Sadhna Saxena Nair assumed the office on August 01, 2024.
- ✓ Earlier, she was the first woman to hold the post of DG Hospital Services (Armed Forces).

➤ **Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus**

- ✓ Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus appointed head of the interim government in Bangladesh.
- ✓ The decision to appoint the head of the interim government of Bangladesh was taken during a meeting between President Shahabuddin and the coordinators of the anti-discrimination student movement.

➤ **Veteran IAS officer T.V. Somanathan appointed next Cabinet Secretary**

- ✓ The Union government on Saturday announced IAS officer T.V. Somanathan as the Cabinet Secretary-designate by appointing him Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the Cabinet Secretariat.
- ✓ He will take over India's top bureaucratic position from August 30 when incumbent Rajiv Gauba's extended tenure ends.

➤ **New Union Home Secretary**

- ✓ Govind Mohan has been appointed as the new Union Home Secretary.
- ✓ Senior IAS officer Govind Mohan was appointed as the new Union Home Secretary.
- ✓ He will succeed Ajay Kumar Bhalla, whose tenure will end on August 22. His appointment has been approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. Sandeep Poundrik assumes charge as Secretary, Ministry of Steel.

➤ **Tamil Nadu's New Chief Secretary 2024**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu government has appointed senior IAS officer N. Muruganandam as the Chief Secretary, replacing Shiv Das Meena.
- ✓ He became the 50th chief secretary of Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Also, he is the third Dalit chief secretary of Tamil Nadu after A Padmanaban (1985) and A P Muthusamy (1999).

➤ **New NSG Director General**

- ✓ An Indian Police Service (IPS) officer, B Srinivasan, has become the new director general of the National Security Guard (NSG).
- ✓ B Srinivasan is appointed after Nalin Prabhat has been deputed as Jammu and Kashmir's Special Director General of Police.
- ✓ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Srinivasan as Director General, NSG, until August 31, 2027.

➤ **Dr. T.V. Somanathan Takes Over as Cabinet Secretary**

- ✓ Dr. T.V. Somanathan, a senior IAS officer of the 1987 Tamil Nadu cadre, has assumed the role of Cabinet Secretary for the Government of India, succeeding Rajiv Gauba after his superannuation.
- ✓ Dr. Somanathan brings extensive experience from both central and state government positions, as well as international roles, notably at the World Bank.

➤ **First Indian Ambassador of ITTF Foundation**

- ✓ Ace paddler Sharath Kamal **has been** named the first Indian ambassador of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Foundation.
- ✓ The announcement was made during day 11 of the Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) season five at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium.

➤ **New Finance Secretary**

- ✓ The Indian government has appointed **Tuhin Kanta Pandey**, a 1987-batch IAS officer from the Odisha cadre, as the new Finance Secretary on September 7, 2024.
- ✓ This appointment follows T.V. Somanathan's move to the position of Cabinet Secretary, leaving a vacancy in the finance role.

➤ **Udhayanidhi Stalin - Deputy CM of Tamil Nadu**

- ✓ Udhayanidhi Stalin has been appointed as the deputy chief minister of Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The swearing ceremony took place at Raj Bhavan in the presence of Chief Minister MK Stalin.
- ✓ He was serving as the minister for youth welfare and sports development.

- ✓ Under his new role, he will also oversee the planning and development portfolio.
- **Surgeon Vice-Admiral Arti Sarin - First Woman to Head AFMS**
- ✓ Surgeon Vice-Admiral Arti Sarin on Tuesday became the first woman officer to assume charge as the Director-General of the Armed Forces Medical Services, the Defence Ministry said.
- ✓ The DGAFMS is directly responsible to the Defence Ministry for overall medical policy matters relating to the armed forces.
- **Noel Tata has been appointed Chairperson of Tata Trust**
- ✓ Noel Tata has been unanimously appointed Chairperson of Tata Trust, the philanthropic arm of the Tata Group.
- ✓ This decision was made during a board meeting following the passing of Ratan Tata at the age of 86.
- **Omar Abdullah sworn in as CM of Jammu & Kashmir**
- ✓ Omar Abdullah of the National Conference party was sworn in as the first chief minister of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ✓ Jammu and Kashmir have been under the president's rule since the fall of the PDP-BJP coalition government in 2018.
- ✓ The President's rule was revoked after 6 years by the President on 13 October 2024.
- **Vijaya Kishore Rahatkar takes charge as Ninth NCW Chairperson**
- ✓ The newly appointed Chairperson of the National Commission for Women, Vijaya Kishore Rahatkar, took charge on Tuesday.
- ✓ She is the ninth Chairperson of the NCW and succeeds Rekha Sharma.
- ✓ Ms. Rahatkar is a former Chairperson of the Maharashtra State Commission for Women and a national president of the BJP Mahila Morcha.
- **New Defence Secretary**
- ✓ Rajesh Kumar Singh, a distinguished 1989-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Kerala cadre, officially took charge as the Defence Secretary at South Block, New Delhi.
- ✓ Mr. Singh succeeds Giridhar Aramane, the 1988-batch IAS officer from the Andhra Pradesh cadre, who retired from his service on October 31, 2024, after serving a notable two-year term in this crucial role.

➤ **47th President Of USA**

- ✓ Donald Trump has clinched a critical victory in Wisconsin, securing 295 electoral votes – well above the 270 needed – to reclaim the White House as America's 47th president.
- ✓ Speaking to an enthusiastic crowd in West Palm Beach, Florida, Trump expressed gratitude for the “extraordinary honour” bestowed upon him by the American people, acknowledging his unique role as both the 45th and now the 47th president.

➤ **51st Chief Justice of India**

- ✓ Supreme Court judge Justice Sanjiv Khanna was sworn in as the 51st Chief Justice of India on Monday (November 11, 2024).
- ✓ Justice Khanna succeeds Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, who retired on Sunday (November 10, 2024), and his term will last until May 13, 2025.
- ✓ The Centre officially notified Justice Khanna's appointment on October 24, following Chief Justice Chandrachud's recommendation on October 16.

➤ **Archana Patnaik is New Chief Electoral Officer of T.N.**

- ✓ The Election Commission of India (EC) on Friday named IAS officer Archana Patnaik as the Chief Electoral Officer of Tamil Nadu, replacing incumbent Satyabrata Sahoo.
- ✓ Ms. Patnaik is at present the Secretary of the MSME Department.

➤ **Sanjay Malhotra has been appointed as RBI Governor**

- ✓ Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra has been appointed as 26th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ✓ His tenure will begin on December 11, 2024, and will last for three years.
- ✓ Sanjay Malhotra played a key role in formulating tax policies, including those for direct and indirect taxes.

➤ **Former SC Judge V. Ramasubramanian**

- ✓ Retired Supreme Court judge V. Ramasubramanian has been appointed as the new chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).
- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Justice Ramasubramanian.
- ✓ Justice Ramasubramanian was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court on 23rd September 2019 and retired on 29th June 2023.

AWARDS

Nobel Prize 2023 Winners

Sl. No	Field	Nobel Prize Winners 2023	Given For
1	Physiology or Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Katalin Karikó ▪ Drew Weissman 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19
2	Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pierre Agostini ▪ Ferenc Krausz ▪ Anne L'Huillier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electron dynamics in matter"
3	Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mouni Bawendi ▪ Louis Brus ▪ Alexei Ekimov 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For the discovery and synthesis of quantum dots
4	Literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jon Fosse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For his innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable
5	Nobel Peace Prize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Narges Mohammadi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for

			all.
6	Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences	▪ Claudia Goldin	▪ For having advanced our understanding of women's labour market outcomes.

Nobel Prize 2024 Winners

Winner's Name	Category	Topic
John J. Hopfield and Geoffrey E. Hinton	Physics	"for foundational discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning with artificial neural networks"
David Baker and Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper	Chemistry	"for computational protein design" and "for protein structure prediction"
Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun	Medicine	"for the discovery of microRNA and its role in post-transcriptional gene regulation"
Han Kang	Literature	"for her intense poetic prose that confronts historical traumas and exposes the fragility of human life"
Nihon Hidankyo	Peace	"for its efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons and for demonstrating through witness testimony that nuclear weapons must never be used again"
Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson	Economics	"for studies of how institutions are formed and affect prosperity"

➤ K.P.P. Nambiar Award

- ✓ K.P.P. Nambiar Award for ISRO Chairman S. Somanath.
- ✓ A historic event occurred in India's space exploration and technology community when the IEEE Kerala Section revealed the winner of the esteemed K.P.P. Nambiar Award.

➤ Kumari Ananthan to receive 'Thagaisal Thamizhar' Award

- ✓ Veteran Congress leader Kumari Ananthan will receive the 'Thagaisal Thamizhar' Award this year.

➤ Spice Award 2024

- ✓ Agri-entrepreneur Sopna Kallingal received the Spice Award 2024.
- ✓ Spice Award 2024, instituted by ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, has been presented to Sopna Kallingal of Kallingal Plantation.

- **Maharashtra Wins Best Agriculture State Award for 2024**
- ✓ The 15th Agriculture Leadership Awards Committee has announced that Maharashtra has won the Best Agriculture State Award for 2024.

- **Tamil writer Sivashankari selected for Dr. C. Narayana Reddy National Literary Award**
- ✓ Tamil literature, renowned author Sivashankari has been selected as the recipient of the highly esteemed Dr. C. Narayana Reddy National Literary Award.
- ✓ This prestigious accolade celebrates her immense contributions to the rich tapestry of Tamil literary culture and her role in shaping contemporary Indian literature.

- **PM Modi To Receive Russia's Highest Civilian Honour For "Outstanding Service"**
- ✓ Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** ceremoniously presented with the **Order of St Andrew the Apostle the First-Called**, which was bestowed on him in the year 2019 at St Catherine's Hall of the Moscow Kremlin.

- **Agriculture Leadership Awards 2024**
- ✓ In a significant recognition of its efforts in agricultural development, **Nagaland has been awarded the title of best state in horticulture** at the prestigious Agriculture Leadership Awards 2024.

- **Hans von Hentig Award**
- ✓ Retired Tamil Nadu Professor K. Chockalingam Honoured with Prestigious Hans von Hentig Award.
- ✓ In a significant recognition of his contributions to the field of victimology

- **Golden Sand Master Award**
- ✓ Odisha Chief Minister **Mohan Charan Majhi** honoured sand artist **Sudarshan Pattnaik** for winning the **Golden Sand Master Award** at the **International Sand Sculpture Championship** in Russia.

- **Indian Seafarers to be Honoured for Exceptional Bravery at Sea by IMO**
- ✓ The International Maritime Organization (IMO) revealed the 2024 IMO Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea winners on July 10, 2024.
- ✓ The Marshall Islands nominated Captain Avhilash Rawat and the crew of the oil tanker Marlin Luanda are the two recipients of the 2024 Award.

- ✓ The crew of the Indian Navy Ship (INS) Visakhapatnam and Captain Brijesh Nambiar of the Indian Navy were awarded Letters of Commendation by the IMO.
- **Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity**
 - ✓ Andhra Pradesh's Wins Gulbenkian Prize for Natural Farming Model.
 - ✓ In a significant recognition of innovative agricultural practices, the Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming (APCNF) initiative has been awarded the prestigious 2024 Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity.
- **COSPAR 2024 Awards**
 - ✓ Two Indian Scientists Prahlad Chandra Agrawal and Anil Bhardwaj were among the winners of the 2024 COSPAR Awards.
 - ✓ **Prahlad Chandra Agrawal** was honoured with the **COSPAR Harrie Massey Award** and **Anil Bhardwaj** was honoured with the **Vikram Sarabhai Medal**, a joint award of COSPAR and the Indian Space Research Organization(ISRO).
- **Oxford Bookstore Art Book Prize 2024**
 - ✓ Art historian **Madhu Khanna** has won the second edition of the Oxford Bookstore Art Book Prize for her book, "**Tantra on the Edge**".
- **Gandhi Mandela Award 2020**
 - ✓ Rigoberta Menchú Tum, the renowned Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Guatemalan human rights activist, has been honored with the Gandhi Mandela Award 2020.
- **AIFF Awards 2024**
 - ✓ The All India Football Federation (AIFF) recently held its annual awards ceremony, recognizing outstanding achievements in Indian football for the 2023-24 season.
 - ✓ The top honours went to **Lallianzuala Chhangte** and **Indumathi Kathiresan**, who were named the male and female Players of the Year respectively.
- **International Tennis Hall of Fame**
 - ✓ In a historic moment for both Indian and Asian tennis, former Indian tennis players Leander Paes and Vijay Amritraj have been inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame.
 - ✓ They are the first Asian men to receive this honour, celebrating their remarkable careers and marking a significant achievement for tennis in Asia.

- **Prestigious Olympic Order by IOC**
 - ✓ The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has honored Abhinav Bindra, India's first individual Olympic gold medallist, with the prestigious Olympic Order.
 - ✓ This recognition will be formally presented during the 142nd IOC Session in Paris on August 10, 2024, a day before the closing of the Paris Olympics.
- **IAF World Space Award 2024**
 - ✓ Chandrayaan-3 mission team of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) won the prestigious World Space Award for 2024, presented by International Astronautical Federation (IAF) for its significant contributions to space exploration.
- **CWC Wins GEEF Global WaterTech Award 2024**
 - ✓ The Central Water Commission (CWC) has been honoured with the GEEF Global WaterTech Award in the category 'Water Department of the Year' at the Global Water Tech Summit – 2024, held by the Global Energy and Environment Foundation (GEEF) in New Delhi.
- **V. Venkayya Epigraphy Award**
 - ✓ V. Vedachalam, an eminent Tamil epigrapher and historian, has been conferred the V. Venkayya Epigraphy Award for 2024.
- **President Droupadi Murmu Conferred "Companion of the Order of Fiji"**
 - ✓ President Droupadi Murmu was conferred the Companion of the Order of Fiji, the highest honour of Fiji by the President of Fiji.
 - ✓ President Murmu addressed the Fijian Parliament where she recalled the 75 years diplomatic association between the countries.
- **Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar**
 - ✓ The objective of the Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar is to recognize the notable and inspiring contributions made by scientists, technologists, and innovators, either individually or in teams, across various fields of science, technology, and technology-led innovation.
 - ✓ ISRO-Chandrayaan 3 Team will be awarded the Vigyan Team Award for their contributions to space science and technology.
- **M.S. Swaminathan Award for Environment Protection 2024**
 - ✓ Anant Darshan Shankar, Chairman of the Indian Institute of Ayurveda and Integrative Medicine, has been conferred with the M.S. Swaminathan Award for Environment Protection 2024.

➤ **Highest Civilian Award of Timor Leste**

- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu was honoured with the highest civilian award of Timor Leste – Grand Collar of Order of Timor Leste, by Timor Leste President Jose Ramos Horta.

➤ **Olympic Order Award by International Olympic Committee in Paris**

- ✓ India's first individual Olympic gold medalist, Abhinav Bindra was awarded the prestigious Olympic Order by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) at the 142nd IOC Session in Paris.

➤ **70th National Film Award**

- ✓ The 70th National Film Award ceremony was held in New Delhi on August 16.
- ✓ "Aattam" is named Best Film.
- ✓ Rishab Shetty got the Best Actor prize for his role in the popular movie "Kantara."
- ✓ In the Best Actress category, this honour was jointly given to Nithya Menen and Manasi Parekh.

➤ **Lata Mangeshkar Award**

- ✓ The Madhya Pradesh government will present the National Lata Mangeshkar Award to renowned musician Uttam Singh and playback singer K.S. Chitra at a function here on September 28.
- ✓ Uttam Singh will be awarded the Mangeshkar Award for 2022, while Chitra will be awarded the award for 2023.

➤ **National Teacher Award for 2024**

- ✓ R. Gopinathan, 42, a teacher at Panchayat Union Middle School in Rajakuppam village, has been selected for the National Teacher Award for 2024.

➤ **Singapore Literature Prize**

- ✓ Indian-origin lecturer Prasanthi Ram won the Singapore Literature Prize.
- ✓ An Indian-origin lecturer at Nanyang Technological University, Prasanthi Ram, has won the Singapore Literature Prize for her book 'Nine Yard Sarees'.

➤ **The 2024 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize: Honoring Mathematical Excellence**

- ✓ This prestigious award, which recognizes outstanding contributions in mathematics, particularly those influenced by the legendary Srinivasa Ramanujan, will be bestowed upon Alexander Dunn of the Georgia Institute of Technology, U.S.

➤ **Dadasaheb Phalke Award**

- ✓ Veteran actor Mithun Chakraborty was on Monday named recipient of the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, the government's highest recognition in the field of cinema, for the year 2022.

➤ **Ambros and Gary Ruvkun won the 2024 Nobel Prize in Medicine**

- ✓ Scientists Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun have won the 2024 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the discovery of microRNA and its role in post-transcriptional gene regulation.

➤ **Kalaichemmal Awards**

- ✓ The 2024 Kalaichemmal awards recognize the contributions of six artists in the fields of painting and sculpture in Tamil Nadu:
- ✓ Manivelu: Traditional art
- ✓ L. Balachandran: Traditional sculpture
- ✓ K. Kanniappan: Traditional sculpture
- ✓ K. Muralidharan: Modern art
- ✓ A. Selvaraj: Modern art
- ✓ R. Raghavan: Modern sculpture

➤ **Nobel Prize in Physics**

- ✓ The 2024 Nobel Prize in Physics has been awarded to **John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton** "for foundational discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning with artificial neural networks", the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced on Tuesday.

➤ **Nobel Prize in Chemistry**

- ✓ The 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded to **David Baker** for his innovative work in computational protein design and to **Demis Hassabis** and **John M. Jumper** for their groundbreaking AI-based protein structure prediction.

➤ **Han Kang Wins 2024 Nobel Prize in Literature**

- ✓ The 2024 Nobel Prize in Literature has been awarded to Han Kang, a South Korean author, for her powerful writing that reflects on historical traumas and highlights the fragile nature of human existence.

➤ **IAF World Space Award**

- ✓ Dr. S. Somanath, Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), has been honoured with the prestigious International Astronautical Federation (IAF) World Space Award.

➤ **The Harry Messel Award**

- ✓ Bibhab Kumar Talukdar of Assam has received 'The Harry Messel Award' for Conservation Leadership by the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

➤ **Kalaigarnar M. Karunanidhi Semmozhi Tamil Award**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday (November 8, 2024) handed over the Kalaigarnar M. Karunanidhi Semmozhi Tamil Award for 2024 to Tamil scholar M. Selvarasan, formerly with the Tamil Department of the University of Madras.

➤ **Booker Prize for Fiction with "Orbital"**

- ✓ British author Samantha Harvey has won the prestigious Booker Prize for Fiction for her novel "Orbital," a thought-provoking and imaginative exploration set in the unique setting of the International Space Station (ISS).

➤ **Dominica Award of Honour**

- ✓ Dominica announced to give its highest national honor to Prime Minister Modi.
- ✓ The Commonwealth of Dominica has announced that it will confer its highest national award, the Dominica Award of Honour, on Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

➤ **Grand Commander of the Order of Niger**

- ✓ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was conferred the prestigious national award, "Grand Commander of the Order of Niger", by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, H.E. Mr. Bola Ahmed Tinubu, at the State House.

➤ **Guyana's 'The Order of Excellence' Award**

- ✓ PM Modi was awarded 'The Order of Excellence,' Guyana's highest honor, by President Irfaan Ali.
- ✓ The award acknowledges his exceptional contributions during the COVID-19 pandemic and his global leadership.

➤ **Global Peace Award In Washington**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured with the 'Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award for Minority Upliftment', recognizing his efforts in inclusive development and minority welfare.

➤ **Indira Gandhi Peace Prize**

- ✓ The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development for 2023 was presented to classical pianist and conductor Daniel Barenboim and Palestinian peace activist Ali Abu Awwad.
- **Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development**
 - ✓ Michelle Bachelet, former president of Chile, has been awarded the 2024 Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development, by the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust.
 - ✓ The jury, led by Shivshankar Menon, selected Bachelet for her outstanding contributions to human rights and equality.
- **Best State in Promoting Sports**
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu has bagged an award at the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry's (FICCI) Turf 2024-14th International Sports Conference and Awards for being the 'Best State in Promoting Sports'.
- **Award of Distinction**
 - ✓ UNESCO has selected the Abathsahayeshwarar Temple in Thukkatchi, Thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu for the Award of Distinction for 2023.
 - ✓ The 1,300-year-old temple has received recognition for its preservation of its cultural legacy.
 - ✓ King Vikrama Chola and King Kulothunga Chola built the temple.
- **Champions of the Earth Award**
 - ✓ The United Nations honored ecologist Madhav Gadgil with the Champions of the Earth Award, which is the UN's highest environmental recognition.
 - ✓ Gadgil's contributions focus on the Western Ghats, a vital biodiversity hotspot in India.
- **Sahitya Akademi Award**
 - ✓ Historian AR Venkatachalapathy has bagged the Sahitya Akademi Award for the year 2024 in the research category for his Tamil book Tirunelveli Ezhuchiyum Vaa Vuu Ciyum 1908 (Tirunelveli uprising and VO Chidambaram Pillai 1908).

PERSONALITIES

➤ **Kamala Harris**

- ✓ United States Vice-President Kamala Harris has formally secured the Democratic presidential nomination.
- ✓ Harris who became the first Indian-American to win the nomination from a major political party.

➤ **Five-Year-Old Teghbir Singh Conquers Mount Kilimanjaro**

- ✓ Teghbir Singh, a five-year-old boy from Ropar, Punjab, has etched his name in the annals of mountaineering history.
- ✓ Teghbir has become the youngest Asian to successfully scale Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest peak, standing at an impressive 5,895 meters above sea level.

➤ **Dhruvi Patel wins Miss India Worldwide 2024**

- ✓ Dhruvi Patel, a Computer Information System student from the USA, has been declared the winner of Miss India Worldwide 2024, the longest running Indian pageant outside of India.

➤ **Miss Universe India 2024**

- ✓ Rhea Singha, a 19-year-old model from Gujarat, was crowned Miss Universe India 2024 in Jaipur.
- ✓ She will represent India at the global Miss Universe competition in Mexico.
- ✓ The 19-year-old Rhea Singha is from Gujarat.

➤ **Femina Miss India 2024**

- ✓ Nikita Porwal from Madhya Pradesh has been crowned Femina Miss India 2024.
- ✓ After this win, Nikita will represent India in the Miss World beauty pageant (73rd Miss World pageant).

➤ **First Indian to win Miss Grand International 2024**

- ✓ 20-year-old Rachel Gupta from Jalandhar **has become** the first Indian to win the prestigious Miss Grand International 2024 crown.
- ✓ The groundbreaking victory came as she competed against contestants from more than 70 countries.

➤ **Ashwin's Retirement: A Historic Cricket Career Concludes**

- ✓ Ravichandran Ashwin, one of India's premier spinners, has announced his retirement from international cricket at the end of the third Border-Gavaskar Trophy Test in Brisbane on December 18, 2024.
- **Kaamya Karthikeyan: Youngest Female to Conquer Seven Summits**
- ✓ 17-year-old Kaamya Karthikeyan is from Mumbai's Navy Children School.
- ✓ On December 24, she and her father, Commander S. Karthikeyan, completed the Seven Summits Challenge by reaching the peak of Mount Vincent in Antarctica.



BOOKS & AUTHORS

- **“POWER WITHIN: The Leadership Legacy of NARENDRA MODI”**
- ✓ Power Within: The Leadership Legacy of Narendra Modi, authored by the distinguished development scholar Dr R Balasubramaniam, offers an in-depth exploration of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership journey, meticulously capturing his contributions to India's socio-economic landscape.

- **CM Stalin Releases Books on Folk Deities & Forts of T.N.**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday released two coffee-table books titled **Folk Deities of Tamil Nadu: Worship, Tradition and Custom & Forts of Tamil Nadu: A Walk-Through**, brought out by The Hindu Group of Publications in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu government's Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR and CE) Department and Tourism Department.
- ✓ The book on folk deities, curated by B. Kolappan, The Hindu's Senior Deputy Editor, focuses on the innumerable folk deities of Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Tamil society worshipped heroes who laid down their lives for a common cause. 'Nadu Kal' (hero stones) were erected to honour those heroes.

- **The Prisoner of Bhopal**
- ✓ Tim Walker's "The Prisoner of Bhopal": A Novel Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy.
- ✓ Award-winning designer-turned-author Tim Walker has published a historical fiction novel titled "The Prisoner of Bhopal," aimed at young readers.
- ✓ This book commemorates the 40th anniversary of the Bhopal gas tragedy, one of India's most devastating industrial disasters.

- **Breaking Rocks and Barriers: The Adventurous Life of Sudipta Sengupta**
- ✓ "Breaking Rocks and Barriers" will be released on July 24 by HarperCollins India, highlighting the life of Sudipta Sengupta.
- ✓ **Antarctic Expedition:** In 1983, Sengupta became one of the first Indian women to set foot in Antarctica, contributing to the Third Indian Expedition to Antarctica.

- **'India@100'**
- ✓ Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal today launched the book titled 'India@100: Envisioning Tomorrow's Economic Powerhouse' authored by Prof. K V Subramanian in New Delhi.
- ✓ Addressing the launch event, Mr Goyal said that India can achieve the target of Viksit Bharat with the collective efforts of 1.4 billion citizens.

- ✓ He has expressed confidence that India will become a developed nation by 2047 in all sectors, including infrastructure, employment generation, tourism, manufacturing, shipping, and technology.
- **Parimal Nathwani's Book On Gir And Asiatic Lions**
- ✓ Rajya Sabha MP Parimal Nathwani on July 31, presented the first copy of his new book '**Call of the Gir**' to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a small family get-together at the PM's residence.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appreciated the book **Call of the Gir** written by Rajya Sabha Member Parimal Nathwani.
- **Book Launch Spotlight: '75 Great Revolutionaries of India'**
- ✓ Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh Narayan Singh attended the launch of '75 Great Revolutionaries of India,' a book by MP Bhim Singh.
- ✓ Singh praised the work for highlighting lesser-known freedom fighters.
- ✓ This **book's stories of 75 revolutionaries** fuel one's spirit and ambition to contribute to India's development,' said Singh.
- **The Scientist Entrepreneur: Empowering Millions of Women**
- ✓ Soumya Swaminathan Releases Autobiography of Activist Kalpana Sankar.
- ✓ In a significant event celebrating women's empowerment and social entrepreneurship, Dr. Kalpana Sankar's autobiography, "The Scientist Entrepreneur: Empowering Millions of Women", was unveiled at Cathedral Road.
- **First Edition of E-Magazine 'Sapno ki Udaan'**
- ✓ On India's National Space Day, marking the 1st anniversary of Chandrayaan-3's landing on the lunar South Pole, the Department of School Education & Literacy, in collaboration with NCERT, launched the e-magazine 'Sapno ki Udaan.'
- ✓ Union Minister of Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, released the inaugural edition virtually, with Shri Jayant Chaudhary, Minister of State for Education, also attending.
- **The Book Titled 'Sri Rama in Tamilagam - An inseparable bond'**
- ✓ On a significant day for Tamil literature and cultural heritage, Thiru. R.N. Ravi, the Honorable Governor of Tamil Nadu, presided over the release of a groundbreaking book titled "Sri Rama in Tamilagam - An Inseparable Bond".

- ✓ This literary work, authored by the esteemed duo Dr. D.K. Hari and Dr. D.K. Hema Hari, explores the deep-rooted connection between Lord Rama and the land of Tamilagam, now known as Tamil Nadu.
- **LARA: The England Chronicles – A Cricket Legend’s Journey**
 - ✓ Brian Lara stands as a singular figure in the annals of cricket history. His uniqueness is not just a matter of opinion but a fact etched in the record books of the sport.
 - ✓ The cricketing world has not seen a batsman quite like him before, and it’s almost certain that we won’t see one like him again.
- **Mountain Mammals of the World**
 - ✓ Few conservationists in India can claim a legacy as impactful as M.K. Ranjitsinh, whose new book, Mountain Mammals of the World, published by Penguin Random House, serves as a testament to his lifelong dedication to protecting endangered species.
 - ✓ As a member of the royal family of Wankaner, Gujarat, Ranjitsinh has played a pivotal role in shaping India’s wildlife conservation policies.
- **Speaking with Nature: The Origins of Indian Environmentalism**
 - ✓ Renowned historian and public intellectual **Ramachandra Guha** is widely celebrated for his profound insights into Indian history and society, especially as the biographer of Mahatma Gandhi.
 - ✓ His latest book, Speaking with Nature: The Origins of Indian Environmentalism, is a testament to his commitment to exploring India’s unique ecological heritage.
- **Why Bharat Matters**
 - ✓ External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar launched his book, Why Bharat Matters, at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Library in Dubai, UAE.
 - ✓ During the event, Dr. Jaishankar provided insight into the themes and key messages of his book, reflecting on the complex interplay of global and domestic factors shaping India’s position in the world.
- **Dalai Lama’s Secret to Happiness**
 - ✓ On December 12, 2024, Dr. Dinesh Shahra, a renowned philanthropist, author, and thought leader, launched his book, Dalai Lama’s Secret to Happiness, at the prestigious Library of Tibetan Works & Archives (LTWA) in Dharamshala.
 - ✓ This event highlighted the significance of His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s teachings and their impact on promoting peace and happiness.

- **The Unyielding Judge: A Tribute to Justice A.N. Grover's Legacy**
- ✓ At the launch of 'The Unyielding Judge: The Life and Legacy of Justice A.N. Grover,' Attorney General R. Venkataramani highlighted the importance of judicial integrity, reflecting on how a judge's resistance to temptation defines their stature in human values.
- ✓ The event paid tribute to Justice Grover, renowned for his role in the landmark 1973 Kesavananda Bharti case, which upheld the basic structure doctrine of the Indian Constitution.

- **Deepa Malik's Memoir 'Bring It On: The Incredible Story of My Life'**
- ✓ In December 2024, HarperCollins Publishers India Private Limited, headquartered in Gurgaon, Haryana, announced the release of "Bring It On: The Incredible Story of My Life", a memoir by Deepa Malik, India's first female Paralympic medalist.
- ✓ Deepa Malik is a leading para-athlete with 23 international medals to her name.
- ✓ She created history by becoming India's first female Paralympic medalist, winning a silver medal at the Rio Paralympics 2016.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

➤ **India's Woman Robot Astronaut "Vyommitra"**

- ✓ In a pioneering leap for India's space endeavors, Vyommitra, the woman robot astronaut developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), is set to embark on an uncrewed mission in the third quarter of this year.
- ✓ The mission, named after the Sanskrit words "Vyoma" (Space) and "Mitra" (Friend), signifies a significant stride towards the ambitious Gaganyaan mission, the country's maiden manned space flight, slated for 2025.

➤ **ISRO Young Scientist Program 2024 (YUVIKA)**

- ✓ Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has introduced the **Yuva Vigyani Karyakram** Young Scientist Program (YUVIKA) 2024, which aims to promote curiosity and knowledge about space science, technology among the youth and school children.
- ✓ Yuvika aims to provide fundamental knowledge on space science, technology and applications, especially targeting rural areas.
The program aims to spark interest in STEM fields and nurture future talents in space exploration.

➤ **ISRO's Second Spaceport In Tamil Nadu**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) second spaceport in Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The project is estimated to cost Rs 950 crore. It aims to cater to the growing demand for satellite launches, particularly for small satellites.
- ✓ The new spaceport, sprawling over 2,233 acres, offers strategic advantages. Its location promises fuel savings and more efficient satellite launches compared to the existing facility in Sriharikota.

➤ **Moon Mission in 2040**

- ✓ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chief S Somanath has revealed that the upcoming phase of the Chandrayaan project is in progress, aiming to advance India's lunar exploration efforts.
- ✓ He indicated that Chandrayaan-4 marks the initial stride towards India's aspiration of landing an astronaut on the moon by 2040.
- ✓ Somanath further stated that ISRO is working on a wide range of projects, including rocket and satellite projects, application projects, and technology development projects.

➤ **Debris-Free Space Missions by 2030**

- ✓ ISRO chairman S Somanath announced that the country aims to achieve debris-free space missions by 2030.
- ✓ ISRO has a clearly laid-out plan for space exploration.
- ✓ The main aim of the initiative is to achieve debris-free space missions by 2030.
- ✓ ISRO had brought several old satellites and fourth stage of PSLV rockets back to the Earth through the deorbiting process as part of its zero orbital debris mission.
- ✓ India is also planning to set up its own space station 'Bharatiya Antriksh Station' by 2035.

➤ **ISRO Develops Semi-Cryogenic Engine Using Liquid Oxygen Kerosene**

- ISRO, through the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) with support from other launch vehicle centers, is advancing the development of a semi-cryogenic propulsion system.
- This system aims to enhance the payload capacity of Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3) and future launch vehicles by utilizing a 2,000 kN thrust semi-cryogenic engine powered by a combination of liquid oxygen (LOX) and kerosene.

➤ **New Liquid Rocket Engine**

- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully tested the new liquid rocket engine manufactured through Additive Manufacturing technology.
- ✓ The test was successfully carried out at ISRO Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri in Tamilnadu.
- ✓ This new redesigned PS4 engine has brought down the number of parts from 14 to a single piece and eliminated 19 weld joints.
- ✓ This will significantly save on the raw material usage per engine, reduce metal powder from 565 kgs to 13.7 kgs and reduce the production time by 60 percent.
- ✓ ISRO is planning to induct this PS4 engine into the regular PSLV program.

➤ **Mangalyaan-2 Unveiled**

- ✓ India Set to Become the Third Nation to Land on Mars.
- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is gearing up for a landmark mission that aims to land a rover and helicopter on Mars.
- ✓ This historic endeavor, named Mangalyaan-2, seeks to place India alongside the US and China as a significant player in interplanetary exploration.
- ✓ The project was unveiled during a presentation at the Space Application Centre on National Technology Day.

➤ **PS4 3D-Printed Rocket Engine**

- Wipro 3D and ISRO joined hands for sustainable space exploration through additive manufacturing.
- Wipro 3D in association with ISRO achieved a milestone in space technology with the successful manufacturing of the PS4 3D-printed rocket engine.
- The PS4 3D-printed rocket engine powers the 4th stage of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).
- The PS4 engine was being traditionally manufactured through conventional machining and welding. It has been redesigned through Additive Manufacturing technology.

➤ **Indo-French TRISHNA Mission**

- Space agency ISRO has announced a joint Indo-French infrared earth observation satellite mission, TRISHNA (Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for High-Resolution Natural Resource Assessment), to monitor surface temperature and water management around the world.
- The goal of TRISHNA is to simplify the Earth's energy and water processes by giving accurate measurements of water stress on land, changes in water quality in coastal and inland bodies of water, and evaluations of urban heat islands.

➤ **NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar**

- ✓ India and the United States (US) are preparing to jointly launch NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar to combat climate change and other global challenges.
- ✓ A new partnership between the US Space Force and the Indian startups, 114ai and 3rdiTech.
- ✓ Launching a new partnership between the U.S. Space Force and the Indian startups, 114ai and 3rdiTech, including on advancing space situational awareness, data fusion technologies, and infra-red sensor semiconductor manufacturing.

➤ **Third and Final 'Pushpak' Reusable Launch Vehicle**

- ✓ Third and final 'Pushpak' reusable launch vehicle landing experiment was successfully carried out by ISRO.
- ✓ On June 23, the Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO, said that the third and final landing experiment of its reusable launch vehicle 'Pushpak' was successful.
- ✓ RLV LEX-03 (Reusable Launch Vehicle Landing Experiment 3) re-demonstrated autonomous landing capability under more severe wind conditions.

➤ **Chiretolpis erubescens**

- ✓ Rare moth endemic to Western Ghats 'rediscovered' in Nilgiris after 132 years.

- ✓ At a first glance, *Chiretolpis erubescens*, a rare moth endemic to the Western Ghats could be considered unremarkable.
 - ✓ However, a more nuanced study of the species would remind us of how little is known about the health and continued existence of “lesser-known species” that were recorded to have inhabited the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR), and largely been forgotten since.
- **ISRO's Aditya-L1 Completes First Halo Orbit**
- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on June 2, announced that India's inaugural solar mission has completed its halo orbit around the Sun-Earth L1 point on July 2.
 - ✓ This significant breakthrough was achieved after a station keeper manoeuvre made its transition into the second halo orbit.
- **MeDevIS (Medical Devices Information System)**
- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched MeDevIS (Medical Devices Information System), an online platform designed to be the first global open access clearing house for information on medical devices.
 - ✓ It aims to support governments, regulators, and users in making informed decisions about the selection, procurement, and use of medical devices for diagnostics, testing, and treatment of various health conditions.
- **Microsoft Outage**
- ✓ Government is in touch with Microsoft and its associates regarding the global outage.
 - ✓ Advisory said that it has been reported that Windows hosts related to Crowd strike agent Falcon Sensor, are facing outages and getting crashed due to recent update received in the product.
 - ✓ It added that the concerned Windows hosts are experiencing a Blue Screen of Death (BSOD), related to Falcon Sensor.
 - ✓ The issues occurred in the latest update of CrowdStrike and the changes have been reverted by the CrowdStrike Team.
- **Nipah Cases**
- ✓ The Director of Public Health has instructed the deputy directors of health to deploy medical teams at border check-posts round the clock to screen all symptomatic cases of the acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) with protective equipment.
 - ✓ The zoonotic disease is spread by large fruit bats, which are natural reservoirs of the Nipah virus.

- ✓ Humans could contract the virus if they eat the contaminated fruit.
- **Amoebic Brain Infection**
 - ✓ With five cases of amoebic meningoencephalitis, including three deaths, being reported in adolescents in Kerala in the past three months, the State's Health Department has come out with technical guidelines on the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of the infection, possibly the first set of guidelines in the country on this rare but fatal infection.
 - ✓ In all but one case, the causative organism was the amoebic parasite, *Naegleria fowleri*.
 - ✓ In one case, the organism was *Vermamoeba vermiformis*, another free-living amoeba found in human environment.
- **Apophis Asteroid**
 - ✓ The European Space Agency (ESA) will launch a mission to study the Apophis asteroid when it passes very close to Earth in 2029.
 - ✓ ESA is the second major space agency to launch a space mission to study Apophis asteroid. Apophis will pass within 32,000 km of the Earth in 2029.
 - ✓ An asteroid of such a large size comes this close to the Earth only once in about 5,000 to 10,000 years.
 - ✓ The main aim of the study of the asteroids is to develop capabilities to protect the Earth from possible collisions.
- **Hottest Day Recorded Globally**
 - ✓ July 21 was the hottest day ever registered globally, according to data published on Tuesday by the EU's climate monitor.
 - ✓ The Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) said the global average surface air temperature of 17.09° C on Sunday was the warmest in their record books, which go back to 1940.
 - ✓ The new daily high was 0.01° C above the previous record temperature of 17.08 registered on July 6, 2023.
- **India Selects Crew for Axiom-4 Mission to ISS**
 - ✓ India has announced the selection of two astronauts, Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla and Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair, for the upcoming Axiom-4 mission to the International Space Station (ISS).
 - ✓ This mission represents a significant step in strengthening human spaceflight cooperation between ISRO and NASA, as well as advancing India's own human space program.

➤ **Earth Observation Satellite-8 (EOS-8)**

- ✓ ISRO will launch Earth Observation Satellite-8 (EOS-8) on August 15. The EOS-8 will be launched by the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV)-D3.
- ✓ The main objective of the EOS-08 mission includes designing and developing a microsatellite and creating payload instruments compatible with the microsatellite bus.
- ✓ EOS-08 will make significant advancements in satellite mainframe systems, such as an integrated avionics system known as the Communication, Baseband and Positioning (CBSP) Package.

➤ **India to Roll out new treatment regimen for drug-resistant TB**

- ✓ India is getting ready to roll out the BPaL (bedaquiline, pretomanid, and linezolid) regimen for all multidrug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB) patients.
- ✓ The training for this new exercise is scheduled to begin this month.
- ✓ This is a significant move in the country's battle against M/XDR-TB.

➤ **Ceropegia Shivrayiana**

- ✓ A new flowering plant species from 'ceropegia' genus has been discovered inside the Vishalgad premises in Maharashtra and named it as Ceropegia Shivrayiana.
- ✓ Ceropegia Shivrayiana is a flowering plant species named in a nod to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.
- ✓ This plant thrives in rocky terrains and is capable of growing in less nutrient-or poor soils.

➤ **Neelakurinji (Strobilanthes kunthiana)**

- ✓ Neelakurinji officially becomes a 'threatened species'. Neelakurinji (Strobilanthes kunthiana) has been included in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) official Red List of threatened species.
- ✓ This is the first-ever Global Red List assessment for this flagship species.
- ✓ Neelakurinji blooms once in 12 years..
- ✓ This species has 34 subpopulations within 14 ecoregions of the high-altitude mountain ranges.

➤ **Three New Ramsar Sites**

- ✓ India has added three new Ramsar sites to wetlands network. With this, the number of total Ramsar sites in India has increased to 85.
- ✓ **Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary** and **Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary** in Tamil Nadu have been added to the list of India's Ramsar sites.

- ✓ Tawa Reservoir of Madhya Pradesh has also been added to the list of India's Ramsar sites.
 - ✓ As of June 2024, India had a total of 82 Ramsar sites.
 - ✓ A Ramsar Site is a wetland site that has been designated as being of international importance by the Ramsar Convention.
- **WHO Declares Mpox a Global Public Health Emergency**
- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) declared mpox a "public health emergency of international concern" (PHEIC), on August 14, 2024.
 - ✓ This decision was made after experts noticed a rise in mpox cases, especially in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and other African countries.
 - ✓ Mpox, formerly called monkeypox, is a viral disease mostly found in Central and West Africa.
- **ISRO Launched SSLV-D3-EOS-08**
- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation ([ISRO](#)) launched the SSLV-D3-EOS-08 mission. This mission launched a small satellite designed to observe Earth.
 - ✓ It follows the success of the earlier SSLV-D2-EOS-07 mission, which was launched in February 2023.
 - ✓ The SSLV-D3-EOS-08 is the third flight in ISRO's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) series. This mission completes the development phase of this new rocket.
 - ✓ Originally set for August 15, the launch has been rescheduled to August 16 at 9:19 am IST.
 - ✓ The launch occurred at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre.
- **Kerala University Develops Advanced Cyanide Sensor for Safety**
- ✓ A research team at Kerala University, led by Dr. Ravi Kumar Kanaparthi, has developed an innovative cyanide sensor to enhance food and water safety.
 - ✓ The sensor changes colour upon detecting cyanide, providing a reliable method to monitor this toxin in cyanide-prone areas.
 - ✓ This technology is crucial for preventing health risks, particularly in regions where cyanide-rich foods are consumed.
- **RHUMI-1**
- ✓ India launched its 1st reusable hybrid rocket, 'RHUMI-1'.
 - ✓ 'RHUMI-1, India's first reusable hybrid rocket, has been developed by the Tamil Nadu-based start-up Space Zone India with Martin Group.
 - ✓ It has been launched from Thiruvudandhai in Chennai.
 - ✓ The rocket carried 3 cube satellites and 50 PICO satellites.

- ✓ These satellites will be used to collect data for research purposes on global warming and climate change.
- **Vulture Count 2024**
 - ✓ A tracking initiative 'Vulture Count 2024' launched by WWF-India to keep track of nature's 'sanitation workers.'
 - ✓ This campaign will start from 7 September and will run till 6 October.
 - ✓ This initiative has been launched on the occasion of International Vulture Awareness Day.
 - ✓ The aim of the Vulture Census 2024 is to address this crisis by systematically monitoring the vulture population.
- **New Jumping Spider Species Discovered in Tamil Nadu**
 - ✓ A new species of jumping spider, *Carrhotus piperus*, has been discovered in the lower Palani Hills of Tamil Nadu.
 - ✓ This discovery highlights the rich biodiversity of the region and brings the total number of *Carrhotus* species in India to 10, with 37 known globally.
 - ✓ The spider was found during a survey in 2016 in Thadiyankudisai, Dindigul.
 - ✓ The research was led by John Caleb T.D. from the Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences and M. Sampathkumar from the ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources.
 - ✓ These scientists gave the spider its scientific description.
- **India Successfully Launches Agni-4 Ballistic Missile**
 - ✓ **India** successfully launched the **Agni-4 ballistic missile from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha.**
 - ✓ The test was conducted under the Strategic Forces Command (SFC).
 - ✓ The Agni-4 is a long-range, surface-to-surface ballistic missile with a range of **4,000 kilometres.**
 - ✓ It is capable of carrying nuclear warheads.
- **Southern Birdwing**
 - ✓ Southern Birdwing, India's second largest butterfly species, has been discovered between Chathirapatti and Kadavur on New Natham Highway in Madurai district.
 - ✓ Southern Birdwing was India's largest butterfly species from 1932 to 2020. This is mainly found in the Western and Eastern Ghats regions.

- ✓ It has a wingspan of 190mm. It moved to second position after a British Brigadier William Harry Evans recorded a butterfly species named Golden Birdwing with a wingspan of 194mm.
- **Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM)**
 - ✓ Indian Government approved mission to Venus after Moon and Mars.
 - ✓ On September 18, the development of Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM) approved by the Union Cabinet, which will be a major milestone in India's space exploration efforts.
 - ✓ The aim of the mission is to explore Venus, the nearest planet to Earth, and is an important step beyond the Moon and Mars in the government's vision for planetary exploration.
- **India's First Astronaut to ISS Set for Ax-4 Mission**
 - ✓ In 2025, India will make history again in space with Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla piloting the Axiom-4 (Ax-4) mission.
 - ✓ This mission will be India's first human presence on the International Space Station (ISS) and only the second government-sponsored human spaceflight from India, after Wing Commander Rakesh Sharma's mission in 1984.
 - ✓ The Ax-4 mission is part of a bigger plan between India and the United States.
- **Earth's New Mini Moon: Asteroid 2024 PT5 to Orbit for Two Months**
 - ✓ Earth is set to welcome a temporary "mini-moon" in the form of a small asteroid named 2024 PT5, which will orbit our planet from September 29 to November 25, 2024.
 - ✓ Discovered by NASA's Asteroid Terrestrial-Impact Last Alert System (Atlas) on August 7, 2024, this asteroid measures approximately 33 feet wide and originates from the Arjuna asteroid belt, a region filled with various space rocks.
 - ✓ While it cannot be observed with the naked eye or typical telescopes, professional astronomers will be able to capture images of this tiny object moving rapidly across the night sky.
- **Women in Space Leadership Programme**
 - ✓ Women in space leadership programme has been launched by India to boost gender equality.
 - ✓ It has been launched by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), in collaboration with the British Council, on September 24, 2024.
 - ✓ The aim of the initiative is to strengthen gender-inclusive practices within institutions to increase women's leadership in space sciences by the development of a strategic leadership framework.

➤ **India Becomes Third Largest Ethanol Producer and Consumer**

- ✓ India has recently become the third-largest producer and consumer of ethanol in the world.
- ✓ This change is thanks to important policy changes made by the Indian government to encourage the use of biofuels and improve energy sustainability.
- ✓ The government has launched several programs to increase ethanol production, including financial support for sugarcane farmers and manufacturers.

➤ **Butterfly Migration Thrives In Tamil Nadu's Western Ghats**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu recently saw a massive migration of butterflies from the Danainae sub-family, specifically the species called 'tigers and crows.'
- ✓ These butterflies moved from the Eastern Ghats (a mountain range in India) toward the Western Ghats.
- ✓ This migration in 2023 was much larger than in the previous year.

➤ **BharatGen**

- ✓ India launched an initiative called BharatGen, aiming to make generative AI available in various Indian languages.
- ✓ Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh mentioned that this is the first state-funded project of its kind.
- ✓ The initiative is managed by IIT Bombay, under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems, and will develop generative AI systems.

➤ **CIBA Develops New System to Improve Shrimp Production**

- ✓ At a time when production cost and climate changes affect the output and profitability of shrimp farming, the city-based Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA) has developed a new-age production system that can yield 100 to 120 tonnes of shrimp per hectare in three crop cycles (100 days/cycle) in a year.

➤ **Upper Stage of PSLV C-37 Returns to Earth, says ISRO**

- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) said that the upper stage of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle C-37 (PSLV C-37 mission) re-entered the Earth's atmosphere on Sunday.
- ✓ The PSLV-C37 mission was launched on February 15, 2017, with Cartosat-2D as the main payload along with another 103 satellites as co-passengers.
- ✓ The space agency created history as it was the first mission to launch 104 satellites with a single vehicle.

➤ **India has Eliminated Trachoma, says WHO**

- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) has now recognised that India has successfully eliminated trachoma, a bacterial infection that affects the eyes, as a public health problem.
- ✓ In a citation shared by Saima Wazed, Regional Director, WHO South-East Asia, on Tuesday, the UN health body announced that India is the third country in the Southeast Asia Region to reach this public health milestone.

➤ **India's Fifth Lunar Mission 'Lupex'**

- ✓ After the success of Chandrayaan-3 in August 2023, India's National Space Commission (NSC) has approved a new lunar mission, called the Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (Lupex).
- ✓ This mission is a partnership between India's space agency ISRO and Japan's space agency JAXA, and it will focus on exploring the Moon's resources, especially water at the lunar south pole.

➤ **Kaziranga Named India's Second Largest Butterfly Diversity Hub**

- ✓ Kaziranga National Park in Assam renowned for its iconic one-horned rhinoceros, has now gained recognition as India's second-largest butterfly diversity hub.
- ✓ Following Namdapha National Park in Arunachal Pradesh, Kaziranga is home to an impressive 446 butterfly species.
- ✓ This newfound distinction highlights the park's rich biodiversity.

➤ **Cyclonic Storm 'Dana'**

- ✓ Cyclonic Storm 'Dana' is expected to land in Odisha. Odisha is preparing for the potential impact of severe cyclonic storm 'Dana'.
- ✓ It is expected to hit the Coast of Odisha. The cyclonic storm will form over the east-central Bay of Bengal.
- ✓ It will land with a wind speed of 100 to 120 km per hour along the Odisha and West Bengal coasts.

➤ **IIT Madras Set to Launch International Research Centre in Dubai by 2025**

- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has announced plans to launch its inaugural international flagship centre in Dubai, focusing on research, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
- ✓ Set to open in early 2025, this initiative aims to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange between India and the UAE.

➤ **Anguiculus dicaprioi**

- ✓ A new snake species has been identified in the Western Himalayas. Scientists named it *Anguiculus dicaprio*.
- ✓ The species honors actor and environmentalist Leonardo DiCaprio for his wildlife conservation efforts.
- ✓ The name *Anguiculus* translates to 'small snake' in Latin, reflecting the species' small size.

➤ **India's First Analog Space Mission**

- ✓ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has started the country's first analog space mission at Leh in Ladakh, where space agency will simulate life in an interplanetary habitat.
- ✓ The move assumes significance as India is planning to send a human to the Moon in the near future.

➤ **India To Launch ESA Mission PROBA-3**

- ✓ Science and Technology Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh has said that India will launch the European Space Agency mission named PROBA-3 next month from the Sriharikota Space Station.
- ✓ The mission will study the Sun's faint corona closer to the solar rim.
- ✓ The Minister also underscored India's vision to increase their contribution in the global space economy from 2 percent to 10 percent in the coming years.

➤ **World's First Wooden Satellite, LignoSat**

- ✓ In Japan, the world's first wooden satellite was launched into space today aims to prove that wood is a space-grade material.
- ✓ The satellite LignoSat is scheduled to orbit the Earth for six months.
- ✓ According to media reports, designed by researchers at Kyoto University in Japan, LignoSat is made of honoki, a kind of magnolia tree that was traditionally used to make sword sheaths.

➤ **Senna spectabilis in Tamil Nadu**

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government has informed the Madras High Court that the forests of the state would be made free of one of the invasive weeds – *Senna spectabilis* by the next 12 months.
- ✓ It was introduced to the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR) after being sourced from South and Central America.
- ✓ It is a fast-growing species, particularly on deep soils, and is fire- and termiteresistant and tolerant of strongly acidic soils.

➤ **Research Centre to Study Spacecraft & Launch Vehicle Thermal Management**

- ✓ Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) has collaborated with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to establish a Centre of Excellence for research in 'Fluid and Thermal Sciences'.
 - ✓ The ISRO would be providing a seed funding of 1.84 crore towards establishing this centre.
 - ✓ This centre will act as a nodal centre for spacecraft and launch vehicle-related thermal management research activities of ISRO.
- **Tamil Nadu Tackles Invasive Plant Threat**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Forest Department is dealing with a new ecological problem caused by an invasive plant called *Senna tora*.
 - ✓ This plant, originally from Central America, has been found in the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve and nearby areas, which may harm local wildlife.
 - ✓ The plant poses a potential risk to grasslands.
 - ✓ These grasslands are crucial for local fauna, including elephants, deer, and Indian gaur.
- **SpaceX to Launch India's Communication Satellite GSAT-20**
- ✓ India's heavy communication satellite GSAT-20, weighing 4,700 kg, will be launched from Cape Canaveral, USA, by Elon Musk's SpaceX on November 19, 2024.
 - ✓ The satellite, developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), will provide essential communication services, including internet connectivity to remote areas.
 - ✓ This marks a significant milestone in India's space endeavors, as the satellite is too heavy for India's own launch vehicle, the LVM-3 "Bahubali."
- **First Indigenous Antibiotic Drug Named Nafithromycin**
- ✓ Union Minister of Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh has launched the first indigenous antibiotic drug named Nafithromycin for resistant infections.
 - ✓ Addressing the event in New Delhi, Mr Singh said that the three-day treatment regimen of Nafithromycin is a game-changer against drug-resistant pneumonia, a condition responsible for over two million deaths worldwide annually.
 - ✓ It is the country's first indigenously developed antibiotic aimed at tackling Antimicrobial Resistance-AMR.
- **Cyclone Fengal**
- ✓ A potential cyclone named 'Fengal,' suggested by Saudi Arabia, is forming in the Bay of Bengal, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

- ✓ The system, originating as a cyclonic circulation on November 21 near the South Andaman Sea, is likely to evolve into a Low Pressure Area (LPA) by November 23 and intensify into a depression by November 24.
 - ✓ This comes on the heels of Cyclone Dana, which severely impacted Odisha in October 2024.
- **India Launches First AI Data Bank to Boost National Security**
- ✓ India has launched its 1st AI data bank to enhance national security through real-time satellite, drone, and IoT analytics.
 - ✓ The initiative provides diverse datasets for scalable AI solutions in governance, business, and cybersecurity sectors.
 - ✓ This aligns with India's vision of using AI for innovation, disaster management, and economic growth while ensuring responsible use and transparency.
- **ISRO And ASA Join Hands For Gaganyaan Mission**
- ✓ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has entered into a significant collaboration with the Australian Space Agency (ASA) to support India's first crewed spaceflight program, Gaganyaan.
 - ✓ Two space agencies signed an Implementation Agreement (IA) to enhance cooperation on crew and crew module recovery, which is crucial for the success of the Gaganyaan mission.
- **India Conducts 'Historic' Flight Test of Hypersonic Missile**
- ✓ India on Sunday announced the successful flight test of its maiden long-range hypersonic missile with a range of 1,500 km.
 - ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted the flight test late on Saturday from Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Island, off Odisha coast, the latest in a series of missile tests in the past two months.
 - ✓ The missile is designed to carry various payloads for ranges greater than 1,500 km for all the services of Indian armed forces.
- **India's First Space AI Lab**
- ✓ Hyderabad-based space tech company TakeMe2Space (TM2Space) is set to launch MOI-TD (My Orbital Infrastructure – Technology Demonstrator), India's first AI laboratory in space, aboard ISRO's PSLV C60 rocket in mid-December 2024.
 - ✓ This mission will enable real-time in-orbit data processing, drastically reducing data transmission costs and opening space research to a broader audience.

➤ **ISRO Launch ESA's Proba-3 Mission**

- ✓ Proba-3 mission by ESA was launched via PSLV-C59 from Sriharikota on December 4 at 4:06 PM, carrying 550 kg satellites into a highly elliptical orbit.
- ✓ The mission, an "In-Orbit Demonstration," will study the Sun's corona, showcasing India's collaboration in global space exploration.
- ✓ The launch marks ISRO and NSIL's growing role in advanced space missions.

➤ **European Space Agency to support Gaganyaan Mission**

- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the European Space Agency (ESA) has signed a Technical Implementing Plan (TIP) document for ground tracking support for India's Gaganyaan missions.
- ✓ The TIP, inked at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre on Wednesday, enables the ESA to provide ground station support for the space missions, which will ensure continuity in data flow and communication with the orbital module for monitoring and orbital operations.

➤ **Nafithromycin: Country's First Indigenous Antibiotic**

- ✓ India has led the way with the creation of Nafithromycin, the country's first indigenous Macrolide antibiotic.
- ✓ This remarkable achievement marks a pivotal moment in the fight against antimicrobial resistance, showcasing India's growing capabilities in pharmaceutical innovation.
- ✓ Developed by Wockhardt with support from the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), Nafithromycin (marketed as "Miqnaf,") targets Community-Acquired Bacterial Pneumonia (CABP) caused by drug-resistant bacteria, which disproportionately affects vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and those with compromised immune system.

➤ **India's First Hyperloop Train Test Track completed by IIT Madras**

- ✓ IIT Madras has completed a 410-meter Hyperloop test track, marking a significant milestone in India's journey toward futuristic transport systems.
- ✓ The project is being led by IIT Madras's Avishkar Hyperloop team in partnership with TuTr, a startup incubated at the institute.
- ✓ The Hyperloop concept, originally popularised by Elon Musk in 2012, is now gaining traction worldwide, and this development takes India closer to adopting cutting-edge transportation technology.

➤ **India to Launch 'Bharat Antariksha Station' by 2035**

- ✓ The announcement of the 'Bharat Antariksha Station' marks a milestone, and is expected to be operational by 2035.
 - ✓ An Indian astronaut is also anticipated to land on the moon by 2040, which reflects India's growing capabilities in space technology.
 - ✓ The proposed space station aims to enhance India's presence in low Earth orbit and will support scientific research and international collaboration.
- **Google Unveils 'GenCast' for Weather Forecasting**
- ✓ Google's DeepMind team recently launched GenCast, a new AI model that excels in weather prediction and has surpassed the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF).
 - ✓ GenCast provides faster and more accurate forecasts, extending up to 15 days.
 - ✓ Unlike earlier versions, it offers multiple forecasts.
 - ✓ Users receive at least 50 different weather scenarios.
- **Gympie-Gympie: The World's Most Toxic Plant**
- ✓ The Gympie-Gympie, scientifically known as *Dendrocnide moroides*, is notorious as the most toxic plant in the world, primarily found in rainforests of Australia, Indonesia, and the Moluccas.
 - ✓ Despite its unassuming appearance with heart-shaped leaves, this stinging tree is covered with fine, hair-like trichomes loaded with powerful neurotoxins.
 - ✓ Contact with the plant causes excruciating pain described as being "burnt with hot acid and electrocuted at the same time," with effects that can persist for weeks or even months.
- **Kisan Kavach - Bharat's Indigenous Anti-Pesticide Bodysuit**
- ✓ Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, unveiled Kisan Kavach, India's first indigenous anti-pesticide bodysuit. Developed by BRIC-inStem, Bangalore, in collaboration with Sepio Health Pvt. Ltd., the suit aims to safeguard farmers from pesticide-induced health risks.
 - ✓ The launch aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of leveraging science and technology to empower India's agricultural community.
- **Achieving Malaria-Free Status by 2030**
- ✓ A 97% reduction in malaria cases achieved by India, with a target of achieving malaria-free status by 2030.
 - ✓ On 25 December, the Health Ministry said the number of annual malaria cases will drop from 75 million at the time of independence to 2 million by 2023, a reduction of over 97%.

- ✓ India is moving towards becoming a malaria-free nation by setting global standards in the field of public health.
- ✓ The government is working with a vision to achieve malaria-free status by 2030.

➤ **SPADEX Mission**

- ✓ ISRO is gearing up to end the year on a high note with the launch of SPADEX Mission- the launch of two small satellites to demonstrate docking in space.
- ✓ The launch is scheduled at 21.58 hours on December 30 from the first launch pad at Sriharikota.
- ✓ India's workhorse Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-C60 will launch the two 220 kg satellites in a 470 km circular orbit.
- ✓ Through this mission, India is marching towards becoming the fourth country in the world to have space docking technology.

➤ **IIT Bombay has Developed Needle-Free Shock Syringes**

- ✓ A team from IIT Bombay has developed a shockwave based syringe that delivers medicine without piercing the skin with sharp needle.
- ✓ The newly developed syringe uses high-energy shockwaves to create a microjet of liquid drugs.
- ✓ This microjet moves at around twice the speed of a commercial aeroplane during takeoff, penetrates the skin quickly and softly.
- ✓ This new development has the capability to bring a revolution in vaccination campaigns and reduce risks of infections from needle injuries.

SPORTS

➤ **T20 World Cup**

- ✓ India became the first team to win the T20 World Cup by winning all the matches.
- ✓ On 29 June, India won their second T20 World Cup title after defeating South Africa by seven runs at the Kensington Oval in Barbados.
- ✓ The Rohit Sharma-led team has now achieved the distinction of winning the World Cup without losing a single match in the tournament.
- ✓ After winning the first Men's T20 World Cup in 2007, India is now the third team to win the tournament twice.

➤ **Indian Track and Field Contingent for the 2024 Paris Olympics will be led by Neeraj Chopra**

- ✓ The Athletics Federation of India announced that the 28-member Indian track and field contingent for the 2024 Paris Olympics will be led by Neeraj Chopra.
- ✓ Neeraj Chopra made history three years ago by becoming the first Indian track and field athlete to win a gold medal at the Olympics.
- ✓ Jyothi Yarraji will be the first Indian 100-meter hurdler to compete in the Olympics. The Olympic Games will take place from July 26 to August 11, 2024, in Paris.
- ✓ The official theme song of the 2024 Paris Olympics is "Parade," composed by Victor Le Manse.

➤ **Ukraine's Yaroslava Mahuchikh Setting a New High Jump World Record**

- ✓ Ukraine's Yaroslava Mahuchikh set a new world record in the women's high jump at the Paris Diamond League, clearing 10 meters and breaking a record that had stood since 1987.
- ✓ New World Record: Mahuchikh's 2.10-meter jump surpasses the previous world record in the women's high jump, marking a historic achievement in the sport.
- ✓ The record was set at the Paris Diamond League, a prestigious track and field competition.

➤ **PV Sindhu, Sharath Kamal as India's Flag Bearers for Paris Olympics**

- ✓ The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has announced that India will continue the tradition of having two flag bearers for the Paris 2024 Olympics, following the precedent set at Tokyo 2020.
- ✓ PV Sindhu, the badminton ace, has been chosen as the female flag bearer for the Indian contingent. Sharath Kamal, the veteran table tennis player, will serve as the male flag bearer.

➤ **Wimbledon**

- ✓ In Wimbledon Tennis, Carlos Alcaraz Of Spain has Clinched the Men's Singles Title Defeating Novak Djokovic Of Serbia.
- ✓ Barbora Krejčíková Of The Czech Republic Defeated Jasmine Paolini Of Italy To Win Her Maiden Wimbledon Women's Singles Title.

➤ **IIT Madras Aims to Make India Global Chess Powerhouse**

- ✓ The IIT Madras Center of Excellence in Sports Science and Analytics (CESSA) just recently announced a plan to make India the world's most important chess hub.
- ✓ The news was shared at the "Sports Tech Start-Up Conclave" in New Delhi.
- ✓ Several important plans were presented at the conclave, which was sponsored by well-known companies such as Dream Sports, Vedanta, and SFA Play.
- ✓ The main ideas behind these are using cutting-edge technology to promote chess in India, get more fans involved, and stop cheating in the sport.

➤ **Paris Olympics 2024**

- ✓ Paris Olympics 2024 started in France on July 26 2024. The Paris Olympics 2024 will be held from July 26 to August 11.
- ✓ The 2024 Summer Olympics is the 33rd edition of the Olympics games. The Phrygian caps are the mascots of Paris 2024.
- ✓ This is the first time in the history of the Summer Olympics that athletes sail through a river to enter the Olympics ceremony event.
- ✓ India's star shuttler PV Sindhu and table tennis legend Sharath Kamal led the Indian contingent as flag bearers at the opening ceremony of Paris Olympics 2024.
- ✓ The Indian contingent at the Paris 2024 Olympics will comprise 117 athletes, including 70 men and 47 women, across 16 sporting disciplines.

➤ **Manu's Historic Bronze Opens India's Medal Hunt**

- ✓ The 22-year-old is the first Indian woman shooter to be on the Olympic podium as she wins medal in the 10m air pistol event; she will now compete in 10m pistol mixed team and 25m pistol events.
- ✓ This time though they were of joy following the conclusion of the women's 10m air pistol event where she won a bronze medal, opening India's medal count at the Paris 2024 Games.

➤ **Historic Bronze Win for Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh at Paris Olympics**

- ✓ In a remarkable display of skill and precision, Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh has secured a bronze medal in the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event at the Paris Olympics.
 - ✓ This victory is particularly notable as it marks the second bronze for Manu Bhaker at the Paris Olympics, making her the first Indian to win two medals in a single edition of the Olympic Games since Independence.
- **Swapnil Kusale Secures Bronze Medal**
- ✓ Swapnil Kusale Secures Bronze Medal in 50m Rifle 3 Positions at Paris Olympics.
 - ✓ In a thrilling display of marksmanship, 28-year-old Swapnil Kusale has secured India's third medal at the Paris Olympics.
 - ✓ Kusale clinched the bronze medal in the 50m rifle 3 positions final on Thursday, adding to India's growing tally in the shooting events.
- **Novak Djokovic**
- ✓ Novak Djokovic won his first Olympic gold medal in Olympics.
 - ✓ Novak Djokovic defeated Carlos Alcaraz 7-6 (3), 7-6 (2) in men's tennis singles final. He already has a record of 24 Grand Slam titles.
 - ✓ Novak Djokovic also became the oldest person to win a medal at the Olympics.
- **Star Shooter Manu Bhaker Set To Be India's Flagbearer**
- ✓ Manu Bhaker, India's two-time Olympic bronze medallist, has been chosen to be India's flagbearer for the closing ceremony of the Paris Olympics.
 - ✓ According to sources from the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), Bhaker will represent India as the women's flagbearer during the event.
- **Vinesh Phogat Disqualified In Paris Olympic 2024**
- ✓ Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat has been disqualified from the Paris Olympics after failing to meet weight requirement for her 50 kg gold medal.
 - ✓ As per the report, Phogat was reportedly over the permissible weight limit by just 100 grams, which may lead to her disqualification.
 - ✓ According to competition rules, she will not be eligible for a silver medal, leaving only gold and bronze winners in the 50 kg category.
- **India Triumphs in 4th CAVA Women's Volleyball Nations League 2024**
- ✓ The Indian women's national volleyball team has once again proven their mettle on the international stage by clinching the gold medal at the 4th CAVA (Central Asian Volleyball Association) Women's Volleyball Nations League.
 - ✓ In a thrilling final match, India overcame the host nation Nepal with a score of 3-2 sets, marking their second CAVA title.

- ✓ This prestigious event took place at the Dasharath Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal, culminating on August 7, 2024.
- **Neeraj Chopra Clinches Silver in Javelin at Paris 2024 Olympics**
 - ✓ Neeraj Chopra, the reigning Olympic champion, put on an impressive display at the Paris Olympics, winning the silver medal in the men's javelin throw event.
 - ✓ Chopra's season-best throw of 89.45m earned him the runner-up position, but he was unable to defend his title, as Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem broke the Olympic record with a stunning throw of 92.97m.
- **India Men's Hockey Team Secures Bronze at Paris 2024 Olympics**
 - ✓ In a thrilling encounter, the Indian men's hockey team secured the bronze medal at the Paris 2024 Olympics after defeating Spain 2-1 in the third-place match at the Yves du Manoir Stadium in Paris on Thursday.
 - ✓ This victory marks a significant milestone for Indian hockey, as the team secured its first back-to-back Olympic medals since the 1972 Munich Games.
- **Sreejesh and Bhaker to Co-Flag Bear for India at Paris 2024 Closing Ceremony**
 - ✓ The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has announced that hockey goalkeeper PR Sreejesh and pistol shooter Manu Bhaker will be the co-flag bearers for India at the closing ceremony of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.
 - ✓ This decision highlights Sreejesh's illustrious career and Bhaker's recent achievements.
- **Aman Sehrawat Wins Bronze in 57kg Wrestling at Paris 2024**
 - ✓ At the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, Aman Sehrawat of India made his mark by winning a bronze medal in the men's 57kg wrestling category, adding a proud moment to India's Olympic wrestling history.
 - ✓ In the bronze medal match, Sehrawat defeated Puerto Rico's Darian Toi Cruz with an impressive score of 13-5, reaffirming his reputation as a rising star in the sport.
- **Paris Olympics 2024 - Medal Tally**
 - ✓ The U.S. and China will share the title for most gold's in 2024 with 40 gold medals each.
 - ✓ The U.S. won the total medal count with 126 (40 gold, 44 silver, and 42 bronze).
 - ✓ China came in second in the total medal race with 91 (40 gold, 27 silver, and 24 bronze).

- ✓ India, with a total of 6 medals, including one silver and five bronze medals, got the 71st spot in the overall medal tally.

➤ **This year's Medalist**

- ✓ **1. Manu Bhaker** - Bronze Medal - Shooting
- ✓ **2. Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh** - Bronze Medal - Shooting
- ✓ **3. Swapnil Kusale** - Bronze Medal - Shooting
- ✓ **4. Indian Hockey Team** - Bronze Medal
- ✓ **5. Neeraj Chopra** - Silver Medal - Javelin Throw
- ✓ **6. Aman Sehrawat** - Bronze Medal - Wrestling

➤ **Paris Paralympics 2024**

- ✓ Sumit Antil and Bhagyashree Jadhav will be India's flagbearers at the Paris Paralympics 2024 opening ceremony.
- ✓ With 84 athletes, India will field its largest-ever contingent at the Paralympics, surpassing the 54 athletes at Tokyo 2020.
- ✓ Sumit is the reigning Paralympic javelin champion, and Bhagyashree is a shot put silver medalist at the 2022 Asian Para Games and 2024 World Championships.
- ✓ The Paralympics will be held in France (Paris) from August 28 to September 8, 2024.

➤ **Diana Pundole: First Indian Woman Racer to Win National Championship**

- ✓ Diana Pundole, a teacher and mother from Pune, has made history as the first Indian woman to win the national championship in the saloon category at the MRF Indian National Car Racing Championship 2024 held in Chennai.
- ✓ Her achievement is especially notable as it comes in a sport traditionally dominated by men, highlighting her determination and skill despite numerous challenges.

➤ **Paralympics Games 2024**

- ✓ Paralympics Games 2024 commenced in Paris from 28 August until 8 September. This is France's first summer Paralympics.
- ✓ Previously, the 1992 Winter Paralympics were held in Tignes and Albertville, France.
- ✓ 84 Indian para athletes will compete in Paralympics Games 2024. This is India's largest contingent in Paralympic history.
- ✓ India will participate in 12 of the 22 sports at Paralympics Games 2024.
- ✓ India will make debut in para cycling, para judo, and para rowing at Paralympics Games 2024.

- ✓ The Paris 2024 Paralympics will conclude on September 9 with the Closing Ceremony.

➤ **Avani Lekhara**

- ✓ Avani Lekhara won India's first gold medal in the women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 event at 2024 Paralympics in Paris.
- ✓ Avani Lekhara became the first Indian woman to win two Paralympic gold medals.
- ✓ At the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics, she became the country's first female shooter to win a medal in shooting.
- ✓ She successfully defended her title, setting a Paralympic Games record with 249.7 points in the final standings.
- ✓ The Paralympic Games 2024 will take place in Paris from 28 August to 8 September.

➤ **Vithya Ramraj**

- ✓ At the 63rd National Open Athletics Championships, held at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru, Vithya Ramraj from TN made history by breaking a 39-year-old record in the women's 400m hurdles.
- ✓ She completed the race in 56.23 seconds, surpassing the previous record of 56.80 seconds, which was set by the legendary Indian athlete P.T. Usha in 1985.

➤ **Paralympics 2024**

➤ **Sharad Kumar and Mariyappan Thangavelu Secured Silver and Bronze medals**

- ✓ In a remarkable display of skill and determination, Sharad Kumar and Mariyappan Thangavelu secured silver and bronze medals respectively in the men's high jump T63 event.
- ✓ Sharad Kumar cleared a height of 1.88m, earning him the silver medal.
- ✓ Mariyappan Thangavelu achieved a best effort of 1.85m, securing the bronze.

➤ **Thulasimathi Murugesan Secures Silver Medal**

- ✓ At just 22 years old, Thulasimathi Murugesan emerged as the top seed in the badminton women's singles SU5 class. Despite her commendable efforts, she settled for the silver medal after a challenging final match.
- ✓ Thulasimathi faced off against Yang Qiu Xia of the People's Republic of China, the reigning gold medallist from the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics.
- ✓ In a standout performance, Manisha Ramadass, aged 19 and seeded second, clinched the bronze medal in the same category.

➤ **Sumit Antil's Historic Gold at Paris 2024 Paralympics**

- ✓ In a remarkable display of skill, determination, and athletic prowess, Sumit Antil etched his name in the annals of Indian sports history at the Paris 2024 Paralympics.
- ✓ The 26-year-old para-athlete not only claimed the gold medal in the men's javelin throw F64 class but also became the first Indian male para-athlete to successfully defend his Paralympic title.
- **Yogasana Secures Spot as Demonstration Sport in 2026 Asian Games**
- ✓ In a significant development for traditional Indian sports, Yogasana has been officially included as a demonstration sport in the upcoming 2026 Asian Games, set to take place in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.
- ✓ This decision marks a pivotal moment in the recognition of yoga as a competitive athletic discipline on the international stage.
- **India wins Men's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy**
- ✓ The Indian men's hockey team, **led by Harmanpreet Singh**, defeated host China 1-0 in the final to win the Men's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy for a record fifth time.
- ✓ The final match of the 8th Men's Asian Champions Trophy 2024 was played at the Moqi Hockey Training Base in Hulunbuir City.
- ✓ Defending champion India had earlier won the trophy in 2011, 2016, 2018 and 2023.
- **India's Historic Triumph at the 2024 Chess Olympiad**
- ✓ The 2024 Chess Olympiad in Budapest, Hungary has etched itself into the annals of Indian sports history.
- ✓ In an unprecedented achievement, India secured gold medals in both the men's and women's team categories, marking a watershed moment for chess in the country.
- ✓ Both Indian teams showcased their prowess in the decisive final round.
- **First-ever Kho Kho World Cup will be hosted by India in 2025**
- ✓ The first-ever Kho Kho World Cup will be hosted by India in 2025.
- ✓ It has been announced by the Kho-Kho Federation of India (KKFI) and the International Kho-Kho Federation that the first Kho-Kho World Cup will be held in India in 2025.
- ✓ 24 countries from 6 continents will take part in this event, and 16 men's and as many women's teams will participate in it.
- **India wins SAFF U-17 Championship 2024**

- ✓ The undefeated **Indian football team** lifted the **2024 Men's SAFF U17 Championship** by defeating Bangladesh 2-0 in the final.
- ✓ The final was played at the Changlimithang Stadium in Thimphu, Bhutan.
- ✓ The Indian boy's football team, also famously known as Blue Colts, remained undefeated throughout the tournament.

➤ **Asian Table Tennis Championships**

- ✓ Indian women's team created history by winning bronze medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championships.
- ✓ In the semifinals, India registered a 1-3 loss to Japan while in the other semifinal, China lost to Hong Kong by 3-0. In the semifinals, Ayhika Mukherjee lost to Miwa Harimoto by 2-3.
- ✓ Manika Batra however brought back India into the tie with a 3-0 win over Satsuki Odo.
- ✓ India defeated South Korea in the quarterfinals by 3-2 to secure the medal.

➤ **38th National Games**

- ✓ The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has chosen Uttarakhand as the host for the 38th Summer National Games, scheduled to take place from 28th January to 14th February 2025.
- ✓ This announcement marks a significant achievement for the state, as it will be hosting the prestigious event for the first time, followed by the upcoming Winter Games, which will be held outside Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh for the first time.

➤ **CM Trophy Campaign 2024**

- ✓ Chennai topped by winning 105 gold, 80 silver and 69 bronze.
- ✓ Chengalpattu took the second spot in the medals tally with 31 gold medals with 26 silver and 36 bronze medals.
- ✓ Coimbatore ended with 23 gold, 40 silver and 39 bronze medals.
- ✓ Salem was the biggest mover on the medals tally from the last edition as they jumped to fourth spot from 19th in 2023, winning 21 gold, 12 silver and 23 bronze.
- ✓ The 2024 CM Trophy is one of the largest grassroots initiatives in the country and attracted over 33,000 participants from 38 districts.
- ✓ This was the first time that all the 38 participating districts found a spot on the medals tally with Nilgiris taking the last spot.

➤ **India Formally Bids to Host the 2036 Olympics**

- ✓ The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) officially submitted a Letter of Intent to the Future Host Commission of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

- ✓ India has formally desired to host the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2036.
 - ✓ 10 countries have shown initial interest in hosting the 2036 Games.
 - ✓ Los Angeles in the USA will host the 2028 Summer Olympics, and Brisbane, Australia, will host the 2032 Games
- **Young Chess Prodigy Makes History at Three**
- ✓ Anish Sarkar, a three-year-old from Kolkata, has recently gained international attention.
 - ✓ He has become the youngest chess player ever ranked by the International Chess Federation (FIDE).
 - ✓ This milestone follows his participation in various tournaments, showcasing his remarkable talent at an early age.
- **India to Host Inaugural Kho Kho World Cup in 2025**
- ✓ India is all set to host the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup from January 13 to 19, 2025, at the Indira Gandhi Indoor (IGI) Stadium in New Delhi.
 - ✓ This historic event marks a significant step towards elevating Kho Kho, one of India's most cherished indigenous games, onto the global stage.
 - ✓ With the support of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and the Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI), the tournament promises to be a milestone in the promotion of traditional sports.
- **Khelo India Youth & Para Games in 2025**
- ✓ Bihar will host the Khelo India Youth Games and Para Games in April 2025, showcasing its capability to organize major sports events.
 - ✓ The event aligns with PM Modi's vision to bring Khelo India Games to every part of India, aiming for a "Viksit Bharat" by 2047.
 - ✓ Bihar has 38 Khelo India Centres and one State Centre of Excellence to support grassroots athletes.
- **Under-8 World Cadets Chess Champion 2024**
- ✓ Eight-year-old Divith Reddy of Hyderabad, Telangana, has won the Under-8 World Cadets Chess Championship in Montesilvano, Italy.
 - ✓ Divith secured 9 out of the possible 11 points in the Under-8 World Cadets Chess Championship and was tied with fellow Indian Sattwik Swain and the Chinese Ziming Guo.
 - ✓ However, due to a better tie-break score, Divith Reddy was awarded the gold medal, Sattwik Swain the silver medal.

➤ **D. Gukesh Becomes Youngest World Chess Champion**

- ✓ Indian Grandmaster Dommaraju Gukesh became the youngest chess champion in the world.
- ✓ Gukesh made history as he clinched 18th World Chess Championship defeating Ding Liren of China in the 14th and the final match of the FIDE World Chess Championship in Singapore.
- ✓ Gukesh beat the record previously held by Garry Kasparov who got the crown at age of 22.
- ✓ Gukesh is the second world champion from India after Viswanathan Anand, who won the title four times.

➤ **Ravichandran Ashwin Retires from International Cricket**

- ✓ One of the all-time greats of India, **Ravichandran Ashwin**, has announced **his retirement from all forms of international cricket**.
- ✓ The unexpected retirement announcement came after the third test of the 2024-25 Border Gavaskar Trophy in Brisbane ended in a draw.
- ✓ With 765 wickets in his credit, Ashwin is the second-highest wicket-taker from India after Anil Kumble.
- ✓ Ashwin has taken 537 wickets at an average of 24 in 106 Test matches. He is also 7th on the overall list of wicket-takers.

➤ **Para Athletics World Championships**

- ✓ The Para Athletics World Championships will be hosted in Delhi in 2025, marking a historic first for India.
- ✓ The announcement was made by the global governing body WPA on December 19, 2024.
- ✓ The competition will be held from September 26 to October 5 at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, where the World Para Athletics Grand Prix will also be held from March 11-13.
- ✓ The Para Athletics World Championships will be the 12th edition of the event and the fourth time it will be held in Asia.

➤ **38th National Games 2025**

- ✓ Uttarakhand is set to host the National Games from January 28 to February 14, 2025.
- ✓ The mascot for the 38th National Games, along with the logo, jersey, anthem, and tagline, was unveiled in Raipur, Dehradun.
- ✓ The mascot, named "Mauli," is inspired by the Monal, the state bird of Uttarakhand.
- ✓ The tagline for the Games is "Sankalp Se Shikhar Tak" (From Resolve to Zenith).

➤ **World Rapid and Blitz Championship**

- ✓ In Chess, India's Koneru Humpy wins her second women's title beating Indonesia's Irene Sukander in the World Rapid and Blitz Championship held in New York.
- ✓ Humpy finished the tournament with 8.5 points from 11 rounds to secure her victory. Aged 37, the top ranked Indian is only the second player after China's Ju Wenjun to clinch the title more than once.
- ✓ Indian Chess Grandmaster Humpy previously won in 2019 at Georgia.



OBITUARY

➤ **Yamini Krishnamurthy**

- ✓ Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi dancer Yamini Krishnamurthy died at the age of 84.
- ✓ She received Padma Shri in 1968, Padma Bhushan in 2001 and Padma Vibhushan in 2016.
- ✓ She was also conferred the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1977.

➤ **Father of Agni Missiles, Dr. Ram Narain Agarwal Passes Away**

- ✓ Dr. Ram Narain Agarwal, a renowned Indian scientist and the driving force behind India's missile program, passed away on Thursday in Hyderabad at the age of 84.
- ✓ Known affectionately as the 'Father of Agni Missiles', Dr. Agarwal's contributions to India's defence capabilities have been nothing short of revolutionary.

➤ **Eminent English Professor and Translator K. Chellappan**

- ✓ Eminent English professor K. Chellappan, who won the Sahitya Akademi award for his translation of Rabindranath Tagore's Gora into Tamil, passed away in Chennai, aged 88, on Monday.

➤ **Pappammal, Noted Organic Farmer, Passes Away at 109**

- ✓ Pappammal, a Padma awardee and organic farmer at Thekkampatti in Coimbatore district, passed away on Friday at the age of 109.
- ✓ She received the Padma Shri award in 2021.

➤ **Tata Sons Chairman Ratan Tata Passes Away At 86**

- ✓ Tata Sons Chairman, Ratan Tata passed away on 9 October 2024 at the age of 86 due to prolonged age-related illness at Breach Candy Hospital, Mumbai.
- ✓ His passing marks the end of an era, as Tata's leadership and vision left an indelible mark on India's business and philanthropic landscape.

➤ **Justice KS Puttaswamy**

- ✓ Justice K.S. Puttaswamy, the pivotal petitioner in the landmark right to privacy case, passed away at the age of 98 on Monday.
- ✓ His passing comes over seven years after the Supreme Court ruled that privacy is a fundamental right.

➤ **Writer Indra Soundar Rajan passes away in Madurai**

- ✓ Noted short-story writer and motivational speaker Indra Soundar Rajan died in Madurai on Sunday (November 10, 2024).
- ✓ The 65-year-old writer had bagged many awards for his books and among them "*Yen Peyar Renganayaki*" got him the Tamil Nadu State Award.

➤ **Tulsi Gowda, the 'Encyclopedia of Forests,' Passes Away**

- ✓ Tulsi Gowda, affectionately known as the "Tree Goddess," was an environmentalist from Karnataka celebrated for her exceptional dedication to afforestation and ecological preservation.
- ✓ Her tireless efforts, including planting over 1 lakh trees, earned her the Padma Shri award in 2021.

➤ **Doyen of Parallel Cinema Filmmaker Shyam Benegal Passes Away**

- ✓ Doyen of Indian Parallel Cinema, **Shyam Benegal** passed away at the age of 90 years.
- ✓ He was honoured with India's highest film award DadaSaheb Phalke Award in 2005. He also received 18 National Film Awards.

➤ **Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Passes Away**

- ✓ Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, a towering figure in Indian politics and economics, passed away at the age of 92.
- ✓ Dr. Singh, India's 13th Prime Minister, served the nation from 2004 to 2014 and played a pivotal role as Finance Minister during the economic liberalization of the 1990s.

➤ **Jimmy Carter, 39th U.S. President and Nobel Laureate, Dies at 100**

- ✓ Jimmy Carter, the 39th President of the United States, passed away at the age of 100 in his hometown of Plains, Georgia.
- ✓ Despite his one-term presidency, Carter later gained respect for his global peace efforts, winning the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002.

REPORT

➤ **Poverty in India dropped to 8.5% in 2022-24: NCAER Report**

- ✓ Poverty in India declined from 21.2% in 2011-12 to 8.5% in 2022-24, despite pandemic challenges, according to National Council of Applied Economic Research's paper "Rethinking Social Safety Nets in a Changing Society."
- ✓ This report has been authored by Sonalde Desai of NCAER.
- ✓ Economic growth and poverty reduction demand adaptable social protection systems to address evolving societal needs.

➤ **United Nations (UN) World Population Prospects Report**

- ✓ According to the United Nations (UN) World Population Prospects report, India's population is likely to reach 1.70 billion by 2062.
- ✓ Currently, India is the most populous country in the world. India's population will hit its peak after 38 years.
- ✓ International News India's population will start declining between January and July 2062.
- ✓ In 2063, India's population will decline by about 115,000. In 2064, this number would increase to 437,000 and 793,000 in 2065.
- ✓ At present, India is the most populous country in the world, with 1.451 billion people. It is followed by China at 1.419 billion and the United States at 345 million.

➤ **NITI Aayog released the SDG India Index 2023-24**

- ✓ As per the NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2023-24, India's overall Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) score has improved to 71 in 2023-24 from 66 in 2020-21.
- ✓ It has improved due to the progress made in poverty reduction, economic growth, and climate action.
- ✓ Uttarakhand and Kerala emerged as top-performing states with a score of 79 on this Index.
- ✓ It is followed by Tamil Nadu with a score of 78, and Goa comes next with a score of 77.
- ✓ Bihar (57), Jharkhand (62), and Nagaland (63) were the worst-performing states in this year's index.

➤ **India Targets \$500 Billion in Electronics Manufacturing by 2030: NITI Aayog**

- ✓ India should set an ambitious target of achieving \$500 billion in electronics manufacturing by 2030, as stated in a recent NITI Aayog report.

- ✓ This goal includes \$350 billion from finished goods manufacturing and \$150 billion from component manufacturing.
- ✓ Currently, India's electronics production totals \$101 billion, with \$86 billion from finished goods and \$15 billion from components.

➤ **UN's SOFI 2024 Report**

- ✓ Hunger Affected Around 9% of World Population in 2023: UN's SOFI 2024 Report.
- ✓ According to the latest United Nation(UN) report titled "State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) 2024: Financing to end hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms", around 733 million people faced hunger in 2023, which is equivalent to 1 in 11 people (approx. 9%) globally and 1 in 5 in Africa.

➤ **Women outnumbered men in living organ donations last year**

- ✓ Women led the way in living organ donation, offering patients suffering from end-stage organ failure a new lease of life.
- ✓ Data released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare show that the number of women living donors was 9,784 last year compared to 5,651 men.
- ✓ A lone transgender contributed an organ to save the life of another human being, taking the total number of living donors in the country in 2023 to 15,436.

➤ **Global Food & Drinks Report 2024**

- ✓ Indian brand "Amul" has been ranked as the "strongest food brand in the world" as per the latest Food & Drink 2024 report.
- ✓ Amul has already been ranked number one dairy brand in the world. However, being ranked as the number one strongest food brand is a big recognition. Last year, Amul held the second position in this category.
- ✓ The annual report on the most valuable and strongest food, dairy & non-alcoholic drinks brands has been published by Brand Finance, world's leading brand consultancy.

➤ **EnviStats India-2024'**

- ✓ According to the recently released 'EnviStats India-2024' report, the Nagarjuna Sagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve (NSTR) has been ranked first among India's 55 tiger reserves for its leopard population, with an estimated 360 leopards.
- ✓ Nagarjunsagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve (NSTR) is located in the Nallamala hill ranges(an offshoot of the Eastern Ghats) of Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ This is the largest tiger reserve in the country, spreading over an area of 5937 sq. km.

- ✓ It hosts the largest tiger population in the Eastern Ghat.
- **Environmental Ship Index (ESI) Platform**
 - ✓ Mormugao became India's first port to be listed on the Environmental Ship Index (ESI) platform.
 - ✓ Mormugao Port Authority has become the first Indian port to be listed as an incentive provider on the Environment Ship Index (ESI) portal.
 - ✓ Mormugao Port's effort to incentivise green shipping has received international recognition. Mormugao Port is India's first port to introduce Green Ship Incentives through the ESI.
- **World Health Organization's Global Tuberculosis Report 2024**
 - ✓ In India, there has been a 17.7% decline in TB incidence from 2015 to 2023.
 - ✓ According to the World Health Organization's Global Tuberculosis Report 2024, the rate is twice the global average decline of 8.3%.
 - ✓ India had pledged to achieve the "End TB" targets by 2025.
 - ✓ This is five years ahead of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals deadline of 2030.
 - ✓ The achievements highlight the impact of India's National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme.
- **State of the Climate 2024 Report**
 - ✓ The WMO State of the Climate 2024 Update once again issues a Red Alert at the sheer pace of climate change in a single generation.
 - ✓ 2024 is on track to be the warmest year, with global temperatures 1.54°C above pre-industrial levels.
 - ✓ Greenhouse gas levels (CO₂, CH₄, N₂O) hit record highs in 2023, continuing to rise in 2024.
 - ✓ Global sea level rise accelerated to 4.77 mm/year (2014-2023), doubling the rate of 1993-2002.
 - ✓ Glaciers lost an unprecedented volume of ice equivalent to five times the water in the Dead Sea in 2023.
 - ✓ 2023 was the driest year for global rivers in over 30 years.
- **India's Urban Unemployment Rate**
 - ✓ In the July-September 2024 quarter, India's urban unemployment rate decreased to 6.4%, marking the lowest level observed in recent years.
 - ✓ The rate has dropped from 6.6% in the previous quarter and remains consistent with the rate recorded in the same period last year.

- ✓ This improvement reflects positive trends in employment, particularly in urban areas, indicating progress in job creation and labour force participation.

➤ **MMR in Tamil Nadu 2024**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu's Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has been dropped to 39.4 from 45.5 per one lakh live births during 2023-24.
- ✓ The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has been reduced from 8.2 per 1,000 live births to 7.7.
- ✓ The State's MMR was 73 per one lakh live births during 2020-21; 90.5 during 2021-22; and 52 during 2022-23.
- ✓ The IMR stood at 9.7 per 1,000 live births during 2020-21; 10.4 during 2021-22; and 10.2 during 2022-23.

➤ **World Malaria Report 2024**

- ✓ India has achieved progress in combating malaria, as reported in the latest World Malaria Report by the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- ✓ The country has seen a remarkable decrease in malaria cases and deaths from 2017 to 2023.
- ✓ Malaria cases in India dropped from 6.4 million in 2017 to 2 million in 2023, representing a 69% reduction in cases.
- ✓ The decline is attributed to improved prevention and treatment strategies across the nation.
- ✓ Deaths attributed to malaria in India fell from 11,100 to 3,500 during the same period.
- ✓ This 68% decrease marks the effectiveness of health interventions and public awareness campaigns.

➤ **India Skills Report 2025**

- ✓ Nearly 55 per cent of Indian graduates are expected to be globally employable in 2025, up from 51.2 per cent in 2024.
- ✓ Maharashtra, Karnataka and Delhi are emerging as major hubs for employable talent.
- ✓ Cities such as Pune, Bengaluru and Mumbai are leading the way in providing a skilled workforce.
- ✓ The employability rate for men is expected to rise to 53.5 per cent in 2025 from 51.8 per cent in 2024.
- ✓ Meanwhile, for women the employability rate is projected to decline to 47.5 per cent from 50.9 per cent during the same time.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala are the top States favoured for employment across India.

➤ **India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2023**

- ✓ India's forest cover has increased by 1,445 square kilometres. As per the India State of Forest Report 2023, India's forest cover has increased by 1,445 square kilometres.
- ✓ India's total forest and tree cover stood at 8 lakh 27 thousand 357 square kilometers, which is 25.17 percent of India's total geographical area.
- ✓ The highest increase in forest and tree cover has been registered in Chhattisgarh with 684 square kilometers.
- ✓ It is followed by Uttar Pradesh and Odisha, each with a 559 square kilometer increase. In terms of forest cover, Mizoram, Gujarat, and Odisha were the top three leading states.

➤ **ECI Publishes Detailed Data for Lok Sabha and Assembly Polls 2024**

- ✓ The Election Commission of India (ECI) released comprehensive data for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, including 42 statistical reports.
- ✓ Voter turnout increased, with 64.64 crore votes polled, a 7.43% rise in registered electors, and higher participation from women and third-gender voters.
- ✓ Women electors now comprise 48.62% of the electorate, and the number of female candidates contesting elections grew to 800.
- ✓ National parties secured 63.35% of valid votes, while independent candidates performed modestly, with 7 elected out of 3,921 contestants.

RANKING INDEX

India's Rankings in Various Global Indices (2024)

Index	Released/Published By	India's Rank	Topped By
Top Cities for Women in India 2023	Avatar Group	Chennai ranked 1st	Chennai
Global Firepower's Military Strength Rankings 2024	Global Firepower	India Ranked 4th	USA
Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2023	Transparency International	93rd out of 180 countries	Denmark
Gender Inequality Index (GII) 2022	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	108th out of 193 countries	Denmark
Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024	Hurun Report	3rd with 67 unicorns	United States
World Press Freedom Index 2024	Reporters Without Borders (RSF)	159th out of 180 countries	Norway
Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024	World Economic Forum (WEF)	39th out of 119 countries	United States
Global Gender Gap Index 2024	World Economic Forum (WEF)	129th out of 146 countries	Iceland
Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2024	Yale and Columbia Universities	176th out of 180 countries	Estonia
Global Energy	World Economic	63rd out of 120	Sweden

Transition Index 2024	Forum (WEF)	countries	
Artificial Intelligence Preparedness Index 2024	International Monetary Fund (IMF)	72nd out of 174 countries	Singapore
Henley Passport Index 2024	Henley & Partners	82nd with visa-free access to 58 countries	Singapore
Global Innovation Index 2024	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	39th out of 133 economies	Singapore
Rule of Law Index 2024	World Justice Project (WJP)	79th out of 142 countries	Denmark
Network Readiness Index (NRI) 2024	Portulans Institute	49th out of 131 countries	USA

➤ **India Ranks Fifth in GenAI Innovations, China Leads**

- ✓ India ranks fifth in Generative AI (GenAI) innovations with 1,350 patents, trailing China, the US, Republic of Korea, and Japan.
- ✓ **India ranks fifth in Generative AI (GenAI) innovations**, trailing behind China, the US, Republic of Korea, and Japan.
- ✓ Despite India's position, the country has shown the highest annual growth rate in GenAI patent publications, with significant potential for economic impact.

➤ **Oxford Economics Global Cities Index Report 2024**

- ✓ **Delhi** has been placed **350 in the Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2024**, making it the highest ranked Indian city. The ranking compares the world's 1000 cities.
- ✓ **Bengaluru, India's IT hub, stood at 411**, higher than the country's financial capital Mumbai, which stood at 427.
- ✓ On the other hand, Sultanpur in Uttar Pradesh ranked last in the index, at 1000th place.

✓ **New York achieved the highest ranking in** all five categories with a score of 100, followed by London and San Jose securing the 2nd and 3rd positions, respectively.

➤ **Energy Transition Index**

- ✓ India ranked at 67th place on Energy Transition Index.
- ✓ The World Economic Forum released Energy Transition Index on 28th June.
- ✓ Sweden is on the top of the Energy Transition Index 2023.
- ✓ Denmark, Norway, Finland and Switzerland are in the top five of the ranking.
- ✓ As per the report, India is the only major economy that has accelerated across equitable, secure and sustainable dimensions of the Energy Transition Index.

➤ **IMF Released AI Preparedness Index**

- ✓ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) released an Artificial Intelligence Preparedness Index (AIPI) Dashboard which tracks the level of Artificial Intelligence (AI) readiness across 174 countries.
- ✓ According to AIPI, India has secured the 72nd Rank among the 174 countries, with a rating of 0.49.

➤ **India Ranked 2nd Largest Aluminium Producer in the World**

- ✓ India has solidified its position as a global leader in mineral production, with impressive rankings across several key minerals.
- ✓ The country stands as the 2nd largest Aluminium producer, the 3rd largest lime producer, and the 4th largest iron ore producer in the world.

➤ **India Retains Eighth Position in Global Agriculture Exports in 2023**

- ✓ India held onto its position as the world's eighth-largest exporter of agricultural products in 2023, despite a decline in exports from \$55 billion in 2022 to \$51 billion.

➤ **Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024**

- ✓ The World Economic Forum (WEF) recently released its Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) for 2024, offering a comprehensive evaluation of India's standing in the global tourism landscape.
- ✓ India has secured the 39th position among 119 countries in the 2024 TTDI.

➤ **National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2024**

- ✓ Union Minister for Education Shri Dharmendra Pradhan on August 12, released the India Rankings 2024.

- ✓ According to the last year's ranking, IIT Madras secured the top spot in the 'overall' category, followed by IISc Bengaluru and IIT Delhi in second and third place respectively.
- **Switzerland Crowned as Best Country in the World**
 - ✓ In a new survey which is called "Best countries for 2024" it is found that Switzerland was crowned as the best country in the world.
 - ✓ Switzerland achieved this feat for the third year successively.
 - ✓ This year India drops three positions with respect to last year to 33.
- **India Jumps to Tier 1 in Global CyberSecurity Index 2024**
 - ✓ India has jumped to Tier 1 in the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2024, released by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), when it comes to role-modeling as part of the country's cybersecurity commitments and resulting impacts.
- **State Food Safety Index (SFSI)**
 - ✓ Kerala secured first spot in the 2024 State Food Safety Index (SFSI). Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Jammu & Kashmir are the top 3 performers on the State Food Safety Index 2024.
 - ✓ State Food Safety Index (SFSI) has been released by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
- **India Surpasses Japan, Ranks Third in Asia Power Index**
 - ✓ India has risen to third place in the Asia Power Index, according to the Lowy Institute, reflecting its strong economic recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - ✓ Here are the top three countries and their scores in the Asia Power Index – 1) United States – Score: 81.7, 2) China – Score: 72.7, 3) India – Score: 39.1.
- **Global Innovation Index 2024**
 - ✓ India has secured 39th place among 133 global economies in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2024.
 - ✓ India was ranked 40th in last year's Global Innovation Index.
- **First Global Nature Conservation Index 2024**
 - ✓ India ranks 176th in the first Global Nature Conservation Index (NCI) 2024, with a score of 45.5 out of 100.
 - ✓ This places India among the five worst performers globally, alongside Kiribati, Turkey, Iraq, and Micronesia.

➤ **Rule of Law Index 2024**

- ✓ India ranked 79 out of 142 countries in the Rule of Law Index 2024, released by the World Justice Project (WJP), a Washington D.C.-based think tank, on October 23. Globally, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden and Germany stood in the top five places.

➤ **India ranks 72 in AI Preparedness Index 2023**

- ✓ Singapore leads the AI Preparedness Index with a score of 0.80, followed by Denmark and the U.S., as advanced economies are better equipped with AI frameworks.
- ✓ India ranks 72nd, scoring 0.49, with high ChatGPT awareness (45% user rate) and over 338 AI startups, showing growth in AI adoption.

➤ **India has become the third-largest smartphone exporter in the world**

- ✓ India, which was ranked 23rd in 2019, has now become the 3rd largest exporter of smartphones in the world.
- ✓ According to data submitted by companies and data compiled from industry associations, the country's smartphone exports have also crossed the Rs 20 thousand crore mark in a single month in November 2024.

➤ **India Ranks 39th in Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024**

- ✓ India has significantly improved its position in the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Travel and Tourism Development Index (TTDI) 2024, ranking 39th among 119 countries.

IMPORTANT DAYS

JULY - 2024

Date	Day	Theme
July 01	National Doctors Day	The theme for National Doctors' Day 2024 in India is "Healing Hands, Caring Hearts."
July 01	GST Day	This day commemorates the implementation of a transformative tax system that revolutionized the country's fiscal landscape.
July 02	World Sports Journalists Day	World Sports Journalists Day is celebrated every year on July 2 to honour those who bring sports stories to life – the sports journalists.
July 02	World UFO Day	This special day is all about learning more about Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) and thinking about the possibility of life beyond Earth.
July 03	International Plastic Bag Free Day	It encourages people to stop using plastic bags and find eco-friendly alternatives.
July 03	Disobedience Day	Disobedience Day invites us to reflect on the profound impact of civil disobedience throughout history and its relevance in contemporary society.
July 06	International Day of Cooperatives	The theme is "Cooperatives Building a Better Future for All."
July 06	World Zoonoses Day	Important annual observance that aims to raise awareness about zoonotic diseases –

		infections that can spread from animals to humans.
July 10	Global Energy Independence Day	Objective - To promote awareness for alternative forms of energy.
July 10	National Fish Farmer's Day	Day to honour the invaluable contributions of fish farmers, aquaculture professionals, and stakeholders in the fisheries sector.
July 11	World Population Day	The theme is, "Leave no one behind, count everyone," underscores a critical aspect of population dynamics and sustainable development.
July 12	International Day of Combating Sand and Dust Storms	Recognizing the international concern surrounding sand and dust storms.
July 15	World Youth Skills Day	The theme is "Youth Skills for Peace and Development"
July 16	World Snake Day	The day aims to educate the public about the role snakes play in ecosystems, dispel myths, and promote conservation efforts.
July 17	World Day for International Justice	Theme is "Overcoming Barriers and Unleashing Opportunities for Social Justice."
July 18	Tamil Nadu Day	A resolution was passed unanimously in the Madras State Legislative Assembly by the government led by the then chief minister of Tamil Nadu C. N. Annadurai seeking to rename the state as Tamil Nadu. On 18 July 1967.
July 18	Nelson Mandela International Day	Nelson Mandela International Day, honouring the life and enduring legacy of one of

		history's most inspiring figures.
July 18	World Listening Day	Theme 2024 - Listening to the Weave of Sound.
July 20	International Chess Day	This day serves as a platform to promote chess as a powerful tool for education, the cultivation of logical thinking, and cultural exchange across nations.
July 20	International Moon Day	United Nations-designated international day that commemorates humanity's achievements in lunar exploration.
July 22	National Mango Day	Every year, National Mango Day is observed to celebrate the fruit known for its exquisite taste and numerous health benefits.
July 22	India's National Flag Day	This day holds great significance as it honors the symbol of India's unity, integrity, and sovereignty, according to the government website Know India.
July 23	National Broadcasting Day in India	This day highlights the pivotal role broadcasting has played in India's development, educational outreach, and cultural preservation.
July 24	National Income Tax Day	Income tax is a crucial government levy on the income earned by individuals and businesses during a financial year.
July 25	World Drowning Prevention Day	Theme 2024 - Anyone can drown, no one should.

July 26	Kargil Vijay Diwas	To celebrate the victory of the Indian Armed Forces over Pakistan during the 1999 Kargil Conflict.
July 28	World Hepatitis Day	Theme is: It's time for action.
July 28	World Nature Conservation Day	World Nature Conservation Day 2024 is celebrated and observed all over the world as an awareness program to conserve Nature.
July 29	International Tiger Day	This global initiative focuses on protecting the natural habitats of tigers and raising public awareness about their conservation.
July 30	International Day of Friendship	Promoting friendship between peoples, countries, cultures, and individuals to inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities.
July 30	World Day Against Trafficking in Persons	This year's theme, "Leave No Child Behind in the Fight Against Human Trafficking."
July 31	World Ranger Day	Theme 2024 - 30 by 30.

AUGUST - 2024

Date	Day	Theme
August 1	World Lung Cancer Day	The theme for World Lung Cancer Day 2024 is "Close the care gap: Everyone deserves access to cancer care."
August 1	World Wide Web Day	This day honours the groundbreaking invention of

		Tim Berners-Lee, an English scientist who conceptualized and developed the WWW in 1989
August 1	National Mountain Climbing Day	This special day was established to commemorate the accomplishments of Bobby Matthews and Josh Madigan, who successfully scaled all 46 peaks of the Adirondack Mountains in Northeastern New York
August 1-7	World Breastfeeding Week	The theme for World Breastfeeding Week 2024 is "Closing the gap: Breastfeeding support for all."
August 3	National Watermelon Day	This day is observed to celebrate delicious and refreshing fruit that has a long history dating back to Ancient Egypt. Its cultivation dates back to 2000 B.C.
August 3	Indian Organ Donation Day	The Indian Organ Donation Day is observed to increase awareness about organ donation amongst the people.
August 4	National Friendship Day	The primary aim of Friendship Day is to promote dialogue and build bridges between communities, cultures, and nations.
August 6	Hiroshima Day	Hiroshima Day, observed annually on August 6th, stands as a solemn reminder of one of the most devastating events in human history
August 7	National Javelin	On August 7, 2021, Neeraj

	Day	Chopra etched his name in history by winning India's first-ever Olympic gold medal in track and field
August 8	Quit India Movement Day	Quit India Movement Day, also known as August Kranti Day, is a significant date in India's history that commemorates the launch of the Quit India Movement in 1942
August 9	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples is a globally recognized event that shines a spotlight on the unique cultures, challenges, and contributions of indigenous communities worldwide
August 10	World Lion Day	World Lion Day, celebrated annually on August 10th, marks a crucial moment in wildlife conservation efforts
August 10	World Biofuel Day	This day serves as a global platform to highlight the significance of biofuels as a sustainable energy source and their potential in addressing climate change and reducing dependence on fossil fuels
August 12	International Youth Day	The 2024 theme, "From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development," highlights the crucial role of digital technologies in advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
August 12	World Elephant Day	Theme 2024 - Personifying prehistoric beauty, theological

		relevance, and environmental importance.
August 13	World Organ Donation Day	Organ Donation Day serves as a crucial reminder of the importance of this life-saving act
August 14	Partition Horrors Remembrance Day	This day serves as a poignant reminder of the immense suffering and loss experienced during the 1947 partition of India
August 19	World Humanitarian Day	The global community faces a grim reality: humanitarian workers are increasingly becoming targets in conflict zones
August 20	World Mosquito Day	The theme for World Mosquito Day 2024 is "Accelerating the fight against malaria for a more equitable world."
August 21	International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism	This day, observed annually on August 21st, aims to honour and support the victims and survivors of terrorist acts while promoting the protection of their human rights and fundamental freedoms
August 23	National Space Day	India is set to commemorate its first National Space Day in 2024, marking a historic milestone in the nation's journey of space exploration
August 23	International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition	This night marked the beginning of an uprising that would play a pivotal role in the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade

August 26	International Dog Day	26th August carries interspecies significance as communities worldwide mark International Dog Day, honoring 'man's best friend' in 2024
August 25-29	World Water Week	World Water Week is the leading conference on global water issues, held every year since 1991
August 29	International Day Against Nuclear Tests	This significant day serves as a global reminder of the devastating effects of nuclear weapons testing and the urgent need for a world free from the threat of nuclear destruction
August 30	International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances	The International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, observed annually on August 30th, sheds light on a horrific practice that continues to plague societies worldwide
August 30	National Small Industry Day	Theme 2024 – Leveraging Power and Resilience of Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) to Accelerate Sustainable Development and Eradicate Poverty in Times of Multiple Crises
August 31	International Day for People of African Descent	The International Day for People of African Descent Observed on 31st August marks a significant milestone in the global recognition of the contributions and challenges faced by individuals of African descent worldwide

SEPTEMBER - 2024

Date	Day	Theme
September 1-7	National Nutrition Week	Theme: "Feeding Smart Right From Start."
September 2	World Coconut Day	World Coconut Day 2024 theme is Coconut for a Circular Economy: Building Partnership for Maximum Value.
September 5	National Teachers' Day	This day honours the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, a great teacher and the second President of India.
September 5	International Day of Charity	The International Day of Charity is celebrated on September 5 to commemorate the day of passing away of great missionary Mother Teresa.
September 7	World Duchenne Awareness Day	Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) is a rare genetic disorder characterized by progressive muscle degeneration and weakness.
September 7	International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies	This observance serves as a global call to action, urging governments, corporations, civil society, and individuals to Invest in #CleanAirNow.
September 8	International Literacy Day	The theme for International Literacy Day 2024 is 'Promoting multilingual

		education: Literacy for mutual understanding and peace."
September 8	World Physical Therapy Day	Theme 2024 - LBP (Low Back Pain) and the role of physiotherapy in its prevention and management
September 10	World Suicide Prevention Day	The theme of World Suicide Prevention Day 2024-2026 is "Changing the narrative on suicide".
September 11	National Forest Martyrs Day	Theme 2024 - Honoring the Guardians of Our Forest.
September 14	World First Aid Day	Theme 2024 - First Aid and Sports.
September 15	National Engineers Day	The National Engineers Day theme for 2024 focuses on "Innovating for a Sustainable Future" .
September 15	International Day of Democracy	The theme for the 2024 International Day of Democracy is "Ensuring effective governance of Artificial Intelligence at all levels".
September 16	International Day for Interventional Cardiology	This day is dedicated to raising awareness and its pivotal role in treating heart diseases through minimally invasive procedures.
September 16	World Ozone Day	The 2024 theme, "Ozone for Life: 35 Years of Global Cooperation," focuses on global efforts to protect this vital atmospheric shield through

		policies and sustainable actions.
September 17	World Patient Safety Day	This year's theme, "Improving diagnosis for patient safety", accompanied by the slogan "Get it right, make it safe!"
September 18	World Bamboo Day	Theme 2024 – Next Generation Bamboo: Solution, Innovation, and Design.
September 18	International Equal Pay Day	Theme 2024 – Need To Eliminate Wage Discrimination.
September 20	World Cleanup Day	Theme – "Arctic Cities and Marine Litter".
September 21	International Day of Peace	Theme: Actions for Peace: Our Commitment to the #Global Goals, which underscores our collective and personal duties to nurture peace.
September 21	World Alzheimer's Day	The theme for World Alzheimer's Day 2024 is "Time to act on dementia, Time to act on Alzheimer's."
September 22	World Rhino Day	Theme for 2024 – Keep the Five Alive.
September 23	International Sign Language Day	The theme for the 2024 International Day of Sign Languages (IDSL) is "Sign up for Sign Language Rights".
September 24	World Gorilla Day	World Gorilla Day encourages us to learn more about gorillas and work to protect them.
September 25	World Pharmacist Day	Theme 2024 – Pharmacists: Meeting global health need.
September 26	World Maritime Day	Theme: "Navigating the Future: Safety First!" .

September 26	World Environmental Health Day	The theme of World Environmental Health Day 2024 is "Environmental Health: Creating Resilient Communities through Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation."
September 27	World Tourism Day	Reflecting on the theme of World Tourism Day 2024, "Tourism and Peace."
September 28	International Day for Universal Access to Information	Theme: Artificial Intelligence, E-Governance, and Access to Information.
September 28	World Rabies Day	The 2024 theme, "Breaking Rabies Boundaries," emphasizes the need for progress and moving beyond the status quo in rabies prevention and control.
September 29	World Heart Day	From 2024 to 2026, the campaign will focus on the theme "Use Heart for Action."
September 30	International Translation Day	Under the theme "Translation, an art worth protecting: Moral and Material rights for Indigenous Languages."

OCTOBER -2024

Date	Day	Theme
October 1	International Day of Older Persons	This year's theme, "Ageing

		with Dignity.
October 1	International Coffee Day	Theme "Coffee, Your Daily Ritual, Our Shared Journey.
October 1	World Vegetarian Day	The theme for World Vegetarian Day 2024 is "Mix It Up".
October 2	Gandhi Jayanti	This year is the 155th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 2 October to commemorate the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi
October 2	International Day of Non-Violence	The resolution is "to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence."
October 4	World Animal Day	World Animal Day stands as a global celebration dedicated to illuminating the critical issues of animal rights, welfare, and conservation.
October 5	World Teachers' Day	Theme: "Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education".
October 6	World Cerebral Palsy Day	This year's theme, '#UniquelyCP', celebrates the uniqueness of the cerebral palsy community - their interests, passions, and identities - showing that they are not solely defined by their disability.
October 07	Nilgiri Tahr Day	October 7 was chosen by the Government as Nilgiri Tahr Day in honour of E.R.C. Davidar. He was a wildlife

		conservationist who pioneered studies on the sole mountain ungulate of Southern India as early as in 1960s.
October 07	World Cotton Day	The official theme for World Cotton Day 2024 was "Cotton for Good".
October 08	Indian Air Force Day	The chosen theme, “Bhartiya Vayu Sena: Saksham, Sashakt, Atmanirbhar” (translating to Potent, Powerful, and Self-Reliant), encapsulates the IAF’s vision for the future.
October 09	World Post Day	150 years of enabling communication and empowering peoples across nations” is the theme of this year’s World Post Day.
October 10	National Postal Day	Every year on October 10th, India commemorates National Postal Day, a significant observance that marks the establishment of the Indian Postal Service.
October 10	World Mental Health Day	The theme of the World Mental Health Day 2024 is “Mental Health at Work.
October 11	International Day of the Girl Child	Theme 2024 - Girls’ Vision for the Future.
October 12	World Migratory Bird Day	The 2024 theme, “Insects for Birds”, highlights the importance of insects for migratory birds and calls for immediate action to protect the rapidly declining populations of insects.

October 15	World Student's Day	Every year on October 15, World Students' Day is observed to honour the life and contributions of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, a visionary leader, educator, and former President of India.
October 15	International Day of Rural Women	In 2024, the theme for this significant day is "Rural Women Sustaining Nature for Our Collective Future."
October 15	Global Handwashing Day	Theme 2024 - Why are clean hands still important.
October 16	World Food Day	This year World Food Day has been observed under the theme "Right to Foods for a Better Life and a Better Future".
October 16	World Anaesthesia Day	The theme for World Anaesthesia Day 2024 is "Workforce Well Being."
October 17	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	The theme for the 2024 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is "Ending Social and Institutional Maltreatment Acting together for just, peaceful and inclusive societies".
October 20	World Statistics Day	The theme for World Statistics Day 2024 was "Use of Data for Decision Making."
October 20	World Osteoporosis Day	The theme for World Osteoporosis Day 2024 is "Say No to Fragile Bones."

October 21	World Iodine Deficiency Day	The theme for World Iodine Deficiency Day 2024 is "Arise awareness".
October 22	International Stuttering Awareness Day	Theme 2024 – The Power of Listening – People Who Stutter Have The Unique Opportunity To Teach The World To Listen.
October 24	World Polio Day	The theme for World Polio Day 2024 is "A Global Mission to Reach Every Child".
October 24	United Nations Day	The theme for United Nations Day 2024 is expected to be "Global Unity and Sustainable Development".
October 28	International Animation Day	It commemorates the first public projection of animated images, Émile Reynaud's Théâtre Optique in Paris on October 28, 1892.
October 29	World Stroke Day	Theme 2024 – #GreaterThanStroke.
October 29	Ayurveda Day	This year's theme highlights Ayurveda's potential to address global health issues.
October 29	International Day of Care and Support	Theme 2024 – Transforming Care Systems: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the context of Beijing+30.
October 31	World Savings Day	World Savings Day promotes awareness about the importance of saving.
October 31	National Unity Day	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day is celebrated to commemorate the

		birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
October 31	World Cities Day	The theme for 2024 is "Youth leading climate and local action for cities."

NOVEMBER - 2024

Date	Day	Theme
November 01	World Vegan Day	Theme 2024- Many Lives.
November 02	International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists	Theme of 2024 is Safety of Journalists in Crises and Emergencies.
November 03	International Day for Biosphere Reserves	The theme for 2024 is "BE PART OF THE PLAN."
November 05	World Tsunami Awareness Day	The theme, "Empowering the next generation with the lessons of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami – 20 years on."
November 07	National Cancer Awareness Day	The theme this year is "Hope, love, and strength: our weapons against cancer."
November 07	Infant Protection Day	Theme 2024 - Protecting Our Future.
November 08	World Radiology Day	This year, 2024 Theme is "Radiographers: Seeing the Unseen".
November 09	National Legal Services Day	Theme - "Empowering Justice: Accessible Legal Aid for All."
November 09	World Adoption Day	Theme - Giving Kids A Forever Family, One Adoption At A Time.

November 10	World Public Transport Day	Theme 2024 – Connecting Communities, Reducing Emissions.
November 10	World Immunization Day	Theme: "Vaccines for All.
November 11	National Education Day	The theme for National Education Day 2024 is "Learning for Lasting Peace".
November 12	World Pneumonia Day	Theme: "Every Breath Counts: Stop Pneumonia in Its Track".
November 13	World Kindness Day	The theme for World Kindness Day 2024 is "The Importance of Kindness in Child Development".
November 14	World Diabetes Day	Theme 2024 – Breaking Barriers, Bridging Gaps.
November 14	Children's Day	Theme is "For Every Child, Every Right."
November 15	Tribal Pride Day	This day marks the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, a brave tribal leader and freedom fighter.
November 16	National Press Day	The theme for National Press Day 2024 is "Changing Nature of the Press."
November 16	International Day For Tolerance	The theme for the 2024 International Day for Tolerance is "Promoting Respect and Understanding Worldwide".
November 16	World Philosophy Day	The theme for World Philosophy Day 2024 was "Philosophy for an inclusive and sustainable future."
November 17	National Epilepsy Day	Theme 2024 – Milestones on My Epilepsy Journey.

November 18	World Day For The Prevention Of And Healing From Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse And Violence	In 2024, the theme for this day is "Emerging technologies: threats and opportunities for the protection of children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse."
November 19	International Men's Day	The theme for International Men's Day in 2024 is "Positive Male Role Models."
November 19	National Integration Day	National Integration Day, observed every year on November 19, marks the birth anniversary of Indira Gandhi, the first woman Prime Minister of India.
November 19	World Toilet Day	The theme of World Toilet Day 2024 is "Toilets - A Place for Peace."
November 20	World Children's Day	The theme for World Children's Day 2024 is "Listen to the Future."
November 21	World Television Day	The Theme for World Television Day 2024 is "Accessibility."
November 21	World Fisheries Day	Theme is India's Blue Transformation: Strengthening Small-Scale and Sustainable Fisheries.
November 21	World Philosophy Day	Theme - 'Philosophy for an Inclusive and Sustainable Future' and 'bridging social gaps'.
November 25	International Day For The Elimination	Theme - "Every 11 Minutes, one woman is killed and "UNITE to

	Of Violence Against Women	End Violence against Women."
November 26	Constitution Day	Every year on 26 November, Constitution Day or Samvidhan Divas is celebrated in India.
November 26	National Milk Day	This year's National Milk Day, themed "Transforming Dairying with AI and IT."
November 26	World Sustainable Transport Day	The theme for World Sustainable Transport Day 2024 is "Together, We Can Drive Meaningful Change for a Healthier Planet and a Brighter Future".
November 29	International Jaguar Day	International Jaguar Day was established in 2018 as part of a global effort to conserve the species.
November 30	Day Of Remembrance For All Victims Of Chemical Warfare	This day, designated by the United Nations, serves as a poignant reminder of the devastating toll of chemical warfare on both troops and civilians.

DECEMBER - 2024

Date	Day	Theme
December 01	World AIDS Day	The theme of World AIDS Day 2024 is "Take the Rights Path: My Health, My Right!."
December 02	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery	The theme for the 2024 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is to unite efforts to detect, report, and abolish all forms

		of contemporary slavery.
December 03	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	This year's theme – 'Amplifying the leadership of disabled people for an inclusive and sustainable future.'
	Indian Navy Day	The theme for Indian Navy Day 2024 is "Strength and Power through Innovation and Indigenisation".
December 03	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	2023 Theme: "United in action to rescue and achieve the SDGs for, with and by persons with disabilities"
December 04	Indian Navy Day	The theme for Indian Navy Day 2023 is "Operational Efficiency, Readiness, and Mission Accomplishment in the Maritime Domain"
December 05	World Soil Day	The Theme for World Soil Day 2024 was "Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage".
December 05	International Volunteer Day	The 2023 theme, "The Power of Collective Action: If Everyone Did."
December 06	Mahaparinirvan Diwas	Mahaparinirvan Diwas is an annual observance to commemorate the death anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar
December 07	International Civil Aviation Day	The theme for International Civil Aviation Day (ICAD) 2024 is "Safe Skies. Sustainable Future: Together for the next 80 years".
December 07	Armed Forces Flag	It pay tribute to the

	Day	indomitable spirit and sacrifices of the soldiers, sailors, and airmen who stand guard at our borders
December 09	International Anti-Corruption Day	Theme - "Uniting with Youth Against Corruption: Shaping Tomorrow's Integrity."
December 10	World Human Rights Day	The theme for this year's celebration is: "Our rights, our future, right now."
December 11	International Mountain Day	The theme is "Mountain solutions for a sustainable future - innovation, adaptation, youth and beyond".
December 12	International Day of Neutrality	The theme for the 2024 International Day of Neutrality is "Promoting Peace and Stability".
December 14	National Energy Conservation Day	The theme for National Energy Conservation Day 2024 is "Powering Sustainability: Every Watt Counts".
December 16	Vijay Diwas	Vijay Diwas, observed annually on December 16, commemorates India's decisive victory over Pakistan in the 1971 Indo-Pak War
December 17	Pensioners Day	The theme is "Ageing with Dignity: The Importance of Strengthening Care and Support Systems for Older Persons Worldwide".
December 18	International Migrants Day	In 2024, the day will be observed under the theme,

		"Honouring the contributions of migrants and respecting their rights."
December 18	Minorities Rights Day	The theme for Minorities Rights Day in India in 2024 is "Promoting Diversity and Protecting Rights".
December 20	International Human Solidarity Day	The theme is "Celebrating Unity in Diversity".
December 21	First-Ever World Meditation Day	The event's theme, "Meditation for Global Peace and Harmony."
December 22	National Mathematics Day	The main objective of this day is to raise awareness among people about the importance of mathematics for the development of humanity.
December 23	National Farmers Day	The day highlights the importance of empowering farmers and addressing their concerns to ensure a prosperous and sustainable future for the nation.
December 24	National Consumer Rights Day	The theme is "Virtual Hearings & Digital Access to Consumer Justice.
December 25	Good Governance Day or Sushasan Diwas	The day is observed every year on 25 December to mark the anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee
December 27	International Day of Epidemic Preparedness	The International Day of Epidemic Preparedness , observed annually on December 27 , serves as a global reminder

		of the critical importance of investing in public health systems to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks.
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MISCELLANEOUS

- **'Laapataa Ladies' Selected as India's Official Entry for Oscars 2025**
- ✓ The Film Federation of India has declared the 'Laapataa Ladies' movie as India's official entry for Oscars 2025.



- ✓ It was produced by Aamir Khan and directed by Kiran Rao.
- ✓ It has been named in the Best Foreign Film Category for the Oscars 2025.
- ✓ Laapataa Ladies is the story of two young newlywed brides, who get exchanged during a train ride to their husband's homes.

