



Current Affairs

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Rajasthan



Person in News

Hamida Bano

- ❑ Hamida Bano, resident of Udaipur, passed away.
- ❑ Medal winner in 1982 Asian Games, New Delhi.
 - Silver - 400m hurdles
 - Bronze - 4x400m relay

Pranit Mathur

- ❑ Pranit Mathur, resident of Jodhpur, won medals in International Junior Science Olympiad (IJSO).
- ❑ Gold medal - Physics
- ❑ Silver medal - Chemistry
- ❑ Venue - Bucharest (Romania)

Places in News

Dholikheda village

- ❑ Dholikheda village of Bhilwara selected under Governor's Smart Village initiative.
- ❑ Adopted by Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur.

- ❑ Under the Governor's Smart Village initiative, each state university will adopt a village and implement all the schemes there effectively.
- ❑ Under this initiative, farmers' income will be increased by improving crop production, animal husbandry, poultry and horticulture in Dholikheda village.

Schemes in News

Mukhya Mantri Swanidhi Yojana

- ❑ Launched - 15 December, 2024
- ❑ Under this, in the urban areas of the state, unorganized workers of needy and helpless families along with building construction workers, handicraft workers, gig workers, cleaning workers, domestic workers etc. will be provided a loan of up to 80 thousand rupees by the bank without any guarantee or processing fee.

Mukhyamantri Ayushman Bal Sambal Yojana

- ❑ Launched - 15 December, 2024
- ❑ Eligibility - Native of Rajasthan or person residing in the state for more than 3 years.

- ❑ The following provisions have been made in this scheme to help children up to 18 years of age suffering from rare diseases -
 - (i) Treatment up to Rs 50 lakh will be provided to such children.
 - (ii) Financial assistance of Rs 5000 per month will be given for their care.
- ❑ In the first phase, JK Lone Hospital and AIIMS Jodhpur were authorized for treatment under this scheme.

Mukhyamantri Vishwakarma Pension Scheme

- ❑ Launched - 15 December 2024
- ❑ Provisions - On premium payment by eligible persons between 18 to 45 years, pension of Rs 3000 per month will be provided after the age of 60 years.
- ❑ Both the Central and State Government will participate in the premium for the age group of 18 to 40 years, while only the State Government will participate in the premium for the age group of 41 to 45 years.

Lado Protsahan Yojana

- ❑ Launched - 14 December, 2024
- ❑ Provisions - Every girl child born in the state on and after 1 August 2024 will be given Rs 1 lakh in 7 installments till the age of 21 years.
- ❑ The 7 installments are as follows
 - (1) On birth in a government recognized hospital - Rs 2500.
 - (2) On completion of 1 year and vaccination - Rs 2500.
 - (3) On admission in first class in a government school or a private school recognized by the government - Rs. 4000.
 - (4) On admission in sixth class in a government school or a private school recognized by the government - Rs. 5000.
 - (5) On admission in tenth class in a government school or a private school recognized by the government - Rs. 11000.

- (6) On admission in 12th class - Rs. 25000.
- (7) On passing graduation examination from a government recognized educational institution and attaining the age of 21 years - Rs. 50000.

Sindhu Darshan Yatra

- ❑ Announcement of giving financial assistance of Rs. 15000 per person to the pilgrims going on Sindhu Darshan Yatra.
- ❑ Implementation Department- Devasthan Department, Government of Rajasthan.
- ❑ Objective- To give financial assistance for darshan of Sindhu river in Leh-Ladakh, which is considered sacred by the Sindhi community.

Amrit Aahar Yojana

- ❑ Started - 14 December, 2024
- ❑ Under this, children coming to Anganwadi centers will be provided hot milk three days a week.
- ❑ Children between 3 and 6 years will be fed milk prepared from skimmed milk powder (100 ml of milk from 10 grams of powder for each student).

Policies

Rajasthan MSME Policy

- ❑ Objective - Assistance in making the state's MSMEs capable of global competition.
- ❑ Provisions -
 - Additional 2% interest subsidy on loan.
 - Assistance up to Rs 15 lakh on raising funds from MSME Exchange.
 - Grant up to 50% or Rs 5 lakh on advanced technology and software.
 - Reimbursement assistance up to Rs 3 lakh on quality certification and IPR.
 - Grant up to Rs 1.5 lakh on participating in events for marketing.
 - Reimbursement up to Rs 50 thousand on digital devices.
 - Reimbursement up to 75% or maximum Rs 50 thousand on e-commerce platform fees.

Rajasthan Export Promotion Policy - 2024

- ❑ Objective - To increase the state's exports by Rs 1.50 lakh crore in the next 5 years.
- ❑ Provisions -
 - New entrepreneurs will be encouraged to become exporters by running the Chief Minister Export Growth Campaign.
 - 50% or up to Rs 5 lakh assistance to exporters on documentation.
 - 75% or up to Rs 3 lakh grant on participation in international events.
 - 75% reimbursement on product testing (Rs 20 thousand per shipment and up to Rs 3 lakh per year)
 - 75% or up to Rs 50 lakh assistance on technical upgradation.
 - 75% or up to Rs 2 lakh reimbursement on e-commerce platform fees.

Rajasthan One District One Product Policy - 2024

- ❑ Objective - To boost the economy of the districts and increase the income of artisans, craftsmen, farmers and manufacturers.
- ❑ Provisions -
 - Margin money grant assistance of 25% or maximum Rs 15 lakh to new micro enterprises and 15% or maximum Rs 20 lakh to small enterprises.
 - Grant of 50% or up to Rs 5 lakh to micro and small enterprises on advanced technology and software.
 - Reimbursement of 75% or up to Rs 3 lakh on quality certification.
 - Assistance up to Rs 2 lakh for participating in marketing events.
 - Reimbursement of 75% or Rs 1 lakh per year on e-commerce platform fees for 2 years.
 - One-time assistance of up to 60% or Rs 75 thousand for cataloguing and e-commerce website development.

Integrated Cluster Development Scheme - 2024

- ❑ Aim - To increase the productivity, quality and efficiency of enterprises working in the handicraft, handloom and MSME sector.
- ❑ Provision -
 - Assistance up to Rs 50 lakh for training, marketing etc. activities by soft intervention for clusters of handicraft, handloom sector in the state.
 - 8% interest subsidy on loan for raw material depot in artisan and handloom sector clusters.
 - Sales assistance up to Rs 50,000 for e-commerce to craftsmen and weavers.
 - Maximum 90% grant for setting up of CFC costing up to Rs 10 crore in clusters by micro small enterprises (CFC - Common Facility Centre)
 - Maximum 80% grant in project cost up to Rs 10 crore for development of infrastructure in clusters existing in non-RICO / industrial areas.
 - Maximum assistance of 60% (maximum Rs. 5 crore) for development of new clusters on minimum 10 acres of land in non-RICO industrial areas.

Rajasthan Mineral Policy - 2024

- ❑ Provisions
 - Target of three times revenue by the year 2029-30 and Rs 1 lakh crore by the year 2047.
 - Target of 50 lakh employment by the year 2029-30 and 1 crore employment by the year 2047.
 - Promotion of private participation in the exploration of minerals.
 - Post Auction Facilitation Cell for assistance to investors.
 - To prevent revenue evasion
 - (i) Geo-Fencing (ii) RFID - Check Post (iii) GPS Vehicle Tracking and Drone Survey
 - Auction of blocks with pre-embedded clearance.

- Improvement in the process of permits and permissions for ease of doing business.
- Exemption in royalty payable on soil used in the manufacturing of brick by Awa Kajawa method.

Rajasthan M-Sand Policy- 2024

- ❑ Objective - Establishment of M-Sand units in the state and promotion of the use of M-sand as a cheaper alternative to gravel.
- ❑ Provisions
 - Industry status to M-Sand units.
 - Benefits under Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme, 2024.
 - Abolition of boundation of turnover and experience for setting up M-Sand unit.
 - 100% exemption in DFMT amount payable on overburden used in the production of M-Sand.
 - 50% exemption in royalty payable on overburden lying on government land.
 - 50% reduction in reserve rate in auction of overburden lying on government land.
 - 20% increase in production of M-Sand per year.
 - 25% M-Sand usage mandatory in government and government-funded construction works.

Rajasthan Integrated Clean Energy Policy - 2024

- ❑ Target - To increase renewable energy capacity to 125 GW by the year 2030.
- ❑ Provisions
 - Inclusion of provisions for renewable energy, biomass and waste energy, green hydrogen and new provisions for energy storage.
 - Promotion of floating solar projects.
 - Permission to install solar roof top up to 80% transformer capacity in net metering system.
 - Provisions for promoting all renewable energy projects, government land allocation to parks, virtual PPA based projects, carbon trading, energy efficiency and net zero building.

Rajasthan Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics and Extended Reality (AVGC-XR) Policy - 2024

- ❑ Provisions
 - Local talent, state culture and local resources will be promoted in the AVGC-XR sector.
 - Production grants to animation films, games and comics made in the state.
 - Additional incentives to startups and enterprises focusing on local culture and content creation.
 - Atal Innovation Studios and Accelerators will be established to promote innovation in this sector.
 - These studios will be equipped with coding, VFX labs and advanced computing facilities.

Rajasthan Tourism Unit Policy - 2024

- ❑ Provisions -
 - Inclusion of units like eco tourism unit, film city, heritage restaurant, hotel housing, indoor/outdoor play zone, integrated tourism village, motel/way-site facilities, resort housing, rural tourism unit and tourism startups.
 - Provision for allotment of government land to tourism unit projects making a minimum new investment of Rs 100 crore in 3 years at identified locations.
 - Facility of one-time allotment of up to 10% of their owned land to government land associated with or within the tourism unit at agricultural or residential DLC rates.
 - 100% exemption in stamp duty, conversion charge, development charge and land use change fee to new tourism units.
 - Double built-up area ratio to tourism units (4 BAR instead of 2).
 - Due to industrial status given to tourism and hospitality sector, UD tax, electricity rates and building plan fee are applicable at industrial rates instead of commercial rates.

Mission/Programme/Project

Saksham Jaipur Abhiyan

- ❑ Launched - from 25th November
- ❑ For empowerment of Divyangjans
- ❑ Camps organized in 2 phases
 - (i) First phase - at Panchayat Samiti level
 - (ii) Second phase - at Municipal Corporation level

Mere Gaon Ki Mitti Abhiyan

- ❑ 'Mere Gaon Ki Mitti - Shuddh Ugao, Shuddh Khilao' Abhiyan
- ❑ Launched by Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Bhagirath Chaudhary
- ❑ This campaign was initiated by spice company MDH.
- ❑ Objective - To motivate farmers to grow pesticide free crops.

Waste to Energy Project

- ❑ Agreement between Jaipur Municipal Corporation Heritage and Jindal Urban Waste Management Company.
- ❑ For production of energy from waste

100 days TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan

- ❑ Launched in the state from 7th December
- ❑ Under this campaign, Nikshaya camps will be organized for 100 days in 5 districts (Baran, Kota, Jhalawar, Hanumangarh, Rajsamand).

'Karmabhoomi se Matribhoomi' program

- ❑ This program was initiated by the Chief Minister taking forward the resolution of water conservation.
- ❑ Under this, 45,000 tubewell recharge structures will be constructed to increase the groundwater level in the state through public participation of migrant brothers.

Suposhit Maa Abhiyan

- ❑ Launching of the third phase of 'Suposhit Maa Abhiyan', an initiative of Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.

- ❑ Under this, essential nutrition and balanced diet is provided to pregnant women.

Gau Sneh Patra and Pakshi Dana Abhiyan

- ❑ Launched by Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Cow Rearing Minister Joraram Kumawat.
- ❑ Organised by Udaipur Animal Feed Sanstha.

Maru Udaan Abhiyan

- ❑ Decision to implement Maru Udaan Abhiyan started by Barmer Collector Tina Dabi in the entire state by the Women and Child Development Department.
- ❑ Objective - To make women economically, physically and mentally strong.

Committees/Institutions

7th State Finance Commission

- ❑ The proposal to constitute the 7th State Finance Commission for Panchayati Raj Institutions and Municipalities was approved.
- ❑ Term of the Commission - From April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2030

Mukhyamantri Sadbhavna Kendra

- ❑ Inauguration - December 15, 2024
- ❑ At these centers, citizens, institutions, commercial enterprises etc. will be able to deposit previously used items like clothes, shoes, books, toys, furniture, electronic goods etc.
- ❑ The needy people will be able to get the desired goods as per their requirement from these centers.

Khemraj Committee

- ❑ Approval of the recommendations of the Khemraj Committee by the Cabinet.
- ❑ The committee was constituted by the state government under the chairmanship of Khemraj Chaudhary to examine the employee salary discrepancy.

Center of Excellence for-Skills and Sports Development (CESSD)

- ❑ Announcement to set up in Jaipur.
- ❑ MoU between AU Foundation, the CSR arm of AU Small Finance Bank and the Government of Rajasthan.
- ❑ Under this, by 2030, more than 75000 youths will be provided skills and more than 25000 youths will be provided sports training.

Skill Development Centre

- ❑ Inauguration of the state's largest skill development centre.
- ❑ By Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar in the Apparel Park Industrial Area of Jaipur.
- ❑ Sohan Singh Smriti Skill Development Centre built by Laghu Udyog Bharati.

HG's Kaushal Shala

- ❑ Centre of Excellence established in the Government Ramchandra Khaitan Polytechnic College, Jaipur.
- ❑ By H.G. Infra Engineering Limited.
- ❑ Skill education initiative for polytechnic and engineering students.

Atal Gyan Kendra

- ❑ Announcement on the occasion of Good Governance Day (25 December).
- ❑ These centres will be started in every Gram Panchayat of the state.
- ❑ Local youth will be selected as Atal Prerak. On the lines of e-Mitra, public facilities related to application of welfare schemes and various certificates will also be made available at these centres.

Award**Scotch Award**

- ❑ To Smart City Jaipur
 - For Integrated Command and Control Center.

- ❑ To Bikaner Range IG Om Prakash
 - For innovation in 'Police Public Panchayat Abhiyan'.
- ❑ To Chetna Bhati of Udaipur Police.
 - For excellent work and formation of Hello Mummy and Lady Patrol Team.

"Communication on Water Conservation-Stories" Award

- ❑ To Sheela Asopa.
- ❑ For water conservation and awareness work.
- ❑ By Jal Shakti Ministry and UN ESCAP.

Sustainable Development Award

- ❑ To Dr. Swati Jain.
- ❑ For remarkable contribution in education.
- ❑ By 'Council for Sustainable Peace and Development' and 'World Academy of Informatics and Management Science'.

All India Acharya Ramchandra Shukla Award

- ❑ To Professor Nand Kishore Pandey of Rajasthan University.
- ❑ By Madhya Pradesh Sahitya Academy.
- ❑ For the book 'Bharatbodh and Bhakti Kavita'.

National Award for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

- ❑ By the President on the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3 December).
- ❑ To Dungarpur District Collector Ankit Kumar Singh and Salumber District Collector Jasmeet Singh Sandhu.

Breed Conservation Award

- ❑ To National Research Centre, Bikaner.
- ❑ For conservation of Halari horse.
- ❑ By National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.

Global Election Management Award

- ❑ To State Election Commissioner Dr. Madhukar Gupta.
- ❑ This award was given at the 20th International Electoral Award and Symposium (Santo Domingo).

Conferences/Events/Meetings

National Conference of Women and Child Development Departments

- ❑ The National Conference of Women and Child Development Departments of all the states of the country will be organized in January 2025.
- ❑ Venue - Udaipur
- ❑ In this camp, issues related to Anganwadi centers, nutrition and women and child development will be discussed in detail.

Kumbhalgarh Utsav

- ❑ Organised - 1-3 December
- ❑ Organiser - Tourism Department and Rajsamand District Administration.

Shilpgram Mahotsav

- ❑ Organised - 21 December to 31 December
- ❑ Organiser - West Zone Cultural Centre
- ❑ Dr. Komal Kothari Memorial Lifetime Achievement Folk Art Award
 - Ganpat Sakharan Masge (Kathakali) of Maharashtra
 - Roopsingh Shekhawat (Bhavai) of Jaipur

6th ICBF 2024

- ❑ International Conference on Birth Defects
- ❑ Venue - Mahatma Gandhi University of Medical Sciences and Technology, Jaipur.
- ❑ Inaugurated by - Shri Haribhau Bagde (Governor, Rajasthan)
- ❑ Highlighted the rising cases of congenital disorders in India (1-3 out of 100 children affected)

60th Foundation Day of Border Security Force

- ❑ Venue - Subsidiary Training Centre, Jodhpur
- ❑ Establishment - 1 December, 1965
- ❑ Home Minister Amit Shah attended the 60th Foundation Day celebration parade as the Chief Guest.

Pravasi Rajasthan Diwas

- ❑ Announcement by the Chief Minister to celebrate Pravasi Rajasthan Diwas on 10 December every year.
- ❑ Announcement in 'Rajasthan Pravasi Conclave' during Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit.
- ❑ Announcement to create a special department for migrants.

7th FIWE International Conference

- ❑ Venue - Rajasthan International Centre, Jaipur.
- ❑ FIWE - Federation of Indian Women Entrepreneurs
- ❑ Theme - Digitalization and expanding global markets for SMEs.
- ❑ Collaborating Ministry - Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)
- ❑ Objective - To inspire women to start and grow businesses globally.

Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit

- ❑ Event - 9 to 11 December
- ❑ Venue - Jaipur Exhibition Convention Center (JECC), Sitapura, Jaipur.
- ❑ Theme - Replete, Responsible, Ready
- ❑ Nodal Department - Bureau of Investment Promotion (BIP)
- ❑ Organisers - Department of Industries, Bureau of Investment Promotion (BIP) and Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO)
- ❑ Summit Partner Industry - Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- ❑ 17 partner countries and 15 participating countries participated in this summit.
- ❑ Chief Guest - Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- ❑ Chief Minister presented a 40 inch long and 2 kg sandalwood carved sword to the Prime Minister (Architect - Vinod Kumar Jangid, Churu).

Features of the sword - Description of Maharana Pratap's bravery in 7 parts.

- First window - Statue of Maharana Pratap
- Second window - Last jump of Chetak horse
- Third window - Donation of money for war material from Bhamashah.
- Fourth window - Scene of fight between Maharana Pratap and Shakti Singh over hunting of pig.
- Fifth window - Scene of wild cat snatching away the bread made of grass.
- Sixth window - Vijay Stambh
- Seventh window - Scene of Haldighati war where Maharana Pratap attacks Mansingh sitting on elephant with spear.

□ Various Events

○ 9 December

- Inauguration of Rajasthan Global Business Expo.
- HerStory: Advancing Inclusive Society.
- Transforming Manufacturing with Industry 4.0
- Regional Water Security: Technology and Governance
- Transitioning towards a Sustainable Energy Economy.
- Embracing Diversity: Promoting Inclusive Tourism.
- Sustainable Mining: Securing the Future

○ 10 December

- Pravasi Rajasthani Conclave
- Digital Transformation: Shaping the Future of Startups.
- Edurevolution: Bridging Education and Opportunities.
- Sustainable Finance: Public and Private Investments.

- Agri-Business Innovation: Moving Up the Value Chain.
 - FutureCare: Transforming Healthcare through Innovation.
 - Infrastructure: A Critical Link in the Supply Chain.
 - Rajasthan Global Business Expo
- 11 December
- MSME Conclave
 - Rajasthan Global Business Expo

□ Investor Meet

- Mumbai - 30 August (First Meet)
- Seoul (South Korea) - 9 September (First International Meet)
- Tokyo (Japan) - 11 September (First International Roadshow)
- Osaka (Japan) - 13 September
- Dubai - 17 September
- Doha (Qatar) - 19 September
- New Delhi - 30 September
- Singapore - 8 October
- Munich (Germany) - 15 October
- London - 17 October

□ 10 resolutions of the Chief Minister for Rising Rajasthan

- Solar Energy
- Handicrafts
- Coarse Grains
- Students
- Environment Protection
- Disabled
- Art-Culture
- District Specific Products
- Green Rajasthan
- Employment Generation
- MoUs worth more than Rs 35 lakh crore have been signed through this summit.

Programme on completion of one year of State Government

- ❑ The Department of Information and Public Relations organized an exhibition 'Ek Varsh Parinam Utkarsh' at Jawahar Kala Kendra.
- ❑ State level youth conference and employment festival at Marwar International Centre in Jodhpur.
 - Launch of Sports Life Insurance Scheme.
 - Establishment of Vidya Samiksha Kendra.
- ❑ Organizing 'Run for Vikasit Rajasthan' at Amar Jawan Jyoti.
- ❑ Organizing State Level Farmers Conference at Ajmer.
 - Launch of Mukhyamantri Mangala Pashu Bima Yojana (Insurance of Rs. 40 thousand for one animal from each family).
 - Increase in the amount given under Camel Conservation and Development Mission to Rs. 20 thousand.
- ❑ Organizing State Level Women's Conference at Gandhi Maidan, Udaipur.
 - Transfer of first installment of Lado Protsahan Yojana.
- ❑ Organizing Rajsakhi (Saras) Rashtriya Mela-2024 at Jawahar Kala Kendra.
- ❑ Organizing State Level Antyodaya Seva Camp.
 - Launching from Pinjra Pol Gaushala, Jaipur.
- ❑ Laying of foundation stone of 'Poonchri ka Lotha and Govardhan Parikrama Development Project' at Deeg.
- ❑ State Level Function
 - Dadiya Village, Jaipur
 - Chief Guest – Prime Minister Narendra Modi (Chief Minister presented a blue pottery made by Guru Gopal Saini)
 - Prime Minister handed over draft of MoU of Parvati-Kalisindh-Chambal-Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project.
 - Inauguration of Navnera Barrage.

Collaborations/Agreements**MoU on Rajasthan Police Salary Package**

- ❑ MoU between Rajasthan Police and SBI
- ❑ Provisions -
 - Rajasthan Police and Ministerial employees will get Rs 1 crore 20 lakh benefit in case of death in an accident, Rs 1 crore 10 lakh in case of permanent disability and Rs 80 lakh in case of permanent partial disability.
 - 2 crore 70 lakh rupees in case of accident during air travel, 10 lakh rupees in case of plastic surgery or burns, 10 lakh rupees for air ambulance and 50,000 rupees for ambulance.
- ❑ This benefit will be payable in both off-duty and on-duty situations.

Portal/App**Need Help**

- ❑ New feature of RajCop Citizen App operated by Rajasthan Police, Jaipur.
- ❑ For quick police assistance to women in distress.
- ❑ Two types of services - emergency and non-emergency assistance.
- ❑ RajCop Citizen App - Mobile application for citizens of Rajasthan to communicate with various services of Rajasthan Police. (Launched in 2020)

Manas e - Arogya Portal

- ❑ Initiative of Hanumangarh District Administration.
- ❑ To make the district drug-free.
- ❑ To monitor the drug stock of banned drugs and de-addiction centers.

Miscellaneous**Rajasthan in ODF+ model**

- ❑ Rajasthan is ranked 10th in the country for progress in ODF+ model.

- ❑ 98% villages in Rajasthan have been declared ODF+ and 85% villages have achieved ODF+ model status.

Zinc Park

- ❑ Announcement of setting up the world's first industrial zinc park.
- ❑ It will be set up by Hindustan Zinc of Vedanta Group in Chanderia, Chittorgarh.

New Development Authority

- ❑ The state government announced the formation of development authorities in Bharatpur and Bikaner.

Albatross Project

- ❑ Allotment of land to German company Albatross Project by RIICO.
- ❑ Location - Tiwari, Jodhpur

9 districts and 3 divisions cancelled

- ❑ On the recommendation of the high level committee constituted under the chairmanship of Lalit K Pawar.
- ❑ Dudu, Kekri, Shahpura, Neemkathana, Anupgarh, Gangapur City, Jaipur Rural, Jodhpur Rural and Santhore districts cancelled.
- ❑ Sikar, Banswara and Pali divisions cancelled.
- ❑ After this announcement, there are 41 districts and 7 divisions in the state.

New Kendriya Vidyalaya

- ❑ Central government approves opening of 9 new Kendriya Vidyalayas in Rajasthan.
- ❑ Location - AFS Phalodi, BSF Satrana, BSF Srikananpur, Hindaun City, Merta City, Mahwa, Rajgarh, Bhim, Rajsamand.

Rajasthan in India Status of Forest Report 2023

- ❑ Total forest and shrub area in Rajasthan - 22024.96 (6.44% of total area)
 - Forest cover area - 16548.21 (4.84% of total area)
 - Shrub area - 5476.75 (1.60% of total area)
- ❑ Decrease in forest cover as compared to year 2021 - 83.80 sq km
- ❑ Classification of forest cover -
 - Very dense forest (VDF) - 223.20 sq km
 - Moderately Dense Forest (MDF) - 4237.41 sq. km
 - Open Forest - 12087.60 sq. km
 - Shrub Land - 5476.75 sq. km
- ❑ Highest Forest Area - Udaipur (2766.30 sq. km) > Alwar (1198.74 sq. km) > Pratapgarh (996.86 sq. km) > Chittaurgarh (988.08 sq. km)
- ❑ Highest Forest Percentage - Udaipur (23.60%) > Pratapgarh (22.48%) > Sirohi (17.50%) > Karauli (15.18%)
- ❑ Lowest Forest Area - Churu (62.73 sq. km) < Hanumangarh (92.29 sq. km) < Jodhpur (111.23 sq. km) < Ganganagar (113.46 sq. km)
- ❑ Lowest Forest Percentage - Churu (0.45%) < Jodhpur (0.49%) < Bikaner (0.86%) < Jaisalmer (0.89%)
- ❑ Districts with maximum increase in forest area - Sikar (19.14 sq km) > Barmer (19 sq km)
- ❑ Districts with maximum decrease in forest area - Baran (33.29 sq km) > Pratapgarh (30.79 sq km)
- ❑ Maximum shrub area - Pali (453.45 sq km)
- ❑ Minimum shrub area - Hanumangarh (8.92 sq km)



National



Person in News

V. Ramasubramanian

- ❑ Appointed Chairman of National Human Rights Commission.
- ❑ A retired judge of Supreme Court
- ❑ Apart from him, Priyank Kanoongo and Justice Dr. Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi are appointed as members.

PP Choudhary

- ❑ Appointed Chairman of 39-member Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on One Nation, One Election.
- ❑ Third time BJP MP from Pali, Rajasthan.

Sanjay Malhotra

- ❑ Appointed 26th Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ❑ Replaced Shaktikanta Das.
- ❑ IAS officer of Rajasthan cadre.
- ❑ He was also Revenue Secretary (Ministry of Finance).
- ❑ Tenure - Three years.

Justice Manmohan

- ❑ Appointed Judge of Supreme Court
- ❑ Served as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court.

Schemes/Programmes in News

Jalvahak Scheme

- ❑ Ministry - Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- ❑ Objective - To enhance tradability of inland waterways and to promote cargo movement.
- ❑ Promotion of three inland waterways
 - NW1 - Ganga
 - NW2 - Brahmaputra
 - NW3 - Barak
- ❑ Reimbursement on operating expenses for movement (up to 35%)
- ❑ Hiring of vessels from private operators to enhance competition and efficiency.
- ❑ Target - To incentivise modal shift of 800 million tonne kilometre of cargo by 2027.

Bima Sakhi Yojana

- ❑ Launch - 09 December 2024, Panipat (Haryana)
- ❑ Objective - To provide employment to women by imparting financial literacy and insurance awareness.
- ❑ Ministry - Ministry of Finance
- ❑ Operated by - Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)
- ❑ Eligibility - 10th pass women aged between 18-70 years.
- ❑ Bima Sakhis will be given training and stipend by LIC for three years.
- ❑ Opportunity to work as LIC agent after training.

Suposhit Gram Panchayat Abhiyan

- ❑ Launched - 26 December by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ❑ Ministry - Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India.
- ❑ Objective - To improve nutritional outcomes and well-being of the targeted population.
- ❑ Provisions -
 - Award of Rs 1 lakh each to the best performing 1000 Suposhit Gram Panchayats in the country.
 - Recognition to the top 3 districts with the most Suposhit Gram Panchayats.

Pilot project to prevent stray animal related accidents on National Highways

- ❑ Initiated by National Highways Authority of India (Union Ministry of Road Transport & Highways).
- ❑ Agreement with Gawar Construction Ltd. for construction and maintenance of animal shelters.
- ❑ Establishment of First Aid Centre and Hospital at 50 km on each side.
- ❑ Deployment of animal ambulance.
- ❑ Applicable on various National Highway sections -
 - (i) Kharkhauda bypass on UP/Haryana border to Rohna section of NH-334B.
 - (ii) Hansi bypass on Bhiwani-Hansi section of NH-148B.

- (iii) Kiratpur-Nerchowk section of NH-21.
- (iv) Dangiyawas to Jajiwala section of Jodhpur Ring Road on NH-112.

Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)

- ❑ On 6 December, PM POSHAN was approved as a centrally sponsored scheme replacing the National Programme for Mid Day Meals in Schools.
- ❑ Implementation - By Ministry of Education, Government of India.
- ❑ Period - From 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- ❑ Objective - To provide hot cooked meals on all school days to 11.70 crore students studying in Bal Vatika and Classes 1 to 8 in 10.24 lakh government and government aided schools.
- ❑ Increase in material cost from 1 December (13.70%)
 - Material cost for primary and Bal Vatika classes increased from Rs 5.45 to Rs 6.19
 - For upper primary classes increased from Rs 8.17 to Rs 9.29.

Credit Guarantee Scheme for e-NWR based Pledge Financing (CGS-NPF)

- ❑ Launched - 16th December, 2024
- ❑ Ministry - Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- ❑ Total Fund - Rs.1000 crore
- ❑ Objective - To provide loans to farmers against pledge of electronic warehouse receipts.
- ❑ Loan Coverage - Agriculture Purpose - Rs.75 lakh
 - Non-Agriculture Purpose - Rs.2 crore
- ❑ Eligible Beneficiaries - Small and marginal farmers, women, SC/ST/Divyang farmers, MSMEs, traders, FPOs and farmer cooperatives.
- ❑ Loan Guarantee Coverage - 85% for loans up to Rs.3 lakh for small and marginal farmers/women/SC/ST/Divyang and 80% for loans from Rs.3 to 75 lakh and 75% for other borrowers.

Development of Tourist Destinations under SASCI Scheme

- ❑ SASCI - Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment.
- ❑ 40 projects for development of less known tourist destinations in 23 States approved.
- ❑ Cost - Rs.3295.76 crore
- ❑ Ministry - Ministry of Tourism
- ❑ Department - Department of Expenditure
- ❑ Two projects in Rajasthan
 1. Development of Amer-Nahargarh and surrounding areas in Jaipur
 2. Development of Jal Mahal, Jaipur.

Ayushman Vaya Vandana Card

- ❑ Launched by Government of India on 29th October under AB-PMJAY to provide free treatment benefits upto Rs.5 lakhs per annum on family basis to all senior citizens of the age of 70 years and above, irrespective of their socio-economic status.
- ❑ Cashless healthcare available for 1961 procedures across 27 medical specialties.
- ❑ Around 14 lakh Ayushman Vaya Vandana cards have been generated till 25th November.

Banglar Bari Yojna

- ❑ Housing scheme of West Bengal Government.
- ❑ Over 12 lakh families eligible.
- ❑ Rs 1.20 lakh assistance to each family for building house (1st instalment - Rs 60,000)

PM e-Vidya Channel

- ❑ Launched by Ministry of Education, Government of India for Indian Sign Language (ISL).
- ❑ Objective - To promote ISL as a language as well as a school subject for the hearing impaired community.

Anna Chakra

- ❑ Public Distribution System (PDS) supply chain optimization tool.
- ❑ Developed in collaboration with World Food Programme (WFP) and Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT), IIT Delhi.

- ❑ Objective - Increasing the efficiency of PDS logistics network.
- ❑ Initiative of Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
- ❑ Covers 4.37 lakh fair price shops and about 6700 warehouses in 30 states.

Viksit Panchayat Karmayogi Initiative

- ❑ Initiative launched on the occasion of Good Governance Day on 25 December.
- ❑ By Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India.
- ❑ Under the Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur Abhiyan (19 to 24 December).
- ❑ Objective - To enhance the capacity and capability of Panchayati Raj Institutions by equipping elected representatives and officials with the necessary tools and knowledge for effective governance and participatory planning.

Ken-Betwa River Linking National Project

- ❑ Foundation stone was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 25 December at Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❑ Country's first river linking project under the National Perspective Plan.
- ❑ Irrigation, drinking water facility and hydroelectricity production in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
- ❑ Construction of Daudhan Dam in Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh.

eMaap

- ❑ National Legal Metrology Portal.
- ❑ Developed by Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India.
- ❑ Objective - To streamline processes for issuing licenses, verification and managing enforcement and compliance by integrating State Legal Metrology departments and their portals into a unified national system.

Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur Abhiyaan

- ❑ Organized from 19th to 25th December (under Good Governance Week).

- ❑ India's largest campaign for citizen centric governance and door step delivery of services.
- ❑ Coordination - By Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances.
- ❑ Organized in more than 700 districts across India (50 districts in Rajasthan).

SCAN Portal

- ❑ Single window portal for subsidy claim application for National Food Security Act.
- ❑ Ministry - Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

Rashtraparv Website and Mobile App

- ❑ Launched by Ministry of Defence.
- ❑ To provide information to citizens about national festivals organized by the Ministry.

Mission Arun Himveer

- ❑ To promote market access of local agricultural produce of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❑ Agreement between Arunachal Pradesh Agricultural Marketing Board and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

Ashraya Kisan Seva Kendra

- ❑ To provide digital services to the farming community.
- ❑ By Agriculture Department of Government of Kerala.

Award**Sahitya Akademi Award - 2024**

- ❑ Sahitya Akademi announced Akademi Awards for 21 languages.
- ❑ Hindi Language - Gagan Gill (Mai Jab Tak Aayi Bahar) Poetry
- ❑ English Language - Easterine Kire (Spirit Nights) - Novel
- ❑ Rajasthani Language - Mukut Maniraj (Gaon Aur Amma) Poetry

34th Vyas Samman

- ❑ To Hindi writer Suryabala.
- ❑ By K.K. Birla Foundation.

- ❑ For the novel Kaun Desh Ko Vaasi - Venu Ki Diary.

Prime Minister National Bal Puraskar 2025

- ❑ Presented by President Draupadi Murmu to 17 children in seven categories.
- ❑ Major awardees - Anish Sarkar (West Bengal), Pritishmita Bhoi (Odisha)

National Tansen Samman 2023

- ❑ Pandit Swapan Chaudhary, tabla player from Kolkata.
- ❑ Presented during the 100th Tansen Music Festival (Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh).

National Awards for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities 2024

- ❑ By the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.
- ❑ To 33 individuals/institutions/organizations in two major categories - National Awards for Individual Excellence and National Awards for Institutional Excellence.
- ❑ Major Award Winners
 - (i) Best Employer for Divyangjans - Zomato and Minda Corporation Limited.
 - (ii) Best State/UT/District in implementation of Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan/creation of barrier-free environment - Salumber, Rajasthan
 - (iii) Best District in implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act/UDID and other schemes for empowerment of persons with disabilities - Dungarpur, Rajasthan.

1st Chaudhary Charan Singh Award

- ❑ By Kisan Trust
- ❑ In three categories in the field of Agriculture, Rural Development and Journalism.
 - Kalam Ratna Award - Neeraj Chaudhary
 - Sewa Ratna Award - Dr. Rajendra Singh (Waterman of India) - Rajasthan
 - Krishak Utthan Award - Dr. Feroz Hussain
 - Kisan Award - Pritam Singh

Dr. Mangalam Swaminathan National Award of Excellence 2024

- (i) P Narayanan - Journalism
- (ii) Umendra Dutt - Science Reporting
- (iii) Satyanarayana Raju - Art and Culture
- (iv) Jijo John Puthezhath - For Medical Malpractice Investigation.
- (v) Shri Dattopant Thengadi Seva Samman in Social Service Sector
 - (a) Maneka Gandhi
 - (b) H H Rev Moran Mor Basilios Cardinal Cleemis
 - (c) G Rajamohan
 - (d) Harish Kumar P
- (vi) Pravasi Bharatiya National Award of Excellence-
 - (a) Nazir V Koyakutty
 - (b) Ajith Nair

Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Award

- ❑ To India's Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar.
- ❑ For Public Leadership by South Indian Education Society (SIES).

JC Daniel Award 2023

- ❑ To filmmaker Shaji N. Karun.
- ❑ The highest honour given by the state of Kerala in the field of filmmaking.

RTI Award

- ❑ To State Information Commission (SIC) Kerala.
- ❑ Kerala was honored for its exemplary performance in transparency, public accountability and dissemination of information.

Third PSU Transformation Award

- ❑ To Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India.

Eight National Awards for Communication Excellence to Steel Authority of India Limited (PRSI National Awards 2024)

- ❑ Presented by Public Relations Society of India (PRSI).

- ❑ During the 46th All India Public Relations Conference held in Raipur from 20 to 22 December.

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)

- ❑ Three awards at the 14th PSE Excellence Awards ceremony organized by the Indian Chamber of Commerce.
- ❑ Gold Award in the Mini Ratna category for Corporate Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility & Sustainability.
- ❑ Silver Award for Operational Performance Excellence

Jamsetji Tata Award

- ❑ To Biocon Group Chairperson Kiran Mazumdar Shaw for leading the bioscience movement.

Data Security Council of India Excellence Award 2024

- ❑ To Cyberabad Commissionerate of Telangana State Police.

Miscellaneous
18th India State of Forest Report - 2023

- ❑ Released by Forest Survey of India (FSI) on biennial basis.
- ❑ Based on remote sensing satellite data and field based National Forest Inventory.
- ❑ Key findings - India

S.No.		Area (sq.km)	Percentage of total geographical area	Increase (compared to year 2021) sq km
1.	Forest and tree cover	827357	25.17	1445
2.	Forest cover	715343	21.76	156
3.	Tree Cover	112014	3.41	1289

- Top states with highest forest and tree cover-

S.No.	On the basis of area	Percentage-wise
1.	Madhya Pradesh (85724 sq. km.)	Lakshadweep (92%)
2.	Arunachal Pradesh (67083 sq. km.)	Mizoram (88.03%)
3.	Maharashtra (65383 sq.km.)	Andaman and Nicobar Islands (81.95%)

- Top states with highest tree cover-

S.No.	On the basis of area	Percentage-wise
1.	Maharashtra	Chandigarh
2.	Rajasthan	Delhi
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Kerala

- Top states with increase and decrease in forest and tree cover-

S.No.	Maximum increase	Maximum reduction
1.	Chhattisgarh (683.62 sq. km.)	Madhya Pradesh (612.41 sq. km.)
2.	Uttar Pradesh (559.19 sq. km.)	Karnataka (459.36 sq. km.)
3.	Odisha (558.57 sq. km.)	Ladakh (159.26 sq. km.)
4.	Rajasthan (394.46 sq. km.)	Nagaland (125.22 sq. km.)

- ❑ Highest forest cover in terms of percentage of forest cover in relation to total geographical area - Lakshadweep (91.33%)
- ❑ More than 33% of geographical area is under forest cover in 19 states/union territories of the country.
- ❑ More than 75% forest area is under forest cover in 8 states/union territories of the country (Mizoram, Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura and Manipur).
- ❑ Total mangrove cover - 4992 sq. km.
- ❑ Total bamboo area in the country - 154670 sq. km. (Increase of 5227 sq. km.)

No detention policy for class 5 and 8 in Central Government run schools abolished

- ❑ Amendment in Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules 2010.
- ❑ According to the revised rules, if a student of class 5 and 8 fails in the regular examination at the end of the academic year, he will be given a chance to re-appear in the examination within a period of two months. If he fails in that also, he will not be promoted to the next class.

K. Radhakrishnan Panel

- ❑ The committee headed by K. Radhakrishnan (former chairman, ISRO) recommended the reorganization of the National Testing Agency (NTA).
- ❑ Objective - To solve the question paper leak and other irregularities.

First India Maritime Heritage Conclave (IMHC) 2024

- ❑ Organized- 11 to 12 December at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi.
- ❑ Organiser - Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India.
- ❑ Theme - Towards Understanding India's position global maritime history.

GSI Geoscience Museum

- ❑ At Victoria Market Building, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❑ Developed by Gwalior Municipal Corporation and National Council of Science Museums.
- ❑ Inaugurated by - Vice President of India Jagdeep Dhankhar.

Centre of Excellence for Advancing India's Airport Systems and Security

- ❑ By 3D Integrated Solution Limited and Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research, a research organization of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

Kisan ID

- ❑ Gujarat is the first state in the country to create Kisan ID for 25% of the number of targeted farmers in the state.
- ❑ Kisan ID is a unique digital identity of farmers based on Aadhaar, which is dynamically linked to the land record system of the state.
- ❑ Under the Agri Stack component of the Digital Agriculture Mission of the Central Government.

India's first integrated waste management city-cum-learning centre

- ❑ To be set up at Suthni village, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❑ Spread over 40 acres.
- ❑ Objective - To make the city garbage free and promote sustainable waste management through circular economy model.

100-day intensive nationwide campaign against T.B.

- ❑ Launch - 07 December 2024, Panchkula (Haryana)
- ❑ By Jagat Prakash Nadda, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- ❑ Ministry - Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- ❑ Objective - Early detection and treatment of TB patients in 347 most affected districts across the country.
- ❑ Goal - To be TB free before the deadline of 2030.
- ❑ Use of "4 T" Test, Track, Treat and Technology to eliminate TB.

Udaan Yatri Café

- ❑ At Kolkata Airport.
- ❑ Established by Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- ❑ Objective - To tackle the problem of expensive food and beverages at airports.

25th Hornbill Festival

- ❑ Event - 1st to 10th December at Kisama Heritage Village, Nagaland.

- ❑ Annual festival of Nagaland Government (1st week of December) - Festival of Festivals.
- ❑ Zero waste and single use plastic free event.
- ❑ Festival named after Hornbill, the revered bird of folklore of Nagaland.
- ❑ Partner countries - UK (Wales), United States, Japan and Peru.
- ❑ Partner states - Sikkim and Telangana.

Great Hornbill

- *The Great Hornbill bird is found in evergreen and moist deciduous forests (State bird of Arunachal Pradesh and Kerala).*
- *It is included in the Vulnerable category of IUCN and Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972.*

Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav 2024

- ❑ A celebration of the cultural wealth of Northeast India.
- ❑ Event - Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi from 6 to 8 December.
- ❑ Organiser - North Eastern Handicrafts and Handloom Development Corporation Limited, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.
- ❑ Mascot - Poorvi (Little girl representing all the eight states of North Eastern India)

Aadi Mahotsav

- ❑ Venue - 29 November to 8 December, Shilpgram Jaipur Kala Kendra, Jaipur
- ❑ Ministry - Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India
- ❑ Objective - To showcase tribal art, culture and tradition by providing a national platform to tribal culture.

10th India International Science Festival 2024

- ❑ Venue - 30 November to 3 December at IIT Guwahati, Assam.
- ❑ Initiative of Ministry of Science & Technology and Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India.

- ❑ Organiser - Vigyan Bharati by CSIR-NIIST and key Ministries of Government of India.
- ❑ Theme - Transforming India into an S&T driven Global Manufacturing Hub.

13th National Seed Congress 2024

- ❑ Organised - 28 to 30 November 2024, Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)
- ❑ Organisers -
 1. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India
 2. International Rice Research Institute South Asia Regional Centre (ISARC)
 3. National Seed Research and Training Centre (NSRTC)
- ❑ Inaugurated by - Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- ❑ Objective - To discuss progress and challenges in the seed sector.

16th GRIHA Summit

- ❑ Organised - 5 December at New Delhi.
- ❑ Organisers - GRIHA (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) Council.
- ❑ Theme - Accelerating Climate Action in the Built Environment.

21st Annual Health Summit

- ❑ Organised - 19 December at New Delhi
- ❑ Organiser - Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- ❑ Theme - Transforming Healthcare for Viksit Bharat 2047

16th Annual Conference of Central Information Commission

- ❑ Organised - Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- ❑ Organiser - Contribution of RTI in journey towards a Viksit Bharat.

4th India Internet Governance Forum (IIGF) 2024

- ❑ Organised - 9-10 December at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi in hybrid mode.

- ❑ An initiative by India's multi-stakeholder community supported by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India and National Internet Exchange of India.
- ❑ Theme - Innovating Internet Governance for India.

48th Meeting of the National Archives Committee

- ❑ Organised - 28-29 November at Statue of Unity, Kevadia, Gujarat.
- ❑ Organisers - National Archives of India, New Delhi and Gujarat State Archives.

59th DGSP/IGSP Conference 2024

- ❑ 30 November to 1 December Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- ❑ Three best police stations in the country-
 - (i) Ichhapur Police Station, Surat (Gujarat)
 - (ii) Pattapur Police Station, Gajam (Odisha)
 - (iii) Nimiaghat Police Station, Giridih (Jharkhand)

4th National Conference of Chief Secretaries

- ❑ 13 to 15 December at New Delhi.
- ❑ Theme - Promoting entrepreneurship, employment and skills- leveraging the demographic dividend.

55th Meeting of the GST Council

- ❑ Venue - Jaisalmer (Rajasthan).
- ❑ Track and trace mechanism approved - for goods susceptible to tax evasion.
- ❑ Gene Therapy exempted from GST.
- ❑ Contributions made by General Insurance Companies to Motor Vehicle Accident Fund exempted from GST.

Green Steel Taxonomy

- ❑ Launched by Ministry of Steel, Government of India
- ❑ India is the first country in the world to launch Green Steel Taxonomy.

7th Smart India Hackathon

- ❑ From 11th to 15th December at 51 nodal centres across the country.
- ❑ 17 topics of national importance covered.

Trade Watch Quarterly

- ❑ Publication of NITI Aayog.
- ❑ Analysis of India's trade statistics on a quarterly basis.

MoU signed between CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. and Confederation of All India Traders (AIT)

- ❑ Empowering traders and citizens across the country by facilitating their registration under various social security schemes.

8th Siddha Diwas

- ❑ Observed on 19th December at Anna Centenary Library Auditorium, Kottapuram, Chennai.
- ❑ Organisers - Central Council for Research in Siddha, National Institute of Siddha and Directorate of Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy, Tamil Nadu, under Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India.

Krishnaveni Sangeetha Neerajanam

- ❑ 2nd Edition
- ❑ Held from 6th to 8th December at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❑ A celebration of Carnatic music, traditional crafts and culinary heritage.
- ❑ Organisers - Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India and Andhra Pradesh Tourism.

India's first border solar village

- ❑ Masali (Banaskantha), Gujarat.
- ❑ Under Pradhan Mantri Suryaghar Muft Bijli Yojana.

Charak Initiative

- ❑ Health focused CSR initiative of Northern Coalfields Limited, a branch of Coal India, Singrauli, under the guidance of Ministry of Coal.

- ❑ Objective - To provide free medical treatment for serious ailments to economically weaker sections in Singrauli area.

Uber Shikara

- ❑ Launch of India's first water transport service by Uber.
- ❑ On Dal Lake in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir (Online booking facility).

Advanced facility for Pashmina certification and Next Generation Sequencing Facility (NGS) inaugurated

- ❑ By Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.

Climate Smart Agro Textile Demonstration Centre

- ❑ At Navsari, Gujarat.
- ❑ Established by Ministry of Textiles, Government of India in collaboration with Synthetic and Art Silk Mills Research Association.

Appointment of Chief Justices in various High Courts

- ❑ GS Sandhawalia - Himachal Pradesh High Court
- ❑ Guhanathan Narendra - Uttarakhand High Court

Appointment of new Governors

- ❑ Ajay Bhalla - Manipur
- ❑ VK Singh - Mizoram
- ❑ Arif Mohammad Khan - Bihar
- ❑ Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati - Odisha
- ❑ Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar - Kerala

Noamundi Iron Mine

- ❑ Tata Steel Limited mine located in Singhbhum district of Jharkhand.
- ❑ First iron ore mine in India to operate fully women shift.

Amaravati

- ❑ Capital of Andhra Pradesh
- ❑ World Bank approves \$800 million loan to make it an ideal capital.

7th Youth Co:Lab National Innovation Challenge

- ❑ For the year 2024-25
- ❑ Collaboration between Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog, United Nations Development Programme and Citi Foundation.

India Skills Report 2025

- ❑ Prepared by Wheebox in collaboration with All India Council for Technical Education and Confederation of Indian Industry.
- ❑ Conclusion
 - National Employability Rate in India - 54.81%
 - Top states providing employment - Maharashtra, Delhi, Karnataka.
 - Top states in female employability rate - Rajasthan, Gujarat, Kerala.

Agreement between Google and NCERT

- ❑ YouTube channel for students of classes 1 to 12.
- ❑ In 29 Indian languages (including Indian Sign Language).
- ❑ Google has also partnered with National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) to launch certified courses on YouTube.

Santosh

- ❑ Hindi film selected in the Best International Feature Film category for Oscars 2025.
- ❑ Official entry from the UK.
- ❑ Director - Sandhya Suri.

Master Creation

- ❑ Ministry of Textiles event showcasing the best handlooms and handicrafts of the country.
- ❑ Held from 1 to 15 December at Delhi Haat, New Delhi.

Agreement between India and Asian Development Bank

- ❑ Signing of a \$98 million loan agreement to improve horticultural crop farmers' access to certified disease-free planting material.

- ❑ Implementation - By the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare through the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the National Horticulture Board.

Fengal Cyclone

- ❑ Tropical cyclone originating in the Indian Ocean (Bay of Bengal).
- ❑ Affected countries -
 1. India - Coastal parts of Puducherry and Tamil Nadu
 2. Sri Lanka
- ❑ Named By Saudi Arabia (as per the list compiled by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)).

Devendra Fadnavis becomes Chief Minister of Maharashtra

- ❑ Devendra Fadnavis becomes the 31st Chief Minister of Maharashtra.
- ❑ Took oath as Chief Minister for the third time.
- ❑ Deputy Chief Ministers -
 1. Eknath Shinde (Shiv Sena)
 2. Ajit Pawar (NCP)

Kumhrar

- ❑ Remains of 80 columns found under layers of soil at Kumhrar (Patna, Bihar).
- ❑ Probably part of the assembly hall of the Mauryan capital Pataliputra.
- ❑ The decisive meeting of the third Buddhist council was held here during the time of Emperor Ashoka.

Limit of agriculture loan without collateral raised to Rs. 2 lakh

- ❑ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) raised the limit of agriculture loan without collateral.
- ❑ Raised from Rs. 1.6 lakh to Rs. 2 lakh
- ❑ Effective from 1st January 2025

Financial assistance from World Bank

- ❑ Development of four new tourist destinations in J&K

- ❑ Jammu and Kashmir will develop four new tourist destinations-
 1. Kokernag (Anantnag)
 2. Baradari (Reasi)
 3. Bhaderwah (Doda)
 4. Doodhpathri (Budgam)

Rata Pani Tiger Reserve

- ❑ Notified as the 57th Tiger Reserve of the country.
- ❑ Located in Madhya Pradesh (8th Tiger Reserve of Madhya Pradesh)
- ❑ Total area - 1271.4 sq km.
- ❑ 56th Tiger Reserve - Guru Ghasidas - Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve, Chhattisgarh.

Saras Food Festival

- ❑ 2nd Edition
- ❑ Organised - 1st to 17th December, Connaught Place, New Delhi.
- ❑ Organiser - Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.

Other Important Facts

- ❑ **Country's first zero waste airport** - Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport, Indore (Madhya Pradesh).
- ❑ **First state to fully adopt Government e-Market Place (GeM)** - Uttar Pradesh.
- ❑ **Eco-Creativity and Innovation Hackathon** - Organised : 17 December at New Delhi.
 - Organiser - Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- ❑ Gross Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in India from April 2000 to September 2024 have reached one trillion dollars.
- ❑ **Professor Pushpak Bhattacharya** - Chairman of the panel constituted by RBI to develop a framework on ethical use of AI in the financial sector.
- ❑ **India's first airport to connect 150 locations** - Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi.

- ❑ **City to declare giving money to baggars a crime from 1 January 2025** - Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❑ **First state to make India's first dedicated yoga policy** - Uttarakhand.
- ❑ Northeast India's first government skill university to be set up in Mangaldoi, Assam.
- ❑ Chandigarh became the first State/UT to fully implement the new three criminal laws.
- ❑ The Intermodal Terminal of Inland Waterways Authority of India at Kalughat, Bihar has received a Five Star SVAGRIHA (Simple Versatile Affordable GRIHA) rating from the GRIHA (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) Council.
- ❑ The National Council of Vocational Education and Training (NCVET), under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India has officially recognized the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) as an Awarding Body (DUAL).
- ❑ **Bridge It On** – The Incredible Story of My Life – Deepa Malik.
- ❑ **Stumped: Life Behind and Beyond the Twenty-Two Yards** – Syed Kirmani
- ❑ **Lauh Purush Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel ka Jeevanvrit**– Dr. Rakesh Kumar Sharma.
- ❑ **North East Bankers Conclave 2024** - Agartala, Tripura.
- ❑ **12th Meeting of North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC) Society** - Agartala, Tripura.
- ❑ **72nd Plenary Session of North Eastern Council, (NEC)** - Agartala, Tripura.
- ❑ **Om Prakash Chautala** - Om Prakash Chautala, five-time Chief Minister of Haryana, passed away.

- ❑ **Shyam Benegal** - Film producer - director Shyam Benegal passed away
 - **Major Films** - Ankur, Nishant, Manthan, Zubeida, Charandas Chor, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose: The Forgotten Hero, Mujeeb: The Making of a Nation
 - **Major Awards** - Dada Saheb Phalke Award, Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan.
- ❑ **Zakir Hussain** - Famous Indian tabla player Ustad Zakir Hussain passed away.
- ❑ **Major Awards**
 - Four Grammy Awards (three Grammy Awards at 66th Annual Grammy Awards 2024)
 - Padma Shri (1988), Padma Bhushan (2002), Padma Vibhushan (2023)
- ❑ **Dr. Manmohan Singh** - Former Prime Minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh passed away.
 - Prime Minister for two consecutive terms in the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance government from 2004 to 2014.
 - Architect of the 1991 economic reforms as Finance Minister under former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao.
- ❑ **Kanta Krishnan** - Kanta Krishnan, leader of the voluntary blood donation movement in India, passed away.
 - Padma Shri-1972
- ❑ **Jodhaiya Bai** - Padma Shri awarded to Madhya Pradesh Baiga tribal artist Jodhaiya Bai passed away.
- ❑ **Tashi Namgyal** - Tashi Namgyal of Ladakh, who first reported Pakistani intrusion in Kargil in 1999, passed away.
- ❑ **Tulsi Gowda** Tribal environmental activist (Halakki tribe) of Karnataka and Padma Shri awarded Tulsi Gowda passed away.
- ❑ **Sivapatham Vittal** - Father of endocrine surgery in India Sivapatham Vittal passed away.
 - Awarded with Padma Shri and Dr. B.C. Roy Award.
- ❑ **S M Krishna** - Former Karnataka Chief Minister S M Krishna passed away.
- ❑ **Amiya Kumar Bagchi** - Economic historian Amiya Kumar Bagchi passed away.
 - Founder - Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK)
 - Book - The Private Investment in India
- ❑ **Ratha Saptami** - Ratha Saptami festival of Sri Suryanarayana Swamy Temple at Arasavalli in Srikakulam district declared as State festival by Andhra Pradesh Government.
- ❑ **MoU between Gatishakti University and Indian Navy** - To enhance logistics related education, research and training for Indian Navy.
- ❑ **MoU between NCERT and Frilparkart** - To make NCERT publications available across the country (especially in tier 2 and 3 cities).
- ❑ **MoU signed between Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Government of India and Frilparkart** - To support and empower technology startups in India.
- ❑ **Government of India approves signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Geological Survey of India and Research Institute for Hydrology Protection (CNR-IRPI) of National Research Council of Italy** - To enrich knowledge and acquire skills in landslide forecasting and early warning through collaborative research.



International



Places in News

West Bengal

- ❑ Declared as top heritage tourism destination by UNESCO.

Moldova

- ❑ Joined International Solar Alliance (ISA) as a signatory country.

Sri Lanka

- ❑ Sri Lanka announced visa free travel for Indian citizens from January 2025.

Madhya Pradesh

- ❑ Declared as global destination by UNESCO.

Person in News

Ashok Raj Sigdel

- ❑ President Draupadi Murmu conferred the honorary rank of General of the Indian Army to Nepal Army Chief General Ashok Raj Sigdel.
- ❑ This honour was given for his contribution in strengthening India-Nepal friendship and his

military expertise.

Kash Patel

- ❑ Nominated as the head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of the USA.

George J. Koovakad

- ❑ Archbishop of Kerala George J. Koovakad was promoted to the honourable rank of Cardinal by Pope Francis.

Michelle Bachelet

- ❑ Former President of Chile
- ❑ She will be awarded the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize.
- ❑ For disarmament, peace and development.
- ❑ She has done remarkable work in the field of human rights.
- ❑ Award provider - Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust.

Harmeet Kaur Dhillon

- ❑ She has been nominated as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights in the US Department of Justice.
- ❑ American lawyer of Indian origin.

Masato Kanda

- ❑ Nickname - 'Mr. Yen'
- ❑ Elected as the next President of Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- ❑ Former President - Masatsugu Asakawa.
- ❑ Former top currency diplomat of Japan

Yoon Suk Yeol

- ❑ South Korea's parliament passed an impeachment motion against President Yoon Suk Yeol.
- ❑ Reason - Declaration of short-term martial law.

Sriram Krishnan

- ❑ Appointed as policy advisor on AI by newly elected US President Donald Trump.
- ❑ American citizen of Indian origin.

Pierre-Sylvain Filliozat

- ❑ Sanskrit scholar (resident of France) passed away.
- ❑ Awarded with Padma Shri.

Maia Sandu

- ❑ Took oath as President of Moldova (second term).
- ❑ First woman President of Moldova.

Madan B. Lokur

- ❑ Appointed as President of the United Nations Internal Justice Council.
- ❑ His term will remain till 2028. He previously served as Justice of Supreme Court.

François Bayrou

- ❑ He became the Prime Minister of France.

Jimmy Carter

- ❑ Jimmy Carter, former US President (1977 to 1981) passed away.
- ❑ He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (2002).

Award**'Sword of Honour' Award**

- ❑ This award was given to Shri Ram Temple of Ayodhya for the high level of safety standards maintained in the construction work.
- ❑ This award was given by British Safety Council.
- ❑ This award was given to the team of construction company Larsen & Toubro for safe construction.

ISSA Good Practice Award

- ❑ ISSA - International Social Security Association
- ❑ India got this award for Asia and Pacific region for 05 services provided by EPFO.
- ❑ EPFO - Employees Provident Fund Organization
- ❑ Award for Asia and Pacific region
- ❑ Given by International Social Security Association (ISSA).
- ❑ Event - Regional Social Security Forum, Riyadh (Saudi Arabia)
- ❑ 05 Services
 - 'Kushal' communication channel
 - e-Proceedings
 - 'Nidhi Aapke Nikat' outreach programme
 - Multilingual call centre
 - Pension order distribution initiative 'Prayas'

Dasho Award

- ❑ To Indian educationist Arun Kapoor.
- ❑ The title of Dasho was conferred by Bhutan King Jigme Khesar Namgyal.
- ❑ Earlier conferred with the 'Druk Thaksé' in 2019 for his contribution to the establishment of The Royal Academy School and developing the Bhutan Baccalaureate educational system.

Champions of the Earth Award 2024

- ❑ Ecologist Madhav Godgil was awarded the Champions of the Earth Award 2024.
- ❑ Conferred by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

- ❑ For lifetime contribution to environmental conservation especially in the Western Ghats.
- ❑ It is the UN's highest environmental honour.

Waves Awards of Excellence

- ❑ Organised by - Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and ASIFA India
- ❑ In the field of Animation, Visual Effects and XR.
- ❑ Waves Excellence Awards: For students and professionals in the categories of Best Character Animation, Best Visual Effects and Best Short Film etc.
- ❑ International Animation Day celebrations organised in various cities like Pune, Nashik, Indore etc. to encourage participation of students and professionals.
- ❑ Significance: Winners will get guidance, recognition and networking opportunities with industry leaders.

Turner Award 2024

- ❑ Indian-origin Scottish artist Jasleen Kaur nominated for her exhibition 'Alter Alter'.
- ❑ Supported by John Brown Charitable Trust and Uggle Family Foundation.

Time Person of the Year

- ❑ Donald Trump (US President) chosen for the second time by Time magazine.
- ❑ First time - In the year 2016

UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards 2024

- ❑ For Cultural Heritage Conservation
- ❑ Total eight award winners
 - Top - Inari Yu Bathhouse
 - India - Abhadhasahayeshwara Temple, Tamil Nadu (Special Award), BJPCI Conservation Project, Mumbai (Merit Award)
- ❑ This award was established by UNESCO in the year 2000.

Programmes/Campaigns**Anti-Drug Operation**

- ❑ Between India-Sri Lanka Navy.
- ❑ Indian Navy and Sri Lanka Navy conducted anti-drug operation in Arabian Sea in connection with possible drug smuggling.

Global India Authorized Economic Operator Program

- ❑ Venue - New Delhi.
- ❑ Organised by - Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) and World Bank (WB).
- ❑ Implemented by - CBIC's Directorate of International Customs.
- ❑ Objective - To make global trade secure and convenient.
- ❑ The program saw participation of 18 trade partner countries, private sector and international organizations.

44th Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica

- ❑ Virtual Release Program (9 December 2024)
- ❑ 6 postcards with pictures of penguins were launched by Indian Post.
- ❑ Partner - National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), Goa.

Events/Conferences**5th Session of Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC)**

- ❑ Venue - Busan (South Korea)
- ❑ 5th Session of Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- ❑ Organised - 26 November to 1 December, 2024
- ❑ Objective - To discuss the challenge of plastic pollution.

UNCCD COP-16 Riyadh 2024

- ❑ Organised - Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- ❑ Main Theme - Discussion on Drought Resilience

- ❑ Establishment of Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Land Management announced in India.
- ❑ India aims to plant 1 trillion trees by 2030.

Asia Oceania Meteorological Satellite Users Conference (AOMSUC-14)

- ❑ Organised - 4 to 6 December 2024, New Delhi (India)
- ❑ Edition - 14th
- ❑ Organiser - India Meteorological Department (IMD), Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- ❑ Objective - To provide a platform for dialogue and cooperation between satellite operators and users.

International Advisory Body

- ❑ Established - Jointly by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC).
- ❑ Objective - To strengthen the resilience of submarine cables, which is essential for the smooth functioning of the global digital economy.
- ❑ Virtual Meeting - 12 December 2024
- ❑ Physical Meeting proposed at the Submarine Cable Resilience Summit in Abuja, Nigeria in February 2025.

International Conference on Insolvency Resolution: Global Perspectives on Development 2024

- ❑ Venue - Delhi
- ❑ Organisers - By the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India and INSOL India.
- ❑ Theme - Insolvency Resolution: Global Perspectives on Developments
- ❑ Objective - To improve the quality of bank assets and consider innovative methods such as mediation, creditor-led resolution processes and group insolvency mechanisms.

SHE STEM - 2024

- ❑ Organizers - Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), Niti Aayog and Embassy of Sweden.

- ❑ Objective - To inspire women to pursue careers in STEM fields.
- ❑ Theme of 2024 - Battery Technology and Energy Storage Systems (BEST)
- ❑ STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

Automechanika-2024

- ❑ Organized by - Dubai World Trade Centre, UAE
- ❑ 21st edition
- ❑ The event provides a platform to promote India's competitiveness in providing high quality, sustainable and affordable automotive solutions to the global market.

PLAST Nepal 2024

- ❑ Organized by - Plastics Export Promotion Council of India.
- ❑ Objective - To promote business to business relations in the plastics sector in South Asia.

GeoMandu - 2024

- ❑ Organized by - Nepal Geotechnical Society.
- ❑ The conference focused on geotechnics for sustainable infrastructure, highlighting the urgent need for resilient, environmentally conscious infrastructure in the face of climate change.

International Mountain Day 2024

- ❑ Observed on 11 December to raise awareness about the ecological role of mountains.
- ❑ Organised by - Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Government of India) in collaboration with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment (NIHE).
- ❑ Theme - "Mountain Solutions for a Sustainable Future – Innovation, Adaptation and Youth"
- ❑ Objective - To showcase and support youth-driven innovations that contribute to the sustainability of the Indian Himalayan region.

Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF)

- ❑ Second Meeting of the Supply Chain Council (SCC) under IPEF (Organised - 12 December 2024)
- ❑ In the above meeting, India was elected as the Vice-Chairman of the Supply Chain Council (SCC).
- ❑ Significance: India will play a key role in building resilient supply chains in the Indo-Pacific region.

India-UK Financial Markets Dialogue

- ❑ Organised - 12 December 2024, Gift City (Gujarat)
- ❑ Subject - India-UK participants discussed reforms in related financial services sectors including capital markets, insurance and reinsurance, pensions, fintech, sustainable finance and International Financial Services Centre.

India-Bahrain Joint Commission Meeting

- ❑ Organised - 9 December, Manama (Bahrain)
- ❑ Co-Chaired by - Dr. S. Jaishankar (India) and Dr. Abdullatif (Bahrain)

India-Nepal Cultural Festival

- ❑ 2nd Edition
- ❑ Organised - 8 December 2024, Lumbini (Nepal)
- ❑ Organised by - Embassy of India and Government of Nepal (jointly)
- ❑ Objective - To strengthen cultural and historical ties between India and Nepal and highlight shared heritage.

1st India-Nepal Tourism Meeting

- ❑ Organised - 10 December, Kathmandu (Nepal)
- ❑ Organiser - Indian Embassy, Kathmandu and Nepal Tourism Board
- ❑ Objective - To create B2B connections to promote implementation of circuit tourism between India-Nepal.
- ❑ To promote Maha Kumbh 2025.
- ❑ 13 delegates from India and 60 tour operators participated.

- ❑ Introductory tour of Janakpur and Kathmandu was also organized for the tour operators.

Hathkargha 2024

- ❑ Textiles, Products & Handloom Exhibition
- ❑ Organised - 11-13 December, 2024 Dubai (UAE)
- ❑ Organized by - Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Indian Embassy Abu Dhabi (UAE), Indian Consulate General & TEXMAS
- ❑ Target - To promote livelihoods, sustainable textiles, unique handicrafts and to bring designers and buyers from other countries on one platform.

10th World Ayurveda Congress and Arogya Expo

- ❑ Organised - 12 to 15 December 2024, Dehradun (Uttarakhand)
- ❑ Organizer - Vishwa Ayurveda Foundation and Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India
- ❑ Theme - "Digital Health - A Perspective of Ayurveda"
- ❑ Research papers were invited on 27 topics from the best scholars across the world.
- ❑ The World Ayurveda Congress (WAC) is a platform established by the World Ayurveda Foundation which aims to promote Ayurveda globally.

20th IISS Manama Dialogue 2024

- ❑ Organised - 6-8 December 2024, Bahrain
- ❑ The Indian Foreign Minister held a dialogue on economic, political, cultural and security cooperation between India and the Gulf countries.

Global Conference on Energy and AI

- ❑ Organised - 4-5 December 2024, Paris (France)
- ❑ Organizer - International Energy Agency
- ❑ Objective - To establish a strategic and permanent platform between the energy industry, technology sector and policy makers.

4th Mekong Ganga Dhamma Yatra

- ❑ Organised - 6 December 2024, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi.
- ❑ Theme - 'From the Mekong River Basin to the Great Ganga'
- ❑ Objectives -
 - To connect India and South-East Asia and promote peace and cultural relations.
 - To promote peace and environmental awareness through Buddhist teachings.
- ❑ The yatra, which will run from 2 December to 10 December, will cover Patna, Bodh Gaya, New Delhi and Buddhist sites in Gujarat.

Rubbercon 2024

- ❑ Organised - 5 to 7 December 2024, Kochi (Kerala)
- ❑ Organizer - India Rubber Institute (IRI) and International Rubber Conference Organization (IRCO)
- ❑ Theme - Sustainable Development in Rubber Industry - Challenges and Opportunities.
- ❑ Objective - To bring together industry leaders, researchers and policy makers on one platform.

International Gita Mahotsav

- ❑ Organised - 28 November to 15 December 2024, Kurukshetra (Haryana)
- ❑ Organizer - Development Board (Haryana Government)
- ❑ Partner State - Odisha
- ❑ Partner Country - United Republic of Tanzania
- ❑ Objective - To make people aware of the immortal and intangible heritage of the Bhagavad Gita.
- ❑ Gita Mahotsav is being celebrated by Kurukshetra Development Board, Government of Haryana since the year 1989.

World Maritime Technology Conference 2024

- ❑ Organised - 4 to 6 December 2024, Chennai (Tamil Nadu)

- ❑ Theme - "Global Shipping - A battle for survival or a Torch bearer of hope"
- ❑ Hosted by - Institute of Marine Engineers, Chennai.
- ❑ It is held once in three years.
- ❑ This conference includes 21 member organizations from 17 countries.
- ❑ World Maritime Technology Conference (WMTC) is conducted globally by the World Maritime Technology Congress.

Bhaktapur Festival

- ❑ Organised - Kathmandu Valley, Bhaktapur District (Nepal)
- ❑ Objective - To introduce the unique and historical art-culture, festivals and lifestyle of Bhaktapur.
- ❑ UNESCO heritage sites in the periphery of Bhaktapur
 - (i) Bhaktapur Durbar Square
 - (ii) Changu Narayan Temple etc.

WAVES

- ❑ World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES)
- ❑ To be hosted by India for the first time.
- ❑ To be Organised - 5 to 9 February 2025
- ❑ It will bring together leading companies of the media and entertainment industry and creative personalities from across the world in India.

23rd India-China Delegation Dialogue

- ❑ Organised - 18 December 2024, Beijing (China)
- ❑ Objective - Final resolution of India-China border issues.

India-Norway Business Roundtable

- ❑ Organised - 8 December 2024, Mumbai
- ❑ Objective - To transform investments in the fields of logistics, marine energy and technology between the two countries.

22nd Doha Forum 2024

- ❑ Organised - 7-8 December 2024, Doha (Qatar)
- ❑ External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar represented India.

- ❑ Objective - A global platform for dialogue and policy making.

Partnerships/Agreements

India-UK Letter of Intent Signed

- ❑ Between the Ministries of Defence of India and the UK
- ❑ Subject – Cooperation in co-design, co-manufacture and co-production of electric propulsion capacity for naval ships.

Loan Agreement between India and ADB

- ❑ \$ 50 million Loan Agreement between Ministry of Finance (Government of India) and ADB.
- ❑ Objective – Implementation of Climate Adaptation Community Based Water Harvesting Project in Meghalaya.

Project

- *This project is in line with Meghalaya State Water Policy-2019.*
- *This project will support construction of 532 small water storage facilities in 12 districts.*
- *Development of 3000 hectares command area.*
- *Establishment of 50 weather stations for climate data collection in Garo, Jaintia and Khasi areas.*

India-Italy Joint Strategic Action Plan

- ❑ Held on 18 November 2024 during the G-20 Summit in Rio-de-Janeiro, Brazil.

India-Nicaragua Agreement

- ❑ Signing of agreement for implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIP).
- ❑ Objective - Grant of assistance by India in key areas such as physical infrastructure, roads and community education centers, health and sanitation.

India-Kuwait Cooperation

- ❑ Establishment of Joint Commission to enhance mutual cooperation between the two countries.
- ❑ The Joint Commission will serve as a comprehensive mechanism to review and monitor the overall dimension of bilateral relations.

Second India-UK 2+2 Dialogue

- ❑ Organised - 3 December, New Delhi
- ❑ Objective - To enhance and review progress in India-UN Comprehensive Partnership.

UK joins Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement

- ❑ UK becomes the 12th member of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).
- ❑ It became the first European country to join the CPTPP.

CPTPP = Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership

- *Established- 2018*
- *Other member countries - Canada, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Brunei, Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam.*
- *Objective - This block provides security against Chinese hegemony in the Trans Pacific region.*

Military Exercises

Agni Yodha-2024

- ❑ Organised - 28 to 30 November, Field Firing Range, Deolali (Maharashtra)
- ❑ Bilateral exercise between the Indian Army and the Singapore Army.

CINBEX

- ❑ Organised - 1 to 8 December 2024, Pune
- ❑ Table top exercise between India and Cambodia Army.
- ❑ Counter-terrorism exercise under United Nations Peace Mission.

Harimau Shakti

- ❑ Organised - 2 December to 15 December 2024
- ❑ India-Malaysia joint Military exercise (4th edition)
- ❑ Venue - Wentong Camp, Pahang District (Malaysia)
- ❑ Objective - To promote joint military capability against terrorism in jungle areas.

Desert Knight Exercise

- ❑ Organised - 11 December 2024 to 13 December 2024, Arabian Sea
- ❑ Airforce exercise between India, France and UAE.
- ❑ Objective - To enhance trilateral defence cooperation and synergy between air forces.
- ❑ Aircraft & systems involved
 - Sukhoi-30 MKI ➤ Jaguar
 - IL-78 Midair Refueller ➤ AEW&C system

SLINEX-24

- ❑ Bilateral military exercise held between Sri Lanka - India.
- ❑ Organised - 17 to 20 December 2024, Visakhapatnam
- ❑ To be held in two phases
 - (i) Harbour Phase (ii) Sea Phase
- ❑ Naval ship INS Sumitra participated from the Indian side.
- ❑ Objective - To strengthen maritime relations between India and Sri Lanka and promote maritime security.

PASSEX

- ❑ Joint Naval Sea Route Exercise of India and Morocco.
- ❑ Venue - Casablanca (Morocco)
- ❑ Indian Naval Ship INS Tushil participated in this exercise.

Sahyog HOP-TAC

- ❑ Joint maritime exercise between India-Vietnam.
- ❑ Venue - Kochi (Kerala)

Miscellaneous**Prime Minister's visit to Kuwait**

- ❑ 21 to 22 December 2024
- ❑ Prime Minister attended the 'Hala Modi' program in Kuwait.
- ❑ Attended the 26th Arabian Gulf Cup opening ceremony.
- ❑ Prime Minister was awarded Kuwait's highest award 'Order of Mubarak Al Kabir'.
- ❑ Major agreements -
 - Cultural Exchange Program
 - Membership of International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- ❑ Translation of Ramayana-Mahabharata into Arabic (Abdullah Az Baron) and editing (Abdullah Latif Al Nesef).

India Asia Express (IAX) and India Europe Express (IEX)

- ❑ Newly proposed two undersea cable systems.
- ❑ Objective - Additional internet connectivity of India with Asia and Europe.
- ❑ India Asia Express (IAX) - Connecting Chennai and Mumbai with Singapore and Malaysia in Asia.
- ❑ India Europe Express (IEX) - Connecting Chennai and Mumbai with France, Greece, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Djibouti.

Kanlaon Volcano

- ❑ Volcano located in the Philippines erupted.
- ❑ This volcano is part of the Philippines Archipelago which is located on the destructive edge of the Pacific Ocean Plate.

One Stop Centre

- ❑ Approval of proposal for 09 One Stop Centres to be set up by Ministry of External Affairs.
- ❑ Approval was given by the Empowered Committee of Ministry of Women and Child Development.

- ❑ Proposed One Stop Centres - Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, UAE, Saudi Arabia (2 centres Jeddah and Riyadh) Toronto (Canada) and Singapore.
- ❑ Important role - Indian Community Welfare Fund.

Global Report on Human Trafficking 2024

- ❑ 25 percent increase was recorded between 2019 and 2022.
 - For labour - 48% increase
 - Child victims - 31% increase
- ❑ This report has been prepared on the basis of information received from 156 countries.

World Malaria Report 2024

- ❑ Issued by - World Health Organization (WHO)
- ❑ Findings -
 - Global malaria cases reached 263 million in 2023.
 - Malaria cases and deaths decreased in India.

International Debt Report 2024

- ❑ Issued by - World Bank
- ❑ This report includes external debt data and analysis of low and middle income countries.

Armenia's parliamentary delegation visits India

- ❑ Armenian National Assembly Speaker Mr. Alen Simonyan led the visit to India.
- ❑ Emphasis on increasing cultural, democratic, bilateral trade, physical and financial contacts of the two countries and strengthening bilateral relations.

Vanuatu earthquake

- ❑ A powerful earthquake of 7.3 magnitude hit Vanuatu, located in the South-East Pacific Ocean.
- ❑ This island group is located on the destructive edge of the Australian Plate and the Pacific Plate.

Kilauea volcano

- ❑ It erupted recently.
- ❑ It is located in the Hawaiian Islands.

Bald Eagle

- ❑ Declared as the national bird of the USA.
- ❑ This bird had previously been the national symbol of America.

Visit of Sri Lankan President to India

- ❑ Sri Lankan President Anura Dissanayake visited India from 15 to 17 December 2024.
- ❑ Issues related to energy development, education technology, strategic and defense cooperation and cultural cooperation were discussed.

BBC's list of 100 influential women

- ❑ 3 Indian women included in the 'BBC 100 Women 2024' list of 100 influential women of 2024 released by BBC -
 - Vinesh Phogat (wrestler turned politician)
 - Aruna Roy (social worker)
 - Pooja Sharma (active role in the cremation of unclaimed bodies)

Forbes 2024 Power List

- ❑ Issuer - Forbes (American business magazine)
- ❑ Top position - Ursula von der Leyen (Germany).
- ❑ 3 Indian women included in the list of 100 most powerful women in the world-
 - Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman (Union Finance Minister, India) - 28th position
 - Roshni Nadar Malhotra (CEO of HCL) - 81st position
 - Kiran Mazumdar Shaw (Founder of Biocon) - 82nd position

World's largest gold reserves

- ❑ The world's largest gold reserves were found in Pingjiang County, Hunan (China).
- ❑ The potential value of this 1000 metric tons of gold is more than 83 billion dollars.

Switzerland cancels India's MFN status

- ❑ Switzerland withdrew the Most Favored Nation (MFN) status given to India under the Double Tax Avoidance Agreement.
- ❑ MFN is a fundamental principle of the World Trade Organization (WTO) under which countries have to treat all trading partners equally.

Other Important Facts

- ❑ **Konyak film** selected for Screenwriters Lab at International Film Festival of India (IFFI).
- ❑ India signed a 5-year MoU with Slovenia to strengthen science ties.
- ❑ Department of Industry and Internal Trade Promotion (DPIIT) and Flipkart signed an MoU to invest and mentor Indian startups.
- ❑ India proposed 'Maratha Military Landsapes' in UNESCO's 2024 invited entries.

- ❑ The 9th India-Thailand Defence Dialogue was held in New Delhi.
- ❑ The 2nd India-Iran-Armenia Trilateral Dialogue was held in New Delhi on 12 December.
- ❑ Romania and Bulgaria will be included as full members of Schengen Free Travel Area by European Union from 1 January.
- ❑ **Aisake Valu Ake** - New Prime Minister of Tonga.
- ❑ **Mikheil Kavelashvili** - Elected as President of Georgia.
- ❑ **Netumbo Nandi Ndaitwah** - Elected as first woman President of Namibia.
- ❑ **Dharam Gokhool** - became the President of Mauritius.
- ❑ **Ursa Major** - Russian cargo ship that sank in the Mediterranean Sea recently.
- ❑ **Mas Varmam Therapy** - National Siddha Institute created a Guinness World Record by providing therapy to 567 persons.



Sports



FIDE World Rapid Championship 2024

- ❑ Event - New York, United States
- ❑ Women's Category-
 - Winner - Koneru Humpy (8.5 points) - India (World's second woman player and first Indian to win the title twice), defeating Irene Sukandar of Indonesia.
- ❑ Open Category - Volodar Murzin (Russia)

World Chess Championship

- ❑ Event - Singapore
- ❑ Indian chess player Gukesh Domraju won the title by defeating Ding Liren of China (final result 7.5 - 6.5).
- ❑ He became the youngest player in the world to win this title (18 years).
- ❑ He became the second Indian to win this title after Viswanathan Anand.

Pranav Venkatesh

- ❑ FIDE World Under-18 Youth Rapid and Blitz Chess title winner.
- ❑ Rapid Category - Gold Medal (9.5 pts)
- ❑ Blitz Category - Gold Medal (19.5 pts)

- ❑ Runner-up/Silver Medal in Rapid Category - Alexander Khripachenko (Russia)
- ❑ Blitz Category - Dmitry Mochalov (Russia)

Men's Hockey Junior Asia Cup - 2024

- ❑ Organised - November 26 to December 4, 2024
- ❑ Venue - Oman Stadium, Muscat (Oman)
- ❑ Winner - India defeated Pakistan 5-3 to register a win.

Women's Hockey Junior Asia Cup-2024

- ❑ Organised - Muscat (Oman)
- ❑ Winner - India
- ❑ Runner-up - China
- ❑ India won this competition for the second consecutive time.

First Women's T20 Under-19 Asia Cup 2024

- ❑ Organised - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- ❑ Winner - India won the title by defeating Bangladesh by 41 runs.
- ❑ Player of the Match in the Final - Gongadi Trisha of India

Under-19 Cricket Asia Cup 2024

- ❑ Venue - Dubai (UAE)
- ❑ Winner - Bangladesh

- ❑ Runner-up - India
- ❑ Bangladeshi player Iqbal Hossain Emon received Player of the Final and Player of the Tournament awards.

13th Admiral's Cup Sailing Regatta 2024

- ❑ Organised - 9 to 13 December at Ettikulam Beach of Indian Naval Academy, Ezhimala.
- ❑ Laser Radial Boat Race organised by Indian Navy.
- ❑ Winning Team - 1st Position - Russia
- ❑ 2nd - Italy
- ❑ 3rd - India
- ❑ Individual Category Winners-
- ❑ Men - Lieutenant Gorkunov Petr Liich (Russia)
- ❑ Women - 1st Position - Ensign Camilla Bernabei (Italy)
- ❑ 3rd - Isha Shah (India)
- ❑ Teams from 25 countries and Indian Naval Academy, Ezhimala and National Defence Academy, Khadagvasala participated.

29th Senior Women's Football Championship

- ❑ Winner - Manipur (1-0) - 23rd title
- ❑ Runner-up - Odisha

Best FIFA Football Awards-2024

- ❑ FIFA - International Federation of Association football
- ❑ Player of the Year Men - Vinicius Junior, Brazil (Real Madrid)
- ❑ Player of the Year Women - Aitana Bonmati, Spain (FC Barcelona)

86th Senior National Badminton Championship

- ❑ Organised - Bengaluru, Karnataka from 20 to 24 December.
- ❑ Winners - Men's Singles - M Raghu (Karnataka)
 - Doubles - Arsh Mohammad (Uttar Pradesh), Sanskar Saraswat (Rajasthan)
- ❑ Women's Singles - Devika Sihag (Haryana)
 - Doubles - Aarti Sara Sunil (Kerala), VS Varshini (Tamil Nadu)
- ❑ Mixed Doubles - Ayush Aggarwal and Shruti Mishra (U.P.)

Waldner Cup-2024

- ❑ Table Tennis Competition.
- ❑ Organised - 13 to 15 December in Norway.
- ❑ Team Asia defeated Team World 14-0.
- ❑ Team Asia included Indian players Manika Batra, Ma Long and Chen Meng of China, Shin Yubin of South Korea and Kirill Gerasimenko of Kazakhstan.

49th Sub Junior National Basketball Championship

- ❑ Organised - Hyderabad, Telangana.
- ❑ Boys Category - Uttar Pradesh won the title by defeating Delhi 56-49.
- ❑ Girls Category - Tamil Nadu won the title by defeating Maharashtra 68-46.

World Athletics Continental Tour Event 2025

- ❑ Organised - By India in August 2025 (in Bhubaneswar, Odisha)
- ❑ India will host this competition for the first time.

Tata Steel World 25K Road Race

- ❑ Event - Kolkata (West Bengal)
- ❑ Winners -
 1. Overall International -
 - Men - Stephen Kissa
 - No. Women - Sutum Kebede
 2. Indian -
 - Men - Gulbir Singh
 - Women - Sanjivani Jadhav

National Archery Championship - 2024

- ❑ Event - Jamshedpur (Jharkhand)
- ❑ Winners -
 1. Mixed Archery -
 - Men's Individual - Abhishek Verma
 - Women's Individual - Preneet Kaur
 - Men's Team - Maharashtra
 - Women's Team - Maharashtra (Rajasthan - 2nd)
 - Mixed Team - Punjab (Rajasthan - 3rd)
 2. Recurve Archery -
 - Men's Individual - Dheeraj Bommdevara

- Women's Individual - Deepika Kumari
- Men's Team - Railways
- Women's Team - Jharkhand
- Mixed Team - Petroleum Sports Promotion Board.

Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championship 2024

- ❑ Organised - 19 to 25 December 2024 (Doha, Qatar)
- ❑ India's Medals - Total - 33 (Gold-7, Silver-16, Bronze-10)

Fit India Cycling Campaign

- ❑ Inauguration - 17 December 2024 New Delhi
- ❑ Inaugurator - Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- ❑ Objective - To promote community engagement, fitness and environmental awareness.

Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy 2024

- ❑ Winner - Mumbai, Runner-up - Madhya Pradesh
- ❑ Player of the Match - Suryansh Shedge
- ❑ Man of the Series - Ajinkya Rahane

Asia Boxing

- ❑ The Asian branch of World Boxing.
- ❑ Seven Indians included -
 - Ajay Singh - Board Member
 - Hemant Kumar Kalita - Olympic Commission Member
 - Digvijay Singh - Finance and Audit Committee
 - Lovlina Borgohain - Athletes Commission
 - Narendra Kumar Nirvan - Constitution Commission
 - DP Bhatt - Sports and Competition Commission
 - Dr Karanjit Singh - Medical Commission

Next Gen ATP Finals

- ❑ Winner - Joao Fonseca (Brazil)
- ❑ Runner-up - Lerner Tien (USA)
- ❑ Venue - Jeddah (Saudi Arabia)

Katherine Grainger

- ❑ First woman to become President of the British Olympic Association (BOA).
- ❑ The only British woman to win medals in five consecutive Olympic Games.
- ❑ Former Olympic champion rowing player.
- ❑ Rajasthan's performance
 - Milanmeet Kaur (Hanumangarh) - Gold Medal (Judo)
 - Sandeep Kumar (Churu) - Gold Medal (Athletics)

10th Asia-Pacific Deaf Games

- ❑ Organised - 1 to 8 December 2024, Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)
- ❑ India ranked fifth (8 gold, 18 silver and 29 bronze - 55 medals)

Dalmia Bharat Pullela Gopichand Badminton Academy

- ❑ Established - Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar (Odisha)
- ❑ It has been established as a high performance center for badminton.
- ❑ Partners-
 1. Government of Odisha
 2. Pullela Gopichand Badminton Foundation (PGBF)
 3. Dalmia Group

Asian Women's Handball Championship 2024

- ❑ Organised - New Delhi (First time hosted by India)
- ❑ Winner - Japan
- ❑ Runner-up - South Korea
- ❑ India ranked 6th.

Athlete Biological Passport (ABP)

- ❑ The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has approved the National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL) to set up the Athlete Passport Management Unit (APMU) and manage the Athlete Biological Passport (ABP).

- ❑ Aim - To ensure fairness in sports by preventing the use of banned performance enhancing drugs used by athletes.
- ❑ The ABP is an advanced anti-doping device that monitors an athlete's biological markers (body levels) over time.

IDCA Under-19 2nd T-20 National Deaf Cricket Championship

- ❑ Organized by - Indian Deaf Cricket Association (IDCA)
- ❑ Winners - Odisha
- ❑ Runner-up - Haryana

Syed Modi India International Super 300 Badminton Tournament

- ❑ Organized by - Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)
- ❑ Winners -
 - Women's Singles - P.V. Sindhu (India)
 - Men's Singles - Lakshya Sen (India)
 - Women's Doubles - Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand (India)
 - Men's Doubles - Di Huang and Yang Liu (China)
 - Runner-up - B.T. Prithvi Krishnamurthy Roy and K. Sai. Prateek (India)

14th Hockey India Sub Junior Women National Championship 2024

- ❑ Venue - Secunderabad, Telangana
- ❑ Winner - Jharkhand
- ❑ Runner-up - Madhya Pradesh

Men's World Team Squash Championship 2024

- ❑ Venue - Hong Kong
- ❑ Winner - Egypt
- ❑ India - 5th Place

Women's World Team Squash Championship 2024

- ❑ Venue - Hong Kong
- ❑ Winner - Egypt
- ❑ India - 7th Place

Bastar Olympics 2024

- ❑ Venue - In seven districts of Bastar region (Chhattisgarh)
- ❑ Organiser - Sports and Youth Welfare Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.
- ❑ Mascot - Wild Water Buffalo and Pahadi Myna.
- ❑ Objective - To connect former Naxalites with the mainstream of society.

68th National School Games Swimming Championship 2024

- ❑ Venue - Rajkot (Gujarat)
- ❑ Winner (Rajasthan players)
 - Krishnaditya Singh (silver) - 50m backstroke event
 - Praniti Choudhary (bronze) - 400m freestyle event.

Poonam Kanwar

- ❑ Poonam Kanwar of Rajasthan has scaled Kilimanjaro Peak.
- ❑ Kilimanjaro Peak (Tanzania) is the highest peak in the African continent.
- ❑ She is the first woman mountaineer of Railway Protection Force to achieve this feat.

Satvik Agarwal

- ❑ Satvik Agarwal of Rajasthan won the silver medal in the Sub Junior National Badminton Championship 2024.
- ❑ In the Under-13 Boys Singles category.
- ❑ Venue - Jammu

Siddharth Choudhary

- ❑ Resident of Jaipur.
- ❑ Gold medal (19.16 meters) in shot put event at the 39th Junior National Athletics Championship held in Odisha.

Ojaswini Saraswat

- ❑ She is a golfer from Rajasthan.
- ❑ She won her fifth national title by winning the IGU All India Women and Junior Girls Golf Championship held in Visakhapatnam.

Parul Chaudhary

- ❑ She is a badminton player from Churu.
- ❑ She won the Under-19 girls singles title of the Junior International Series Badminton Tournament 2024 held in Nepal.

Suman Kumar

- ❑ Took all 10 wickets in an innings for Bihar against Rajasthan in an Under-19 Cooch Behar Trophy match.
- ❑ Became the second bowler to do so in domestic cricket. (Previously Anshul Kamboj, Haryana)

Ravichandran Ashwin

- ❑ Indian cricketer
- ❑ Retired from international cricket.
- ❑ Highest wicket-taker for India -

Pawan Kampeli

- ❑ Bronze medalist in Asian E-Sports Games - 2024.
- ❑ Venue - Bangkok (Thailand).

ATP Awards 2024

- ❑ Player of the Year (Men) - Jannik Sinner (Italy)
- ❑ Player of the Year (Women) - Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus)

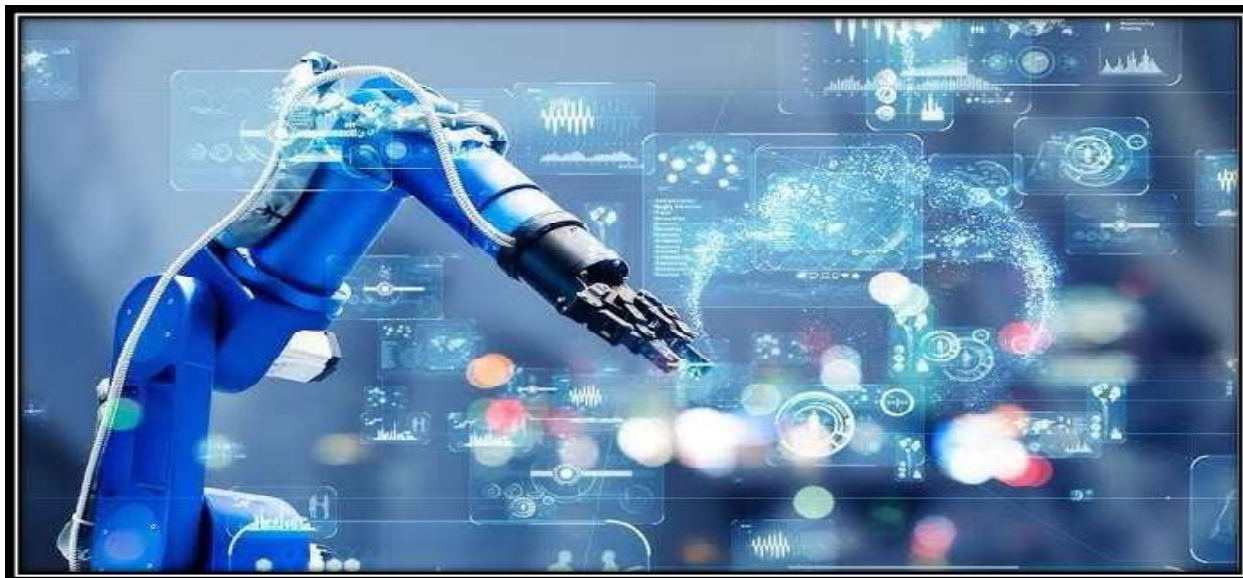
Other Important Facts

- ❑ **Kush Maini** - First Indian racer to win the Formula Two Constructors Championship.
- ❑ **FIFA World Cup 2034** - Saudi Arabia.
- ❑ **Shammi Silva (Sri Lanka)** - President of Asian Cricket Council.

- ❑ **Rajeev Mehta** - Secretary General of Asian Fencing Confederation.
- ❑ **Kamya Karthikeyan** - 17-year-old Kamya Karthikeyan is the youngest woman in the world to complete the climb of the highest peaks of the 7 continents of the world.
- ❑ **Tan Kim Her** - The Badminton Association of India has appointed Malaysian doubles specialist Tan Kim Her as India's doubles badminton coach.
- ❑ **38th National Games** - Held - 28 January to 14 February 2025 in Uttarakhand
 - Mascot - Mauli (inspired by the state bird of Uttarakhand, Monal).
 - Tagline - Sankalp Se Shikhar Tak.
- ❑ **Anahat Singh** - Won the women's singles title of Western India Slam 2024.
- ❑ **Para Athletics World Championships 2025** - 26 September to 5 October 2025, New Delhi.
- ❑ **World Boxing Cup Final-2025** - Hosted by - India
 - World Boxing Congress will also be hosted by India in November 2025.
- ❑ **ISSF Junior World Cup** - India got the hosting rights of ISSF Junior World Cup to be held in 2025 (for the first time).
- ❑ **Shaheen Afridi** - The youngest bowler to take 100 wickets in all three formats of cricket.
- ❑ **Sushila Meena** - Sushila Meena, a resident of Pratapgarh district of Rajasthan, was in the news due to her bowling action. She was adopted by the Rajasthan Cricket Association for training.



Science and Technology



SpaDex Mission

- ❑ ISRO's Space Docking Experiment Mission
- ❑ Launched - On December 30 by PSLV-C60 from Satish Dhawan Space Center, Sriharikota.
- ❑ Two small satellites - SDX01 (Chaser) and SDX02 (target) (weighing about 220 kg)
- ❑ India is the fourth country in the world to achieve advanced docking technology (other three are US, Russia, China)

Proba-3

- ❑ A pair of satellites of European Space Agency (ESA).
- ❑ Launched by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).
- ❑ Launched by PSLV-C59 rocket.
- ❑ Objective - To observe the corona of the Sun.
- ❑ Launched from Satish Dhawan Space Center, Sriharikota.

EnVision Mission

- ❑ ESA-led mission in partnership with NASA.
- ❑ Objective - Study the history, activity and climate of Venus

INS Tushil

- ❑ A multirole stealth guided missile frigate inducted into the Indian Navy.
- ❑ During the visit of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to Russia.
- ❑ Commissioned at Yantra Shipyard in Kaliningrad, Russia
- ❑ Advanced Krivak 3 class frigate (7th of this class)
- ❑ It is designed for all four dimensions of naval warfare (surface, underwater, air and electromagnetic).
- ❑ It is equipped with BrahMos supersonic cruise missile and Shtil surface-to-air missile.

INS Nirdeshak

- ❑ The second ship of the Survey Vessel Project of the Indian Navy.
- ❑ Inducted into the Indian Navy on 18 December at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam.
- ❑ Built by - Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Kolkata.
- ❑ Function- Conducting hydrographic surveys, assisting in navigation and maritime operations.

INS Surat

- ❑ Fourth and last stealth guided missile destroyer developed under Project 15B of Indian Navy.
- ❑ Indigenously designed and built by Warship Design Bureau of Indian Navy.
- ❑ First AI enabled warship of Indian Navy using indigenously developed AI solutions.
- ❑ Other destroyers built under Project 15B-
 - INS Visakhapatnam
 - INS Mormugao
 - INS Imphal

INS Nilgiri

- ❑ First stealth frigate under Project 17A (total 7 stealth frigates)
- ❑ Indigenously built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai.

Indian Light Tank (ILT)

- ❑ Successfully completed fire trials at various ranges at altitudes of over 420 metres.
- ❑ Designed and developed by Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment, a Chennai based laboratory of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- ❑ Manufactured by - Larsen & Toubro Precision Engineering & Systems
- ❑ 25 tonne class armoured fighting vehicle.

K9 VAJRA-T

- ❑ Self-propelled Tracked Artillery Gun.
- ❑ Defence Ministry signs Rs 7628.70 crore contract with Larsen & Toubro (L&T) Ltd for procurement of 100 K9 VAJRA-T guns for Indian Army.

K-4 Nuclear Ballistic Missile

- ❑ Tested - In Bay of Bengal, off Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) coast.
- ❑ Launched by INS Arighat
- ❑ Nuclear-capable ballistic missile with a range of 3500 km.
- ❑ INS Arighat - the second submarine of the Arihant class.

- ❑ India is now capable of firing nuclear missiles at land, air and sea.

Dark Eagle

- ❑ Long-range hypersonic anti-missile system developed by the United States.
- ❑ Tested - At Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Su-30 MKI

- ❑ Contract worth Rs 13500 crore signed between Ministry of Defence, Government of India and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for purchase of 12 SU-30 MKI fighter aircraft.
- ❑ 62.6% indigenous content.

MH-60R Seahawk helicopters

- ❑ US-made helicopters used by the Indian Navy
- ❑ Approved the sale of its advanced equipment in US for \$1.17 billion.

CE20 Cryogenic Engine

- ❑ Tested - November 29 at ISRO Propulsion Complex, Mahendra Giri, Tamil Nadu.
- ❑ Developed - Indigenously by ISRO Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre.

Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) Gateway

- ❑ Developed by iHub-AWaDH of IIT Ropar
- ❑ Under National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) of Government of India.

INNO-YODDHA 2024-25

- ❑ An idea and innovation competition and seminar organised annually by the Indian Army.
- ❑ Organised - December 5 at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi.
- ❑ A total of 75 innovations were selected out of which 22 top innovations will be taken forward for production under the aegis of Army Design Bureau.

Kisan Kavach

- ❑ India's indigenous anti-insecticide suit to protect farmers health.

- ❑ Developed by Institute of Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (BRIC-inStem) Bengaluru in collaboration with Sepio Health Pvt Ltd.

Tagging of Ganges River Dolphin (Platanista Gangetica)

- ❑ Ganges River Dolphin tagged (satellite tagging) for the first time in the world under Project Dolphin.
- ❑ In Assam.
- ❑ Initiative run by Wildlife Institute of India (WII) under the aegis of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in collaboration with Assam Forest Department and Aaranyak.
- ❑ Funding - National CAMPA Authority

Ganges River Dolphin

- *National aquatic animal of India*
- *Nearly blind and dependent on echolocation for biological needs*
- *Habitat- About 90% population in India (Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli river systems)*

India's first bio-bitumen highway section

- ❑ On NH-44 at Mansar, Nagpur (Maharashtra).
- ❑ Use of lignin based bio-bitumen technology.
- ❑ Manufactured by Praj Industries in collaboration with CSIR-CRRI.

SARAT 2.0

- ❑ SARAT - Search and Rescue Aid Tool
- ❑ Developed by Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Ministry of Earth Sciences.

India's first diabetes biobank

- ❑ In Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- ❑ Established by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in collaboration with Madras Diabetes Research Foundation.

MuleHunter.AI

- ❑ AI machine learning based model launched by Reserve Bank of India.
- ❑ To prevent and reduce digital frauds using mule accounts.
- ❑ Developed by Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH), Bengaluru.

India's first Hyperloop Test Track

- ❑ Established at IIT Madras.
- ❑ By Indian Railways, IIT Madras, Inventions Hyperloop Team of IIT Madras and Startup TuTr of IIT Madras.
- ❑ Length – 410 m.

Development of technology to convert methane and carbon dioxide into eco-friendly biofuel

- ❑ By IIT Guwahati, Assam.
- ❑ Using Methylosinus trichosporium bacteria.

Polar Sundial

- ❑ Designed by Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)
- ❑ Displayed at Rocketdyne, Space Museum Thumba (Kerala)
- ❑ This clock displays Indian Standard Time as well as date.
- ❑ Its design is a miniature version of Rohini series RH200 sounding rocket.

GLP-1 receptor agonist

- ❑ New class of drugs approved by World Health Organization (WHO).
- ❑ Uses - Controlling obesity by controlling appetite and blood sugar levels.
- ❑ Drugs - Semaglutide and Tirzepatide.

First clinical trial of gene therapy for treatment of Haemophilia-A

- ❑ Successful trial by Centre for Stem Cell Research at Christian Medical College, Vellore (Tamil Nadu).

- ❑ Haemophilia A is a type of severe bleeding disorder caused by a deficiency of clotting factors.
- ❑ This gene therapy has been developed using lentivirus vector.

Detailed 3-D map of fetal brain

- ❑ Created by researchers at IIT Madras.
- ❑ Detailed high resolution 3-D map of fetal brain (early stage of brain development).

AgeXtend

- ❑ AI based platform
- ❑ Developed by - Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi (IIIT Delhi).
- ❑ Objective - To discover molecules that slow down the ageing process and promote healthy life.

One-stop centre for sickle cell anemia treatment

- ❑ To be set up at S.C.B. Medical College, Cuttack (Odisha).
- ❑ Visited by team from United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).
- ❑ Odisha tops in country in sickle cell anemia cases.

Brain Rot

- ❑ Declared Oxford Dictionary's Word of the Year 2024.
- ❑ 'Brain rot' - Deterioration in a person's mental or intellectual condition.

Google Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC)

- ❑ To be opened in Hyderabad (Telangana).
- ❑ To be Established by Google.
- ❑ Will be the fifth in the world.
- ❑ Objective – To contribute to enhancing digital security of businesses, government institutions and citizens.

RFID Band

- ❑ Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Band.
- ❑ To avoid double counting of devotees in Maha Kumbh 2025.

- ❑ The number of visitors will be monitored using AI cameras, RFID bands and GPS tracking.

AI Help Innovation Hub

- ❑ To be set up at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Delhi.
- ❑ Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by - AIIMS and Wipro GE Healthcare Pvt Ltd.
- ❑ Objective - To develop products and solutions to improve healthcare delivery and outcomes through AI.

Operation Demo

- ❑ Indian Navy demonstrated its operational powers and skills at Blue Flag Beach in Puri, Odisha on Navy Day (4 December).

Nano Bubble Technology

- ❑ Launch of trials at National Zoological Park, Delhi by Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to promote health of aquatic life.
- ❑ Water cleaning and purification technologies through nano bubbles (diameter less than 200 nanometers).
- ❑ Developed by IIT Ropar Technology and Innovation Foundation (iHub-AWaDH).

Copernicus Sentinel 1C

- ❑ Launched on 5 December from French Guiana Spaceport (Europe)
- ❑ Objective - To provide high resolution images in weather conditions and to perform important applications such as environmental management disaster response research.
- ❑ Earlier, Sentinel 1A (2014) and 1B (2016) were launched.

Willow - Quantum chip

- ❑ Launched by Google
- ❑ Developed at Quantum Lab in Santa Barbara (California)
- ❑ Function - To solve complex problems and errors in a very short time.

Other Important Facts

- ❑ Scientists at the Institute of Nano Science and Technology, Mohali, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, have identified nanoplastics from single-use plastic bottles as a cause of spread of antibiotic resistance.
- ❑ **Indian Army Artificial Incubation Centre (IAAIC)** - Bengaluru, Karnataka
- ❑ **Jetson Orin Nano Super** - Compact Generative AI supercomputer developed by Nvidia.
- ❑ **Agreement between India and Japan to deal with space debris** - between Tokyo-based Orbital Lasers and Indian robotics company Inspace.
- ❑ **Establishment of drone station for disaster management** - in Himachal Pradesh.
- ❑ **Gencast** - Google's machine learning weather forecasting model.
- ❑ **Astra View** - Commercial satellite imagery service launched by Hyderabad-based startup Dhruva Space.
- ❑ **Anant Technologies Limited** - First private Indian satellite operator to provide Geosynchronous Orbit (GSO) communication satellite services.
- ❑ **MoU to promote digital payment security** - between Fintech company Razorpay, Ministry of Home Affairs and Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C).
- ❑ **India's first Undergraduate Minor Program in Quantum Technology** - by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in collaboration with National Quantum Mission.
- ❑ **Shock Syringe** - Shockwave based needleless syringe.
 - Developed by researchers from IIT Bombay.
- ❑ **mRNA Vaccine for Cancer** - Developed by Russia.
- ❑ **CR450** - Prototype of world's fastest high speed train (speed-450 km/h.) developed by China.
- ❑ The Ministry of Defence, Government of India has signed a contract of Rs 1207 crore with Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kerala for short refit and dry docking of INS Vikramaditya.
- ❑ The SORAAI model has been created by Open AI which has the ability to convert text into video.



Important Days

Date	Day	Theme	Specific
1 December	World AIDS Day	Take the right path: My health, my right!	-
3 December	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future	-
4 December	Indian Navy Day	Strength and Power through Innovation and Indigenisation	This day is celebrated to commemorate the anniversary of Operation Trident which took place during the Indo-Pak war of 1971.
5 December	World Soil Day	Caring for soils : measure, monitor, manage	-
10 December	Human Rights Day	Our rights, Our future, Right now	-
16 December	Vijay Diwas	Honoring Heroes, Celebrating Freedom	This day is celebrated to mark India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war which led to the creation of a new nation, Bangladesh.
21 December	World Meditation Day	Inner Peace, Global Harmony	The first World Meditation Day was celebrated on 21 December 2024 with the consent of the United Nations General Assembly, in which India played an important role.
23 December	National Farmers Day	Empowering Annadatas for a prosperous nation	It is celebrated on the occasion of the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh.
	National Consumer Day	Virtual Hearings & Digital Access to Consumer Justice	-
25 December	Good Governance Day	India's path to a Viksit Bharat: Empowering Citizens through Good Governance and Digitalization	It is celebrated on the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
26 December	Veer Bal Diwas	Bravery and Creation of New Minds	Symbol of the martyrdom of Guru Gobind Singh's sons (Sahibzada Baba Zorawar Singh and Baba Fateh Singh).

Current Affairs Questions

1. **Where was the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit-2024 organized?**
(a) Jodhpur (b) Jaisalmer
(c) Jaipur (d) Udaipur
2. **Under the Lado Protsahan Yojana, how much amount will be provided by the Rajasthan government to each girl child born on and after 1 August 2024?**
(a) Rs 2 lakh (b) Rs 1 lakh
(c) Rs 50 thousand (d) Rs 80 thousand
3. **The objective of Saksham Jaipur Abhiyan is-**
(a) Empowerment of Divyangjans
(b) Maintenance of malnourished children
(c) Empowerment of women
(d) None of these
4. **To whom of the following was the 'Sustainable Development Award-2024' awarded?**
(a) Dr. Trisha Sharma
(b) Dr. Swati Jain
(c) Dr. Meenakshi Kumari
(d) Dr. Divya Kanwar
5. **Who among the following was awarded the 'Communication on Water Conservation-Stories' Award-2024?**
(a) Vivek Kumar (b) Sheela Asopa
(c) Rajesh Kumawat (d) Sudesha Sharma
6. **Who from Rajasthan was awarded the Dr. Komal Kothari Smriti Lifetime Achievement Folk Art Award in the 'Shilpgram Mahotsav' organized from 21 to 31 December?**
(a) Dr. Swaroop Singh Shekhawat
(b) Dr. Pratap Singh Singh Rathore
(c) Ganpat Sakharam Masge
(d) Devendra Kumar Patil
7. **Who was awarded the 'All India Acharya Ramchandra Shukla Award' for the book 'Bharatbodh aur Bhakti Kavita'?**
(a) Professor Nand Kishore Pandey
(b) Professor Rajendra Prasad
(c) Professor Arvind Gautam
(d) Professor Anirudh Shukla
8. **Where will the National Conference of Women and Child Development departments of all the states of the country be organized in January 2025?**
(a) Bhopal (b) Delhi
(c) Mumbai (d) Udaipur
9. **In which month is the 'Kumbhalgarh Utsav' organized?**
(a) December (b) April
(c) June (d) August
10. **Which village was selected by Maharana Pratap Agricultural Technology University, Udaipur under the Governor's Smart Village Initiative?**
(a) Dholikhera (Bhilwara)
(b) Naliasar (Jaipur)
(c) Khinvsar (Sikar)
(d) Piloda (Sawai Madhopur)
11. **When is the foundation day of the Border Security Force celebrated?**
(a) 1 December (b) 8 December
(c) 5 December (d) 4 December
12. **What is the primary objective of 'Mere Gaon Ki Mitti Abhiyan – Sudha Ugao, Sudha Khilao'?**
(a) To motivate farmers to grow pesticide free crops.
(b) Providing pesticides to farmers.
(c) To motivate farmers to grow more and more crops.
(d) To provide maximum benefits to the farmers.
13. **Where will the 'Centre of Excellence for Skills and Sports Development' be established?**
(a) Kota (b) Jaipur
(c) Sikar (d) Barmer
14. **Where will the world's first 'Industrial Zinc Park' be established?**
(a) Chanderia, Chittorgarh
(b) Pokaran, Jaisalmer
(c) Tilwara, Balotra
(d) Phalodi, Jodhpur
15. **On the recommendation of the committee constituted under the chairmanship of Lalit K. Pawar, the formation of how many newly formed districts and divisions has been cancelled?**
(a) 6 districts 4 divisions
(b) 8 districts 2 divisions

- (c) 9 districts 3 divisions
(d) 17 districts 3 divisions
16. **'Manas e-Arogya Portal' is the initiative of which of the following districts?**
(a) Hanumangarh (b) Rajsamand
(c) Sawai Madhopur (d) Baran
17. **When was the Rajasthan government announced to celebrate Pravasi Rajasthan Diwas?**
(a) 6 December (b) 3 December
(c) 5 December (d) 10 December
18. **Who among the following won the gold medal in the International Junior Science Olympiad (JSI)?**
(a) Praneet Mathur (b) Akshit Dixit
(c) Ranbir Rathore (d) Abhay Pawar
19. **Who among the following is the youngest bowler to take 100 wickets in all three formats of cricket?**
(a) Jaspreet Bumrah (b) Mayank Yadav
(c) Shaheen Afridi (d) James Anderson
20. **Which of the following is the Hindi film selected in the Best International Feature Film category for Oscar 2025?**
(a) Chandu Champion (b) Article 370
(c) Maharaja (d) Santosh
21. **Jamshedji Tata Award-2024 was given to who among the following?**
(a) Falguni Nair
(b) Roshni Nadar
(c) Kiran Mazumdar Shaw
(d) Radha Vembu
22. **Who is the first Indian racer to win the Formula Two Constructors Championship-2024?**
(a) Kush Maini (b) Karun Chandhok
(c) Narain Karthikeyan (d) Jehan Daruwalla
23. **Which Indian player has recently announced his retirement from cricket?**
(a) Ajinkya Rahane (b) Jasprit Bumrah
(c) R. Ashwin (d) Ravindra Jadeja
24. **Where was the first India Maritime Heritage (IMHC)-2024 organized?**
(a) Goa (b) New Delhi
(c) Bhubaneswar (d) Gujarat
25. **Which of the following states will host Khelo India Winter Games-2025?**
(a) Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh
(b) Ladakh and Uttarakhand
(c) Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand
(d) Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir
26. **What is 'Kisan Kavach'?**
(a) Swadeshi anti-pesticide suit
(b) PDS supply chain optimization tool
(c) Tool to protect crops from seasonal diseases
(d) Portal created for farmers
27. **Which is the country's first zero waste airport?**
(a) Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi
(b) Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport, Nagpur
(c) Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport, Indore
(d) Veer Savarkar International Airport, Port Blair
28. **Shri Chandrashekharendra Saraswati Award was given to who among the following?**
(a) S. Jaishankar
(b) Nitin Gadkari
(c) Rajnath Singh
(d) Colonel Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore
29. **Who has been awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award-2024 for Hindi language?**
(a) Gagan Gill (b) K. V. Narayan
(c) Mukut Maniraj (d) Sudhir Rasal
30. **Which is the first state in the country to fully adopt Government e-Market Place (GEM)?**
(a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Arunachal Pradesh
(c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Punjab
31. **Who is the current Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)?**
(a) Justice Mahesh Mittal
(b) Justice Arun Kumar Mishra
(c) Justice Jyoti Kalra
(d) Justice V. Ramasubramanian
32. **Who has been appointed as the new Governor of Mizoram?**
(a) V.K. Singh
(b) Arif Mohammad Khan
(c) Ajay Bhalla
(d) Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
33. **The Best FIFA Football Awards 2024 Player of the Year Men's Category was awarded to?**
(a) Vinicius Junior (b) Simon Kjær
(c) Lionel Messi (d) David Raya
34. **Which of the following countries will host the World Boxing Cup-2025?**
(a) Sri Lanka (b) Australia
(c) Russia (d) India

35. Which writer was honoured with the 34th Vyas Samman?
 (a) Surya Bala (b) Pushpa Bharti
 (c) Nasika Sharma (d) Dr. Sunita Jain
36. What is the national employability rate in India according to India Skills Report-2025?
 (a) 55.01% (b) 50%
 (c) 54.81% (d) 60.82%
37. India's position in the medal tally in the 10th Asia-Pacific Deaf Games-2024 was-
 (a) First (b) Second
 (c) Fifth (d) Third
38. Appointed as the 26th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India-
 (a) Sanjay Malhotra (b) Shaktikanta Das
 (c) Raghuram G-Rajan (d) Urjit R- Patel
39. Who among the following is the youngest player to win the title of World Chess Championship-2024?
 (a) D. Gukesh (b) Ding Liren
 (c) Magnus Carlsen (d) Vishwanathan Anand
40. Who is the first woman president of British Olympic Association (BOA)?
 (a) Katherine Grainger (b) Anna Rose Watkins
 (c) Helen Glover (d) Gillian Lindsay
41. When is World Meditation Day celebrated?
 (a) 21 December (b) 19 December
 (c) 20 December (d) 25 December
42. According to the 18th India Forest Status Report-2023, what is the position of Rajasthan among the states with the highest tree cover in terms of area?
 (a) First (b) Third
 (c) Second (d) Fourth
43. Good Governance Day is celebrated every year on 25 December as the birth anniversary of which Indian politician?
 (a) Atal Bihari Vajpayee (b) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
 (c) Indira Gandhi (d) Rajiv Gandhi
44. Harimau Shakti military exercise was conducted between India and which country?
 (a) Malaysia (b) Australia
 (c) Nepal (d) Japan
45. Dharam Gokhool has become the President of which of the following countries?
 (a) Mauritius (b) Malaysia
 (c) Nepal (d) Bhutan
46. The President of Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been elected as-
 (a) Masato Kanda
 (b) Fatima Yasmin
 (c) Masatsugu Asakawa
 (d) Toru Kubo
47. Who was chosen as 'Time Person of the Year-2024' by Time magazine?
 (a) Narendra Modi (b) Kamala Harris
 (c) Donald Trump (d) Joe Biden
48. Recently, which state of India has been given the status of 'Top of Heritage Tourism' by UNESCO?
 (a) West Bengal (b) Goa
 (c) Gujarat (d) Rajasthan
49. Recently, which of the following countries has announced visa-free travel for Indians from 1 December 2025?
 (a) Sri Lanka (b) Japan
 (c) Malaysia (d) China
50. Who among the following has been elected as the new Prime Minister of Tonga?
 (a) Aisake Vule Ake (b) Tupu VI
 (c) Siaosi Sowaleni (d) Samiu Vaipul

1	2	3	4	5
C	B	A	B	B
6	7	8	9	10
A	A	D	A	A
11	12	13	14	15
A	A	B	A	C
16	17	18	19	20
A	D	A	C	D
21	22	23	24	25
C	A	C	B	A
26	27	28	29	30
A	C	A	A	C
31	32	33	34	35
D	A	A	D	A
36	37	38	39	40
C	C	A	A	A
41	42	43	44	45
A	C	A	A	A
46	47	48	49	50
A	C	A	A	A

Topper's Talk



Surjeet Dhayal

Father	-	Mr. Baldev Singh
Mother	-	Mrs. Santra Devi
Graduation	-	Shri Tagore Mahavidyalaya, Kuchaman City (62.22%)
12 th	-	Chhoti Devi Sr. Secondary School, Didwana (64.20%)
10 th	-	Gov. Higher Secondary School, Mawa Didwana (51.83%)

Question: Congratulations on your achievement in the Civil Services Exam!

Surjeet : Thank you so much !

Question: Tell us about your family and educational background; what role did they play in your preparation?

Surjeet : My father is a farmer and mother is a housewife. Educational background: I completed my 10th from the government school in the village and 12th from Choti Devi Senior Secondary School, Didwana (Arts stream).

I completed my graduation from Shri Tagore Mahavidyalaya, Kuchaman City.

I did my M.A. in History from Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Shekhawati Vishwavidyalaya, Sikar.

Family plays an important role during preparation. Positive motivation comes from family only and in exams like civil services, if I fail at any stage, my family has been the primary source of motivation for preparation to start once again.

Question: When did you start preparing for RAS exam and how much time do you think is sufficient to prepare for this exam?

Surjeet : I started preparing for RAS after completing my graduation in 2017. If one tries with full sincerity in preparing for this exam, then 1-1.5 years is sufficient.

Question: Was it your aim from the very beginning to join the civil services and who was your source of inspiration for preparing for the civil services exam?

Surjeet : Initially, I had no intention of joining the civil services. I decided to go in this direction only after completing my graduation.

My inspiration for joining the civil services were my seniors who used to come to motivate us from time to time.

Question: What is the role of coaching in the civil service examination? Can one succeed in this examination through self-study?

Surjeet : It depends on the quality of the institute. If the teachers of the institute have good experience in this exam, then undoubtedly the thing that we learn in 1 year of self-study, we learn in 1 month in coaching and we easily understand how, from where and how deeply any topic given in the syllabus is taught and discipline is also maintained in preparation. There is no such exam that can not be passed by self-study. It depends on the person preparation.

Question: What should be the criteria for selecting an institute for coaching? Have you prepared from any coaching institute?

Surjeet : Criteria according to me: Faculty of the institute, test series, as we know that all teachers are experts in one subject but the nature of this exam is

such that any teacher who has had good experience of this exam because he has the capability to prepare the students in the best possible way for that subject and as far as the test series is concerned, the pattern of questions in the test series should be the same as that of the current RPSC exam, the difficulty level should also be similar (up to a certain level), it should not be such that the questions whose answers are difficult and the preparer gets demotivated.

For preparation, I took coaching from Springboard Academy. The resources for my preparation were mainly SBA notes and test series.

Question: What was your language/ medium in the exam? Tell us about the role of language medium in succeeding in civil services?

Surjeet : I had chosen Hindi medium in the exam. No doubt, language medium is very important in civil services but the language in which we can express ourselves in the best manner is the best and we should give priority to that language.

Question: What suggestions would you give to improve writing style in mains exam?

Surjeet : Writing style cannot be improved in a day or a month. During preparation, whenever we met a selected candidate, we used to ask the same question but never tried to improve the writing style. Later, when I started writing gradually, my writing style also improved. There is only one mantra to improve writing style - Practice, Practice and Practice and there is no other option. If we remember the syllabus well and study it well, then the writing style automatically improves.

Question: What study material did you use during your preparation?

Surjeet : During preparation, most of the material for me was Springboard notes and for value addition, I also used newspapers or current affairs magazines. I was in the Foundation Batch from Springboard so I did not try hard for more material and for material, I do the same thing that less is more, even if the material we have is prepared well, it is enough.

Question: What is the role of short notes in the preliminary and mains examinations?

Surjeet : Short notes make revision easy at the last moment. Due to more subjects and detailed syllabus, we are not able to revise everything at the last moment and our confidence also decreases. With the help of short notes, we can easily revise the complete syllabus on time.

Question: Tell us about the role of mock interview and how was your interview experience at Rajasthan Public Service Commission?

Surjeet : Be it a test series or a mock interview, both play a very important role in correcting our mistakes. Through these, we are able to know our mistakes and can get positive results by correcting them on time.

My RPSC interview was very good. It was Honorable Manju Maam's a board, most of the interview questions were based on home district, graduation subjects and government schemes.

Question: Tell us about the contribution of teachers in your success?

Surjeet : Undoubtedly, the role of teachers remains important, no matter what kind of success it is. My respected teachers also played an important role in my preparation, for which I express my heartfelt gratitude.

Question: What was the role of friends during the preparation?

Surjeet : Friends play an important role in motivating me. Whenever I had negative thoughts like whether I would get selected or not, my friends motivated me a lot.

Question: What challenges did you face while preparing away from home?

Surjeet : The most difficult time during preparation was after the result of RAS-2018 mains exam because due to Covid, there was no new recruitment and the level of preparation had also reduced a bit, but soon this time passed and in such times we should remember only one thing, This shall too pass

Question: What was the most difficult time during preparation?

Surjeet : Although external motivators can keep us motivated for only a short time. Only inner motivation can motivate us for a long time. If our goal is clear that I have to do only this, then there is no need for any other motivation later and as the course gets completed, motivation and confidence come automatically.

Question: What do you think about Plan B?

Surjeet : Looking at the current pattern of this exam, there should definitely be a plan B. It has two advantages, firstly, we have a clear situation about what to do if we do not get selected in this exam and secondly, confidence remains intact during preparation because we do not have the fear of what will happen if we do not get selected, hence our concentration also remains intact during preparation.

Question: What changes came in your life after selection in RAS exam?

Surjeet : Firstly there is mental peace and secondly there is a change in the image among family, friends and society, which happens after the selection of every civil servant.

Question: As an officer, what changes will you work to bring about?

Surjeet : Changes depend on the area. Whatever changes can be made as per the requirement of the area in which you are posted, every effort will be made for that. Secondly, will try to reduce work pendency.

Question: What is the utility of monthly current affairs magazine for R.A.S. examination?

Surjeet : Monthly magazines inform us about what is happening in our state, country and world at present, which even a literate person should know. In the preliminary exam also, there are about 18 to 20 questions related to current affairs which can get you very good marks. This is such a section which helps you in getting more marks even by studying less and sometimes the increase in the number of questions related to it in the main exam also proves its importance.

Question: Tell me the secret of your success?

Surjeet : To have discipline in preparation, to be consistent and patient, and most importantly to have the confidence that I can do it.

Question: How did you manage your time during preparation?

Surjeet : Time management can be done by keeping in mind the Input-Output Ratio such as giving more time to scoring subjects (IVth Paper) and while giving the exam, all the candidates complete Paper I, II, III on time if they have prepared honestly before the exam. So, there is a little time issue in Paper IV. If you try hard for it and maintain speed from the beginning while doing the paper, then you can complete the paper comfortably.

Question: We wish you a bright future as an Administrative Officer!

Surjeet : Thank you once again!

