

CURRENT AFFAIRS

25 to 30 November 2024



A Comprehensive Current Affairs for
UPSC - CSE, EPFO, CAPF, CDS | RRB | SSC | NDA
TNPSC - Group 1, Group 2, 2A Prelims & Mains

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National

VISION Portal Launched to Empower Underprivileged Youth through Skill Development★★

Keywords: VISION Portal; Viksit Bharat Initiative for Student Innovation and Outreach Network; Utsav Foundation; internships; practical experience; innovation.

- **Full Form:** The full form of **VISION** is **Viksit Bharat Initiative for Student Innovation and Outreach Network**.
 - **Developer:** The portal was developed by the **Utsav Foundation**, a **non-profit organization**.
 - **Purpose:** It aims to bridge the gap between **theoretical knowledge** and **practical experience**.
 - **Key Features:** The portal provides **funding for student internships** and fosters **innovation** among students.
-

Union Cabinet Launches One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) Scheme for Academic Access★★★

Keywords: One Nation One Subscription; ONOS; Union Cabinet; international journals; students; faculty; researchers; government institutions; INFLIBNET; UGC.

- **Scheme Launch:** The **Union Cabinet** launched the **One Nation One Subscription (ONOS)** scheme to provide seamless access to **international journals**.
 - **Target Audience:** The scheme benefits **students**, **faculty**, and **researchers** from **government institutions**.
 - **Access Management:** Access will be digitally managed through the **INFLIBNET (Information and Library Network Centre)** platform under the **University Grants Commission (UGC)**.
-

Union Government Launches 'Nayi Chetna – Pahal Badlaav Ki' Campaign to Combat Gender-Based Violence★★

Keywords: Nayi Chetna; Pahal Badlaav Ki; third edition; gender-based violence; Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana; National Rural Livelihoods Mission; Ministry of Rural Development; month-long campaign; awareness; support systems; slogan; Ek Saath Ek Awaaz Hinsa Ke Khilaaf.

- **Campaign Launch:** The **Union Government** launched the **third edition** of the national campaign “**Nayi Chetna – Pahal Badlaav Ki**”.
- **Organizing Body:** The campaign is organized by the **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)** under the **Ministry of Rural Development**.
- **Objective:** The campaign aims to **combat gender-based violence** across **India**.
- **Focus Areas:** It focuses on **raising awareness** and **strengthening support systems** for victims.
- **Duration:** The campaign will run for a **month**.
- **Slogan:** The campaign’s slogan is “**Ek Saath, Ek Awaaz, Hinsa Ke Khilaaf**” (**Together, One Voice, Against Violence**).

ICAI and CBSE Collaborate to Enhance Commerce-Based Skills in the BFSI Sector★

Keywords: ICAI; CBSE; MoU; commerce-based skills; BFSI; employability; second-largest accounting body; Ministry of Corporate Affairs; Chartered Accountants Act 1949; motto; Ya Aeshu Suptaeshu Jagruti; emblem; Garuda.

- **MoU Signing:** The **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** signed a significant **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)**.
- **Objective:** The MoU aims to promote **commerce-based skill courses** in the **Banking, Financial Services, and Insurance (BFSI) sector**.
- **Purpose:** This collaboration seeks to equip students with **industry-aligned competencies** to enhance their **employability**.

About Institute of Chartered Accountants of India★★



- **ICAI's Global Standing:** The ICAI is the world's second-largest professional accounting body and operates under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
- **Establishment:** The ICAI was established on 1 July 1949 under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 to regulate the profession of Chartered Accountancy in India.
- **Motto:** The motto of ICAI is "Ya Aeshu Suptaeshu Jagruti" (Sanskrit), meaning "a person who is awake in those that sleep".
- **Emblem:** The official emblem of ICAI is the Garuda (Eagle).

President Droupadi Murmu Unveils Sanskrit & Maithili Translations of the Constitution★★

Keywords: President Droupadi Murmu; Sanskrit translation; Maithili translation; 26th November 2024; Samvidhan Diwas; 75th anniversary; 8th Schedule; 22 scheduled languages; Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Swabhimaan; year-long campaign.

- **Translations Unveiled:** President Droupadi Murmu unveiled the Sanskrit and Maithili translations of the Indian Constitution.
- **Constitution Day:** The unveiling took place on 26th November 2024, marking Samvidhan Diwas and the 75th anniversary of the Constitution's adoption.
- **Translation Project:** The Government of India is working on translating the Constitution into all 22 scheduled languages listed in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution.
- **Campaign Launch:** On 25th November 2024, President Murmu launched a year-long campaign titled "Hamara Samvidhan, Hamara Swabhimaan"

Indian Government Extends Atal Innovation Mission Until 2028 with AIM 2.0★

Keywords: Atal Innovation Mission; AIM 2.0; NITI Aayog; 2028; systemic gaps; startup success; quality innovations; 2016; Atal Tinkering Labs; Atal Incubation Centres; Atal Community Innovation Centres; Atal New India Challenges; Mentor India.

- **Extension:** The Indian government has extended the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), a flagship program of NITI Aayog, until 2028.

- **AIM 2.0:** The new phase, **Atal Innovation Mission 2.0**, aims to address **systemic gaps**, improve **startup success rates**, and enhance the **quality of innovations**.

About Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)★★



- **Establishment:** The **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** was set up by **NITI Aayog** in **2016**.
- **Objective:** It aims to create and foster an environment of **innovation and entrepreneurship**.
- **Programs:** AIM supports its objectives through **four key programs**:
 - a. **Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs):** Encourages innovation among students.
 - b. **Atal Incubation Centres (AICs):** Supports startups through mentorship and resources.
 - c. **Atal New India Challenges:** Focuses on technological solutions to national challenges.
 - d. **Atal Grand Challenges:** Drives ambitious innovations addressing large-scale issues.

“Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat” Campaign Launched to Eradicate Child Marriage and Empower Girls★★

Keywords: Ministry of Women and Child Development; Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat; Child Marriage Free Bharat Portal; sex ratio; 918; 930.

- **Campaign Name:** The Ministry of Women and Child Development launched the national campaign **“Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat”**.
- **Objective:** The campaign aims to **eradicate child marriage** and ensure **education, health, and safety** for girls.
- **Portal Launch:** The **Child Marriage Free Bharat Portal** was introduced as an **online platform** for reporting **child marriage incidents** and filing **complaints**.
- **Improved Sex Ratio:** The sex ratio at birth improved from **918 (2014-15)** to **930 (2023-24)**.

Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA) & Sharda Act★



- **Definition in PCMA, 2006:** The **PCMA** defines **child marriage** as one where the **girl is under 18 years** or the **boy is under 21 years**.
- **Previous Law:** The **Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929**, was also called the **Sharda Act**, sponsored by **Harbilas Sharda**.
- **Original Age Limit:** The original **Sharda Act** set the marriage age at **14 for girls** and **18 for boys**.
- **1978 Amendment:** The marriage age was amended in **1978** to **18 years for girls** and **21 years for boys**.

Ministry of Tourism Approves 40 Projects for Lesser-Known Tourist Destinations Under SASCI Scheme★★

Keywords: Ministry of Tourism; 40 projects; SASCI scheme; lesser-known destinations; Rang Ghar; Matsyagandha Lake; Town Square; Orchha.

- **Project Approval:** The **Ministry of Tourism** has approved **40 projects** to develop **lesser-known tourist destinations** across the nation.
- **SASCI Scheme:** These approvals came under the **SASCI scheme**, which provides **long-term interest-free loans to states** for the comprehensive development of iconic tourist centers.
- **Objective:** The projects aim to **ease pressure** on popular tourist sites, promote **sustainable tourism**, and **boost local economies**.
- **Notable Destinations:** Some key destinations include **Rang Ghar** in **Assam**, **Matsyagandha Lake** in **Bihar**, **Town Square** in **Goa**, and **Orchha** in **Madhya Pradesh**.

Telangana Tops Cybercrime Cases Followed by Karnataka & Maharashtra★★

Keywords: Telangana; cybercrime cases; Karnataka; Maharashtra; Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting; CyTrain portal; I4C; NCCC; Cyber Fraud Mitigation Centre.

- **Highest Cases:** **Telangana** is the **top state** for registering **cybercrime cases** in the last **three years**.
- **Other States:** **Karnataka** and **Maharashtra** follow **Telangana** in the number of cybercrime cases.

Govt. Initiatives Against Cybercrime★



- **Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System:** The **Union Government** launched the system in **2021** to enable immediate reporting of **financial frauds**.
- **CyTrain Portal:** To enhance law enforcement capabilities, the **CyTrain portal** was developed under the **I4C**.
- **National Cyber Coordination Centre:** The **NCCC** scans the entire **Indian cyberspace** to generate **real-time intelligence**.
- **Cyber Fraud Mitigation Centre:** The **CFMC** fosters collaboration between **banks, telecom operators, and law enforcement agencies**.

12th Edition of International Tourism Mart (ITM) Held in Kaziranga, Assam★★

Keywords: International Tourism Mart; ITM; Kaziranga; Assam; Ministry of Tourism; UNESCO World Heritage Site; one-horned rhinoceroses; butterfly diversity.

- **Event Location:** The **12th Edition of the International Tourism Mart (ITM)** began in **Kaziranga, Assam**.
- **Purpose:** The event aims to showcase the immense **tourism potential of Northeast India**.
- **Organizer:** The event is organized annually by the **Ministry of Tourism**.

About Kaziranga National Park★



- **50th Anniversary:** **Kaziranga National Park** celebrated its **50th anniversary** as a national park in **February 2024**.
- **UNESCO World Heritage Site:** **Kaziranga** is recognized as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.
- **Wildlife Significance:** It is home to **two-thirds of the world's greater one-horned rhinoceroses**.
- **Butterfly Diversity:** Kaziranga recently became **India's second-largest hub for butterfly diversity**.

Indian Railways Launches 'Sanraksha' App for Enhanced Railway Safety★★

Keywords: Indian Railways; Sanraksha app; railway safety; Kavach; Automatic Train Protection; TRI-NETRA; FogPASS; TCAS.

- **Sanraksha App Launch:** Indian Railways launched the 'Sanraksha' app to improve railway safety.
- **App Objective:** To enhance safety protocols and promote better training and preparedness among railway personnel.

Other Railway Safety Initiatives ★★



- **Kavach System:** Kavach is an Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system that automatically applies brakes if the loco pilot fails to do so.
- **TRI-NETRA System:** It alerts drivers of any physical obstruction on railway tracks ahead, giving time to prevent accidents.
- **FogPASS Device:** FogPASS is a GPS-based handheld device that helps loco pilots navigate through low visibility conditions.
- **Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS):** The TCAS continuously detects and transmits train movement information between locomotives to prevent train collisions.

State

Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly Abolishes Garbage Tax★

Keywords: Andhra Pradesh; Legislative Assembly; garbage tax; dry refuse.

- **Bill Passed:** The **Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly** has passed a bill to **abolish the garbage tax**.

Types of Waste★



- **Garbage:** Garbage includes **dry refuse** such as **waste paper, decayed fruits, vegetables, grass, and leaves**.
- **Sewage:** Sewage refers to **liquid waste**, including **rainwater runoff**.
- **Night Soil:** Night soil is the type of waste that includes **human and animal excreta**.
- **Rubbish:** Rubbish refers to **non-decomposable solid wastes**, including both **combustible and non-combustible materials**.

Delhi Government Expands Old-Age Pension Scheme with Online Accessibility★

Keywords: Delhi government; old-age pension scheme; senior citizens; 60-69 years; Rs 2,000; 70 years and above; Rs 2,500; online portal; Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme; IGNOAPS; non-contributory; 60 years and above; below poverty line.

- **Scheme Expansion:** The **Delhi government** has expanded its **old-age pension scheme**.
- **Pension for 60-69 Years:** Senior citizens aged **60-69 years** will receive a monthly pension of **Rs 2,000**.
- **Pension for 70 Years and Above:** Those aged **70 years and above** will receive **Rs 2,500** per month.
- **Online Portal Launch:** The **Delhi government** announced an **online portal** to make the **application process more accessible**.

About Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)★★



- **Scheme Type:** The IGNOAPS is a non-contributory old-age pension scheme.
- **Eligibility:** It is available to Indians aged 60 years and above who live below the poverty line.
- **Monthly Pension Amount:** Beneficiaries aged 60 years and above receive a monthly pension of Rs. 200.
- **Higher Pension for 80 Years and Above:** Beneficiaries aged 80 years and above receive a monthly pension of Rs. 500.

Gujarat's Cottage and Rural Industries Policy 2024-29 to Boost Artisans and ODOP Products

Keywords: Gujarat; Cottage and Rural Industries Policy 2024-29; ODOP; One District One Product; artisans; cottage industries; sales promotion.

- **Policy Introduction:** The Gujarat government has introduced the Cottage and Rural Industries Policy 2024-29.
 - **Objective:** The policy aims to boost cottage industries, increase artisans' sales, and promote ODOP products.
 - **ODOP Scheme:** The One District One Product (ODOP) scheme promotes a single product from each district in India.
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Economy

India's First Modern Self-Sufficient Gaushala Inaugurated in Gwalior ★

Keywords: First modern gaushala; Adarsh Gaushala; Gwalior; Madhya Pradesh; Compressed Bio-Gas; Methane; hydrocarbon gases; Asia's largest CBG plant; Sangrur; Punjab.

- **Gaushala Inauguration:** India's **first modern and self-sufficient gaushala** was inaugurated in **Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Name of Gaushala:** The gaushala is named **Adarsh Gaushala**.
- **CBG Plant:** Adarsh Gaushala houses a **state-of-the-art Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) plant**.
- **Definition of CBG:** **Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG)** is a mixture of **hydrocarbon gases and vapors**, consisting mainly of **Methane in gaseous form**.
- **Asia's Largest CBG Plant:** The **largest CBG plant in Asia** is located in **Sangrur, Punjab**.

RBI Increases Limits for UPI 123Pay and UPI Lite Transactions ★★

Keywords: RBI; UPI 123Pay; ₹10,000; UPI Lite; ₹5,000; NPCI; IMPS; Nepal; IVR; missed calls; sound-based payments.

- **UPI 123Pay Transaction Limit:** The **RBI** has increased the **UPI 123Pay transaction limit** from **₹5,000 to ₹10,000**.
- **About UPI 123Pay:** UPI 123Pay enables digital transactions **without internet access** through **IVR, missed calls, and sound-based payments**.
- **UPI Lite Wallet Limit:** The **UPI Lite wallet limit** has been increased from **₹2,000 to ₹5,000** for small-value transactions.

About UPI ★



- **What is UPI?:** Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is an Indian instant payment system and protocol developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- **Connection to IMPS:** UPI is an advanced version of Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), allowing round-the-clock cashless payments that are faster and smoother.
- **First Foreign Adopter:** Nepal is the first foreign country to adopt India's UPI system.

RBI and Maldives Monetary Authority Sign MoU for Bilateral Trade in Local Currencies★★

Keywords: RBI; Maldives Monetary Authority; MoU; bilateral trade; Indian Rupee; Maldivian Rufiyaa; Maldives; Male; SAARC; Mohamed Muizzu.

- **Agreement:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA) signed an MoU.
- **Purpose:** The MoU enables the use of local currencies—the Indian Rupee (INR) and the Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR)—for bilateral trade and transactions.

About Maldives★



- **Location of Maldives:** The Maldives is located south of the Lakshadweep Islands in the Arabian Sea.
- **Capital:** The capital city of the Maldives is Male.
- **Currency:** The currency of the Maldives is the Maldivian Rufiyaa.
- **President:** The current president of the Maldives is Mohamed Muizzu.
- **SAARC Membership:** The Maldives is a member of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

Punjab National Bank Joins Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF)★★

Keywords: Punjab National Bank; PNB; second-largest public sector bank; Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials; PCAF; greenhouse gas emissions; loans and investments; Global GHG Accounting and Reporting Standard; financial industry.

- **PNB Joins PCAF:** Punjab National Bank (PNB), India's **second-largest public sector bank**, has become a **signatory of PCAF**.
- **PCAF's Objective:** PCAF aims to assist **financial institutions** in consistently assessing and calculating **greenhouse gas emissions** from **loans and investments**.
- **Global Standard:** In **2020**, PCAF developed the **Global GHG Accounting and Reporting Standard** for the **financial industry**.

Canara HSBC Life Insurance Launches OmniGen AI for Revolutionizing Underwriting Risk Evaluation★

Keywords: Canara HSBC Life Insurance; OmniGen AI; generative AI; risk evaluation; underwriting; decision-making; loan creditworthiness.

- **AI Innovation:** Canara HSBC Life Insurance has launched **OmniGen AI**, a solution to revolutionize **risk evaluation** in **underwriting**.
- **Automation and Accuracy:** OmniGen AI **automates complex risk assessments** and **reducing underwriting time**.
- **Underwriting Process:** **Underwriting** is the process through which **lenders assess** whether an applicant is **creditworthy** and eligible for a loan.

Cabinet Approves PAN 2.0 Project to Enhance Digital Tax Systems★★★

Keywords: Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs; CCEA; PAN 2.0; Income Tax Department; common business identifier; digital systems; QR code; no additional cost; Permanent Account Number; Central Board of Direct Taxes; 10-digit alphanumeric number; tax-related information.

- **Approval:** The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** has approved the **PAN 2.0 Project** of the **Income Tax Department**.
- **Objective:** The project aims to make the **Permanent Account Number (PAN)** a **common business identifier** for all **digital systems of government agencies**.
- **Upgrade:** **PAN 2.0** will enhance the current **PAN/TAN 1.0 eco-system**, processing applications and updates more quickly to reduce **waiting time**.

- **Paperless Process:** Paperwork will be eliminated through **digital procedures**, ensuring efficiency and consistency via a **unified database**.
- **Enhanced Security:** New **PAN cards** with upgraded features, including a **QR code for increased security**, will be issued at **no additional cost**.

About Permanent Account Number (PAN) ★★★



- **Definition of PAN:** PAN is a **10-digit unique alphanumeric number** issued under the **Indian Income Tax Act, 1961**.
- **Function:** PAN enables the department to **link all transactions** of a person or entity and records all **tax-related information** in a single system.
- **Issuing Authority:** The **Income Tax Department**, under the supervision of the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)**, issues PAN cards.

Launch of CII Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) and Regulatory Affairs Portal

Keywords: CII; EoDB portal; DPIIT; EoDB Index; World Bank ;10 areas; India; 63rd; Discontinued; 2021.

- **Portal Launch:** The **CII EoDB Portal** was launched at the **2nd DPIIT-CII National Conference on Ease of Doing Business** at **New Delhi**.
- **Portal Purpose:** It provides **real-time updates** on government and **CII initiatives** to boost **business efficiency & transparency**.

About Ease of Doing Business Index★★



- **Publisher:** The **EoDB** is released by the **World Bank**.
- **Purpose:** It **ranks economies** based on **business regulations**.
- **Ranking System:** The index ranks economies in **10 areas of business regulation**.
- **Discontinuation:** The **World Bank** discontinued the **EoDB report** in **2021**.
- **India's Last Rank:** India was ranked **63rd** out of **190 countries** in the last **EoDB report**.

Summits & Reports

World Bank Report "Jobs at Your Doorstep" Analyzes Skills Gap for Youth Employment ★

Keywords: World Bank; Jobs at Your Doorstep; skills gap; STARS initiative; Ministry of Education; NEP 2020; quality learning; Himachal Pradesh; Rajasthan; Maharashtra; Madhya Pradesh; Kerala; Odisha; Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States.

- **Report Title:** The **World Bank** released a report titled "**Jobs at Your Doorstep: A Jobs Diagnostics for Young People**".
- **Objective:** The report analyzes the **skills gap** and aims to align **trades taught in schools** with **local industry needs**.
- **Focus States:** It focuses on six states under the **STARS initiative: Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, and Odisha**.

About STARS Project ★★★



- **STARS Project Launch:** The **STARS project** was launched in **2020** by the **Government of India** and the **World Bank**.
- **Full Form:** **STARS** stands for **Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States**.
- **Implementation:** It is implemented as a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** under the **Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education (MoE)**.
- **Alignment with NEP 2020:** The project aligns with the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** to promote **quality-based learning outcomes**.

India Ranks Second in AI Talent and Third in AI Research Publications as per AI Readiness Report★★

Keywords: India; 2nd; AI specialist talent; 3rd; research publications; AI readiness report; Boston Consulting Group; BCG; public service; 73 nations.

- **Talent Ranking:** India secured the **second position** globally in the availability of **AI specialist talent**.
- **Research Ranking:** India ranked **third** in the world for **research publications** in **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**.
- **Report Publisher:** The findings are from the **AI Readiness Report** by the **Boston Consulting Group (BCG)**.
- **Evaluation Focus:** The report assessed **AI readiness** in **73 nations**, emphasizing **public service enhancements** through **AI integration**.

India Hosts Global Cooperative Conference 2024 for the First Time in ICA's 130-Year History ★★★

Keywords: Global Cooperative Conference 2024; Bharat Mandapam; New Delhi; International Year of Cooperatives 2025; ICA; 130 years; Bhutan PM Dasho Tshering Tobgay; Fiji Deputy PM Manoa Kamikamica; theme; Cooperatives Build Prosperity for All.

- **Event Location:** The **Global Cooperative Conference 2024** was inaugurated at **Bharat Mandapam** in **New Delhi**.
- **UN Initiative Launch:** The event marked the launch of the **United Nations' International Year of Cooperatives 2025**.
- **Historic First for India:** **India** is hosting the **ICA Global Cooperative Conference** for the **first time** in **130 years** of the ICA's history.
- **Special Guests:** **Bhutan Prime Minister Dasho Tshering Tobgay** and **Fiji Deputy Prime Minister Manoa Kamikamica** are attending the event.
- **Theme:** The theme of the event is **"Cooperatives Build Prosperity for All"**.

About International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) ★



- **Establishment:** The **ICA** was established in **1895** to promote the **cooperative model**.
- **Role:** The ICA serves as the **apex body representing cooperatives** globally.
- **Headquarters:** The ICA is headquartered in **Brussels, Belgium**.
- **Strategic Plan:** The ICA's **2020-2030 Strategic Plan** is titled **"A People-Centred Path to a Second Cooperative Decade"**.

13th National Seed Congress 2024 Held in Varanasi★★

Keywords: 13th NSC; Varanasi; ISARC; Rice Fallow Atlas; Eastern India; food security; Bihar; Chhattisgarh; Jharkhand; West Bengal.

- **Event Details:** The **13th National Seed Congress (NSC) 2024** was organized by the **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare**.
- **Hosting Venue:** The event was hosted at the **International Rice Research Institute South Asia Regional Centre (ISARC)** in **Varanasi**.
- **Introduction of Rice Fallow Atlas:** The **Rice Fallow Atlas** for **Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and West Bengal** was introduced.
- **Objective of Atlas:** The **Rice Fallow Atlas** is a **geospatial tool** designed to map and analyze **fallow lands** in Eastern India.

India International Science Festival (IISF) 2024 to be Held at IIT Guwahati★★

Keywords: India International Science Festival; IISF 2024; IIT Guwahati; Assam; CSIR; Global Manufacturing Hub.

- **Event Location:** The **India International Science Festival (IISF) 2024** will be held at **IIT Guwahati** in **Assam**.
- **Organizer:** The festival is organized under the aegis of the **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)**.
- **Theme:** The theme of IISF 2024 is "**Transforming India into an S&T-driven Global Manufacturing Hub**".
- **Significance:** This is the first time that the **mega event** is being hosted in **North East India**.

India Secures 49th Position in Network Readiness Index 2024★★

Keywords: India; 49th position; Network Readiness Index; Technology; People; Governance; Impact; Portulans Institute; 2nd; lower-middle-income countries.

- **Global Ranking:** India secured the **49th position** globally in the **Network Readiness Index (NRI) 2024**.
- **Report Overview:** The **NRI 2024 report** assesses the **network-based readiness** based on **four pillars: Technology, People, Governance, and Impact**.

- **Report Publisher:** The report was published by the **Portulans Institute**, an independent non-profit based in **Washington DC**.
 - **Regional Ranking:** India ranked **2nd** in the group of **lower-middle-income countries**, just after **Vietnam**.
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International

Military Junta Appoints Abdoulaye Maiga as Mali's Prime Minister ★

Keywords: Military Junta; Mali; Abdoulaye Maiga; Choguel Maiga; West Africa; Bamako; landlocked; West African CFA franc; French Sudan; Lake Faguibine; desert.

- **Prime Minister Change:** The **Military Junta** in Mali has appointed **Abdoulaye Maiga** as the new Prime Minister, replacing **Choguel Maiga**.
- **Mali's Governance:** Mali is currently under the control of a **Military Junta**.
- **Definition of Junta:** A **Junta** is a group, often of military officers, that rules a country by **force**.

About Mali ★



- **Mali's Geography:** Mali is a **landlocked country** in **West Africa**.
- **Capital City:** The capital of Mali is **Bamako**.
- **Currency:** The currency used in Mali is the **West African CFA franc**.
- **Colonial History:** Mali was a **French colony** known as **French Sudan**.
- **Lake Faguibine:** The famous **Lake Faguibine** in Mali has recently become **dry** and turned into a **desert**.

India Signs Riyadh Design Law Treaty for Industrial Design Protection★★★

Keywords: India; Riyadh Design Law Treaty; DLT; World Intellectual Property Organization; WIPO; industrial designs; affordable protection.

- **Treaty Signed:** **India** has signed the **Riyadh Design Law Treaty (DLT)**.
 - **Adoption:** The treaty was adopted by the **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**.
 - **Objective:** The treaty aims to **streamline global procedures** for protecting **industrial designs**.
 - **Benefits:** It seeks to make the process easier and more **affordable** for **designers** to protect their creations.
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Defense

INSV Tarini Begins Second Leg of Navika Sagar Parikrama-II★★★

Keywords: INSV Tarini; second leg; Navika Sagar Parikrama-II; two-woman naval crew; Dilna K.; Roopa A.; circumnavigate the globe; gender equality; maritime cooperation; India's maritime heritage.

- **Expedition:** The **Indian Naval Sailing Vessel (INSV) Tarini** embarked on the **second leg** of the **Navika Sagar Parikrama-II (NSP-II)**.
- **Crew:** The voyage is undertaken by a **two-woman naval crew, Dilna K. and Roopa A.**, to **circumnavigate the globe**.
- **Purpose:** The mission aims to promote **gender equality, maritime cooperation**, and **India's maritime heritage** on a global platform.

Indian Coast Guard to Conduct 11th National Maritime SAREX-24 in Kochi★★

Keywords: Indian Coast Guard; SAREX-24; Kochi; Kerala; National Maritime Search and Rescue; NMSAR Board; SAR operations; maritime law enforcement; Vayam Rakshamah.

- **Event:** The **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** will conduct the **11th National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise & Workshop (SAREX-24)** in **Kochi, Kerala**.
- **Organizers:** The event is organized under the aegis of the **National Maritime Search and Rescue (NMSAR) Board**.
- **Objective:** It aims to enhance **India's maritime search and rescue (SAR) capabilities** through **collaborative efforts**.

About Indian Coast Guard



- **Establishment:** The **Indian Coast Guard** was established in **1978**.
- **Headquarters:** It is headquartered in **New Delhi**.
- **Roles:** The ICG is responsible for **maritime law enforcement** and **search and rescue operations**.
- **Motto:** The Coast Guard's motto is **Vayam Rakshamah**, meaning "**We Protect**."
- **Territorial Waters:** India's **territorial waters** extend up to **12 nautical miles (22.2 km)**.

President's Colours Awarded to Four Mechanised Infantry Battalions by COAS on behalf of the President★

Keywords: Army Chief; General Upendra Dwivedi; President's Colours; Mechanised Infantry; battalions; President of India;

- **Award Presentation:** Chief Of Army Staff (**COAS**) **General Upendra Dwivedi** presented the prestigious **President's Colours** to **four battalions** of the **Mechanised Infantry**.
- **Recognition:** The award was presented on behalf of the **President of India**, acknowledging the battalions' **exemplary service** and **dedication** to the nation.
- **Honor Status:** The **President's Colours** is one of the **highest honours** awarded to a **military unit** in the **Indian Army**.
- **Mechanised Infantry:** These are infantry units equipped with **armored personnel carriers (APCs)** or **infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs)** for transport and combat.

Indian Army Launches "Eklavya" Online Learning Platform★★★

Keywords: Indian Army; Eklavya; officers' training; Year of Technology Absorption; BISAG-N.

- **Platform Launch:** The **Indian Army** has launched **Eklavya**, an **online learning platform** aimed at enhancing **officers' training**.
- **Alignment with Army Theme:** This initiative aligns with the Army's **2024 theme**, "**Year of Technology Absorption**".
- **Developer:** The platform was developed by the **Bhaskaracharya National Institute of Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG-N)**, based in **Gandhinagar**.

India Successfully Tests K-4 Nuclear-Capable Ballistic Missile From INS Arighaat Submarine★★★★

Keywords: K-4 missile; nuclear-capable; 3,500 km range; INS Arighaat; Bay of Bengal; Visakhapatnam; submarine-launched ballistic missile.

- **Tested Missile:** India successfully tested the **K-4 nuclear-capable ballistic missile** with a range of **3,500 km**.
 - **Launch Platform:** The missile was launched from the **nuclear-powered submarine INS Arighaat** in the **Bay of Bengal**, off the coast of **Visakhapatnam**.
 - **Significance:** This was the first **submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM)** test from an Indian submarine.
-

Celebrations

Guru Tegh Bahadur's Martyrdom Day: Shaheedi Diwas Observed on 24th November ★★★

Keywords: Guru Tegh Bahadur; Shaheedi Diwas; 24th November; Hind ki Chadar; religious freedom; 1675; Chandni Chowk; Aurangzeb; ninth Guru; Kashmir Hindus; Chak-Nanki; Anandpur Sahib.

- **Date of Observation:** **Guru Tegh Bahadur's Martyrdom Day**, also known as **Shaheedi Diwas**, is observed every year on **24th November**.
- **Title Given:** He is remembered as "**Hind ki Chadar**" (**Shield of India**) for protecting **religious freedom** and **human rights**.
- **Martyrdom:** In **1675**, he was **beheaded in Chandni Chowk, Delhi**, by Mughal emperor **Aurangzeb** for refusing to convert to **Islam**.

About Guru Tegh Bahadur ★★



- **Role in Sikhism:** Guru Tegh Bahadur was the **ninth Guru** of the **Sikh religion**.
- **Name Given By:** The name **Guru Tegh Bahadur** was given to him by his father, **Guru Hargobind**.
- **Resistance Against Mughals:** He opposed the **forced conversion of Kashmiri Hindus** by the Mughals.
- **Town Founding:** He founded the town of **Chak-Nanki** in Punjab, which later became part of **Anandpur Sahib**.

National Milk Day Celebrates Dr. Verghese Kurien and India's White Revolution★★

Keywords: National Milk Day; November 26; Dr. Verghese Kurien; Father of the White Revolution; Operation Flood; NDDDB; self-sufficient milk production; world's largest milk producer.

- **Celebration Date:** **National Milk Day** is celebrated annually on **November 26** in India.

- **Significance:** This day marks the **birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien**, known as the **Father of the White Revolution in India**.

About Operation Flood ★★★



- **Operation Flood:** The **white revolution** is also called **Operation Flood**.
- **Objective:** The program aimed to make India **self-sufficient in milk production** and improve **income for dairy farmers**.
- **Launch:** **Operation Flood** was launched in **1970** under the **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)** led by **Dr. Kurien**,
- **Global Impact:** Operation Flood made India the **world's largest milk producer**.

International Gita Mahotsav 2024 to Celebrate Bhagavad Gita's Spiritual Legacy in Kurukshetra★★

Keywords: International Gita Mahotsav 2024; Kurukshetra; Haryana; Bhagavad Gita Jayanti Samaroh; Kurukshetra Development Board; Haryana Tourism; Brahma Sarovar; Mahabharata; 18 chapters; 700 shlokas; Arjuna; Krishna; Kurukshetra War.

- **Event Name:** The **International Gita Mahotsav 2024** is set to be celebrated in **Kurukshetra, Haryana**.
- **Purpose:** The event commemorates the **Srimad Bhagavad Gita**, a prominent **Hindu scripture**.
- **Organizers:** The event is organized by the **Kurukshetra Development Board** and **Haryana Tourism**.
- **Primary Venue:** The main celebrations will take place at **Brahma Sarovar**, a sacred site believed to be where **Lord Krishna** delivered the Gita to **Arjuna**.
- **Scriptural Importance:** The **Bhagavad Gita** is part of the epic **Mahabharata** and is known as "**The Song of God**."

About Srimad Bhagavad Gita



- **Structure:** The Gita comprises **18 chapters** containing **700 shlokas** or couplets.
- **Dialogue Form:** It is presented as a dialogue between **Arjuna**, a prince, and **Krishna**, the embodiment of God.
- **Setting:** The dialogue occurs just before the start of the **Kurukshetra War**.
- **Core Teachings:** The Gita discusses the paths of **jnana (knowledge)**, **karma (action)**, and **bhakti (devotion)**, guiding towards **moksha (ultimate liberation)** of the soul.

Science & Tech

IISc Researchers Develop STRONG Language for Nanopore Geometry ★★

Keywords: IISc; STRONG; nanopore; STring Representation Of Nanopore Geometry; machine learning; nanopore properties; gas separation; DNA sequencing; nanometres.

- **New Language Introduced:** Researchers from the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)** have developed a new language called **STRONG (STring Representation Of Nanopore Geometry)**.
- **Purpose of STRONG:** STRONG encodes **nanopore shapes** and **structures** into **character sequences**.
- **Machine Learning Integration:** This encoding enables **machine learning models** to predict **nanopore properties**.
- **Applications:** STRONG aids in designing nanopores for **efficient gas separation** and other advanced applications.

About Nanopore ★



- **Nanopore Definition:** A **nanopore** is a **pore or cavity** with dimensions of only a few **nanometres**.
- **DNA Sequencing:** Nanopores are used in **DNA sequencing** to determine the **exact DNA sequence**.

ISRO and Australian Space Agency Collaborate for Gaganyaan Mission ★★★

Keywords: ISRO; Australian Space Agency; Gaganyaan; crewed spaceflight; Low Earth Orbit; LEO; Vyommitra; astronaut training; Bengaluru; GSLV Mk III; Human Rated LVM3; HLVM3; USA; Russia; China.

- **Collaboration:** The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** and the **Australian Space Agency (ASA)** have partnered to support India's first **crewed spaceflight program, Gaganyaan**.
- **Support Areas:** This agreement provides assistance for **crew and crew module recovery**.

About Gaganyaan Mission ★★★



- **Mission Objective:** The **Gaganyaan mission** aims to demonstrate India's ability to conduct a **Low Earth Orbit (LEO)** mission using an **Indian Crew Module**.
- **Global Position:** India will become the **fourth nation** to launch a **human spaceflight mission**, after **USA, Russia, and China**.
- **Mission Details:** The mission will launch a crew of **three members** into an orbit of **400 km** for **three days** and bring them back safely to Earth.
- **Humanoid Robot:** ISRO is developing **Vyommitra**, a humanoid robot, to serve onboard the **Gaganyaan mission**.
- **Astronaut Training:** A training facility for astronauts is being established in **Bengaluru** and is in the **advanced stages of completion**.
- **Launch Vehicle:** The mission will use the **GSLV Mk III**, a three-stage heavy-lift launch vehicle, reconfigured and named **Human Rated LVM3 (HLVM3)** for the mission.

New Giant Radio Galaxy Discovered Using MeerKAT Telescope★

Keywords: MGTC J100022.85+031520.4; giant radio galaxy; MeerKAT telescope; South Africa; MIGHTEE survey; radio waves; 2.3 million light years; low-density regions; radio source evolution.

- **Discovery:** A new **giant radio galaxy** named **MGTC J100022.85+031520.4** was discovered using the **MeerKAT radio telescope**.
- **Location of Telescope:** The **MeerKAT telescope** is located in **South Africa**.
- **Survey Name:** The galaxy was identified during the **MeerKAT International GHz Tiered Extragalactic Exploration (MIGHTEE)** survey.

About Giant Radio Galaxies (GRGs)★



- **GRG Characteristics:** **GRGs** emit **radio waves** extending over **2.3 million light years**.
- **Rarity:** GRGs are **rare** and typically found in **low-density regions of space**.
- **Scientific Importance:** GRGs help scientists understand **radio source formation** and **evolution**.

ISRO to Launch ESA's Proba-3 Mission for Sun's Corona Study ★★★

Keywords: ISRO; ESA; Proba-3 mission; PSLV-XL rocket; Satish Dhawan Space Centre; artificial solar eclipse; Sun's corona; precision formation flying; two satellites; European Space Agency.

- **Mission Launch:** The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** will launch the **European Space Agency's (ESA) Proba-3 mission**.
- **Rocket and Launch Site:** The mission will use the **PSLV-XL rocket**, launched from the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota**.

About Proba-3 Mission ★★★



- **Study Objective:** The mission aims to study the **Sun's corona**, the **outermost and hottest layer** of the Sun's atmosphere.
- **Artificial Eclipse:** An **artificial solar eclipse** will be created by **two satellites** flying in **precise formation**.
- **ESA's First Precision Flying Mission:** This is the **European Space Agency's first mission** dedicated to **precision formation flying**.

ISRO Announces Shukrayaan-1 for Venus Exploration★★

Keywords: ISRO; Shukrayaan-1; Venus Orbiter Mission; VOM; Venus; surface; atmosphere; Venera series; Soviet Union; hottest planet; 450°C; east to west rotation; slowest rotation; nearest to Earth.

- **Mission Announcement:** **ISRO** announced the **Shukrayaan-1**, an orbiter mission to **Venus**.
- **Mission Objective:** The **Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM)** will study the **surface** and **atmosphere** of **Venus**.
- **Historical Missions:** The **Venera series (1961–1984)** by the **Soviet Union** was the first to send spacecraft to **Venus**.

About Venus★★



- **Position in Solar System:** Venus is the **second nearest planet** to the **Sun**.
- **Temperature:** It is the **hottest planet** in the solar system, with a surface temperature of over **450°C**.
- **Unique Rotation:** Venus rotates from **east to west**, making it the **only planet** with this rotation.
- **Sun's Movement:** On **Venus**, the **Sun rises in the west** and sets in the east due to its unique rotation.
- **Rotation Speed:** Venus is the **slowest rotating planet** in the solar system.
- **Proximity to Earth:** Venus is the **planet nearest to Earth**.

India's First Green Hydrogen Fuelling Station Established in Leh★★

Keywords: India; green hydrogen; fuelling station; Leh; Ladakh; NTPC Ltd; green mobility; National Hydrogen Energy Mission.

- **Location:** India's first green hydrogen fuelling station has been established in **Leh, Ladakh**.
- **Initiative by NTPC:** The project supports **NTPC Ltd's green mobility initiatives**.
- **National Hydrogen Energy Mission:** It aligns with the goals of the **National Hydrogen Energy Mission**.

About National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)★★



- **Power Supply:** NTPC supplies **one-fourth of India's power needs**.
- **PSU Status:** It holds the status of a **Maharatna Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)**.
- **CSR Program:** **GEM (Girl Empowerment Mission)** is NTPC's **CSR program** focused on **empowering rural girls**.
- **Hydrogen Buses:** NTPC has introduced **hydrogen-powered buses** to operate in **Leh** as part of its **clean energy initiatives**.
- **CO2-to-Methanol Plant:** NTPC has set up a **CO2-to-methanol plant** at the **Vindhyachal plant**, a first of its kind globally.

Sports

Anders Antonsen Becomes First Danish Winner of China Masters Men's Singles Title★

Keywords: Anders Antonsen; Danish player; China Masters; men's singles title; Fuzhou China Open; annual badminton tournament; China.

- **Winner:** Anders Antonsen became the **first Danish player** to win the **men's singles title** at the **China Masters**.
 - **Tournament:** The **China Masters** is an **annual badminton tournament** held in **China**.
-

NorthEast United FC Wins 40th Governor's Gold Cup★★

Keywords: NorthEast United FC; 40th Governor's Gold Cup; Sikkim Gold Cup; international football tournament; Sikkim; Paljor Stadium; Gangtok.

- **Winner:** NorthEast United FC won the **40th edition** of the **Governor's Gold Cup**.
 - **Alternate Name:** The **All India Governor's Gold Cup** is also called the **Sikkim Gold Cup**.
 - **Tournament Type:** It is an **international football tournament** held in **Sikkim**.
 - **Venue:** Matches are played at the **Paljor Stadium** in **Gangtok, Sikkim**.
-

Reetika Hooda Wins Gold at World Military Championships★★

Keywords: Reetika Hooda; gold medal; women's 76kg; World Military Championships; second Indian woman; Jyoti Sihag; Military World Games; International Military Sports Council (CISM).

- **Gold Medal:** Reetika Hooda won the **gold medal** in the **women's 76kg wrestling category** at the **World Military Championships**.
 - **Historic Achievement:** She is the **second Indian woman** to win gold at this event, following **Jyoti Sihag**.
 - **Military World Games:** The event is part of the **Military World Games**, a **multi-sport competition** for military athletes organized by the **International Military Sports Council (CISM)**.
-

Emma McKeon, Australia's Legendary Olympian Swimmer, Announces Retirement★

Keywords: Emma McKeon; retirement; Australia; Olympian; 14 medals; six golds; competitive swimmer.

- **Retirement Announcement:** Emma McKeon, one of Australia's greatest **competitive swimmers**, has announced her retirement.
- **Olympic Record:** She is one of **Australia's most decorated Olympians**, with a total of **14 medals**, including **six golds**.

Divith Reddy Wins Under-8 World Cadets Chess Championship★★

Keywords: Divith Reddy; India; Under-8 World Cadets Chess Championship; FIDE; Montesilvano; Italy.

- **Winner:** Divith Reddy from India has emerged as the **champion** in the **Under-8 World Cadets Chess Championship**.
- **Organizer:** The championship was organized by **FIDE**.
- **Event Location:** The championship was held in **Montesilvano, Italy**.

About FIDE★



- **Full Form:** The **International Chess Federation** is commonly known by its **French acronym FIDE**.
- **Role:** FIDE governs **international chess competitions** worldwide.
- **Headquarters:** The **FIDE headquarters** is located in **Lausanne, Switzerland**.

Max Verstappen Clinches Fourth Consecutive Drivers' Championship Title at Las Vegas GP★★

Keywords: Max Verstappen; Formula 1; Drivers' Championship; Las Vegas Grand Prix; George Russell; Mercedes; 2024; Red Bull; World Drivers' Champion; 24 Grand Prix; youngest driver; debut.

- **Championship Title:** Max Verstappen, driving for **Red Bull**, secured his **fourth consecutive Drivers' Championship** title.
 - **Las Vegas GP Result:** In the **2024 Las Vegas Grand Prix**, **George Russell** of **Mercedes** emerged victorious, while Verstappen finished **fifth** but still clinched the championship.
 - **Formula 1 Championship:** The **Formula 1 championship** consists of **24 Grand Prix races**, with the driver earning the most points during the season crowned the **World Drivers' Champion**.
 - **Historical Achievement:** Verstappen becomes the **sixth driver in history** to win **four or more titles**.
 - **Debut Milestone:** Verstappen made his debut at just **17 years old**, becoming the **youngest driver** ever in **Formula 1**.
-

Awards

PM Modi Honored with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award in Washington ★★

Keywords: PM Modi; Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; Global Peace Award; Washington; Washington Adventist University; AIAM; Indian American minorities.

- **Award Name:** Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** received the **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Global Peace Award for Minority Upliftment**.
- **Organizers:** The award was jointly presented by **Washington Adventist University** and the **Association of Indian American Minorities (AIAM)**.

About Association of Indian American Minorities (AIAM)



- **About AIAM:** The **AIAM** is a newly launched **non-governmental organization**.
- **AIAM's Mission:** AIAM focuses on promoting the **welfare and unity of Indian American minorities**.

Indian Chemical Council (ICC) Receives 2024 OPCW-The Hague Award for Chemical Safety Contributions ★★★

Keywords: Indian Chemical Council (ICC); 2024 OPCW-The Hague Award; The Hague; Netherlands; global chemical safety; first industry body recognition.

- **Award Received:** The **Indian Chemical Council (ICC)** was awarded the prestigious **2024 OPCW-The Hague Award**.
- **Event Location:** The award was presented at the **29th Session** of the **Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)** in **The Hague, Netherlands**.
- **Award Purpose:** The **OPCW-The Hague Award** recognizes individuals and organizations for their significant contributions to the goals of the **Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)**.
- **Industry Recognition:** **ICC** is the **first chemical industry body** to receive this recognition, highlighting its vital role in the **global chemical safety** community.

About Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)★★



- **Organisational Role:** OPCW is an **intergovernmental organisation** and the implementing body for the **Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)**.
- **Headquarters Location:** The **OPCW headquarters** is located in **The Hague, Netherlands**.
- **Global Mission:** OPCW oversees the global effort for the **permanent and verifiable elimination of chemical weapons**.
- **Nobel Peace Prize:** The organisation was awarded the **2013 Nobel Peace Prize** "for its extensive efforts to **eliminate chemical weapons**."

Highlights from the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI)★★

Keywords: 55th IFFI; Goa; Dry Season; Golden Peacock; Toxic; Silver Peacock; The New Year That Never Came; Holy Cow; Gandhi Medal; Crossing; Best Debut; Familiar Touch; Gharat Ganpati; Lampan; Vikrant Massey; Phillip Noyce.

- **Festival Conclusion:** The **55th IFFI** concluded in **Goa** with the screening of the film **Dry Season** by Czech filmmaker **Bohdan Sláma**.
- **Golden Peacock Award:** The **Best Feature Film** award was given to the Lithuanian film **Toxic**, directed by **Saulė Bliuvaitė**.
- **Silver Peacock for Best Director:** **Bogdan Muresanu** won this award for his film **The New Year That Never Came** from **Romania**.
- **Special Jury Award:** French filmmaker **Louise Courvoisier** received the award for her film **Holy Cow**.
- **ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal:** The Georgian film **Crossing**, directed by **Levan Akin**, won this medal for promoting **peace and non-violence**.
- **Best Debut Feature Film:** **Sarah Friedland** from the USA won this award for her film **Familiar Touch**.
- **Best Debut Director of Indian Feature Film:** The Marathi film **Gharat Ganpati**, directed by **Navjyot Bandiwadekar**, received this newly introduced award.
- **Best Web Series:** The Marathi series **Lampan** won the award for **Best Web Series (OTT)**.
- **Indian Film Personality of the Year:** Actor **Vikrant Massey** was honored with this title.
- **Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award:** Australian filmmaker **Phillip Noyce** received the award.

About International Film Festival of India (IFFI) ★★★



- **Founding Year:** IFFI was founded in **1952** and is one of **Asia's prestigious film festivals**.
- **Permanent Venue:** **Goa** has been the festival's permanent venue since **2004**.
- **2024 Theme:** The theme for **IFFI 2024** was "**Young Filmmakers – The Future is Now**".
- **New Award Category:** IFFI 2024 introduced a new award for **Best Debut Director of Indian Feature Film**.
- **Country of Focus:** In **2024, Australia** was the **country of focus**.
- **Opening Film (Feature):** **Better Man** by **Michael Gracey** had its **Asia premiere** as the festival's opening film.
- **Opening Film (Indian Panorama):** The **Indian Panorama** section opened with **Swatantrya Veer Savarkar** (Hindi), directed by **Randeep Hooda**.

Appointments

Pankaj Tripathi Appointed Festival Ambassador for Arunachal Rang Mahotsav 2024★

Keywords: Pankaj Tripathi; Arunachal Rang Mahotsav 2024; festival ambassador; international theatre festival; largest in Northeast India.

- **Appointment:** Pankaj Tripathi has been named the **festival ambassador** for **Arunachal Rang Mahotsav 2024**.
 - **Festival Significance:** Arunachal Rang Mahotsav 2024 is an **international theatre festival** and the **largest of its kind in Northeast India**.
-

Yamandu Orsi Elected as President of Uruguay★★

Keywords: Yamandu Orsi; Uruguay; South America; Montevideo; capital; principal port; Uruguayan Peso; UYU; FIFA World Cup; first host.

- **New President:** Yamandu Orsi has been elected as the **President of Uruguay**.

About Uruguay★



- **Geography:** Uruguay is a country located in **South America**.
 - **Capital and Port:** The capital and principal port of Uruguay is **Montevideo**.
 - **Currency:** The currency of Uruguay is the **Uruguayan Peso (UYU)**.
 - **FIFA World Cup History:** Uruguay hosted the **first FIFA World Cup**.
-

Important Days

November 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women★★

Keywords: November 25; International Day; Elimination of Violence Against Women; Mirabal sisters; UNiTE campaign; Orange Day; 16 Days of Activism; Beijing Declaration; gender equality; women empowerment.

- **Observation Date:** **November 25** is observed annually as the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**.
- **Historical Significance:** The day commemorates the **murder of the Mirabal sisters**, political activists from the **Dominican Republic**.

About UNiTE & 16 Days of Activism★★



- **UNiTE Campaign:** The **UNiTE Campaign**, launched in **2008**, aims to raise **awareness and resources** to combat violence against women and girls.
- **Orange Day Initiative:** The campaign encourages activism by designating the **25th of each month** as **Orange Day** to continue the fight against gender-based violence.
- **16 Days of Activism:** The **16 Days of Activism** run from **November 25 to December 10 (International Human Rights Day)**, focusing on implementing policies from the **Beijing Declaration**.
- **Beijing Declaration:** This global agenda promotes the **empowerment of women and girls** and achieving **gender equality**.

India Observes Constitution Day on November 26★★★

Keywords: Constitution Day; Samvidhan Divas; November 26; 1949; Constitution; Law Day; 2015.

- **Event:** **November 26** is celebrated as **Constitution Day** or **Samvidhan Divas** in India.
- **Historical Significance:** On **November 26, 1949**, the Constituent Assembly adopted India's **present-day Constitution**.
- **Enforcement Date:** The Constitution came into effect on **January 26, 1950**.

- **Previous Name:** Until **2015**, this day was recognized as **Law Day** in India.
-

Airports Authority of India Observes Aviation Safety Awareness Week During the Last Week of November★★

Keywords: Airports Authority of India (AAI); Aviation Safety Awareness Week; November; Ministry of Civil Aviation; Vipin Kumar.

- **Event Observance:** The **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** observes **Aviation Safety Awareness Week** annually during the **last week of November**.
- **Purpose:** This observance reinforces AAI's commitment to maintaining **high safety standards** and fostering a **culture of vigilance**.
- **Organizational Role:** AAI is a **statutory body** under the **Ministry of Civil Aviation**, responsible for creating, upgrading, maintaining, and managing **civil aviation infrastructure** in India.
- **Leadership:** **Vipin Kumar** is the current **Chairman** of the Airports Authority of India.
- **Aviation Status:** India is the **world's third-largest domestic aviation market**.

Some Milestones in Indian Aviation★



- **First Commercial Flight:** India's **first commercial flight** took place between **Allahabad** and **Naini** in **1911**.
 - **First Airlines:** **Tata Airlines** was launched in **1932**, marking the start of **scheduled air services** in India.
 - **First Indian Woman Pilot:** **Sarla Thakral** became the **first Indian woman pilot**.
-

Personalities

Shashikant Ruia Chairman of Essar Group Passes Away★

Keywords: Shashikant Ruia; Essar Group; Independent Power Producer; Hazira; Gujarat.

- **Leadership:** Shashikant Ruia was the **co-founder** and **Chairman** of the **Essar Group**.
 - **Achievement:** Essar became **India's first Independent Power Producer** at **Hazira, Gujarat**.
-

Renowned South African Writer Breyten Breytenbach Passes Away★

Keywords: Breyten Breytenbach; South African writer; political prisoner; apartheid; The True Confessions of an Albino Terrorist; memoir.

- **Passing:** **Breyten Breytenbach**, the renowned **South African writer**, has passed away.
 - **Political Prisoner:** He was a former **political prisoner** known for his fierce **opposition to apartheid**.
 - **Famous Memoir:** He wrote the famous memoir, **The True Confessions of an Albino Terrorist** (1985), detailing his **prison experiences**.
-

Prominent Economic Historian Amiya Kumar Bagchi Passes Away

Keywords: Amiya Kumar Bagchi; economic historian; Perilous Passage.

- **About Amiya Kumar Bagchi:** He was a renowned **economic historian** and **macroeconomist**, who recently **passed away**.
 - **Legacy:** Bagchi's work bridged **economic theory** and **historical data**, impacting both **economists** and **historians**.
 - **Final Book:** His final book, **Perilous Passage**, examined how **economic growth under capitalism** is poorly correlated with **human development**.
-

Miscellaneous

Rishabh Pant Becomes Costliest IPL Player in History at ₹27 Crore★★

Keywords: Rishabh Pant; costliest IPL player; ₹27 crore; Lucknow Super Giants; IPL 2025 mega auction; Jeddah; ₹120 crore budget; retentions; RTM rule.

- **Costliest Player:** Rishabh Pant became the **costliest player in IPL history**, fetching **₹27 crore**.
- **Team:** The **Lucknow Super Giants (LSG)** secured Pant during the IPL auction.
- **Auction Venue:** The **IPL 2025 mega auction** was held in **Jeddah, Saudi Arabia**.

About IPL Auction Rules



- **Budget:** Each IPL team had a budget of **₹120 crore**, reduced by retentions.
- **Retention Rules:** Teams can retain a maximum of **five capped players** and **two uncapped players**, with a total cap of **six retentions**.
- **RTM Rule:** The **Right to Match (RTM)** rule allows franchises to retain a previously released player by matching the highest bid at the auction.

13-Year-Old Vaibhav Suryavanshi Becomes Youngest IPL Player Signed at Auction★★

Keywords: Vaibhav Suryavanshi; 13-year-old; cricketer; Bihar; youngest player; IPL auction; Rajasthan Royals.

- **Record Achievement:** Vaibhav Suryavanshi, a **13-year-old cricketer from Bihar**, has become the **youngest player ever** to be signed at an **IPL auction**.
- **Team Acquisition:** He was acquired by the **Rajasthan Royals**.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's 'One Health' Pavilion Receives Special Appreciation Medal at IITF 2024★★

Keywords: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; One Health; Pavilion; 43rd India International Trade Fair; IITF; Special Appreciation Medal; Viksit Bharat @2047; India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO); Delhi.

- **Award Received:** The **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's 'One Health' Pavilion** at the **43rd India International Trade Fair (IITF)** received a **Special Appreciation Medal**.
 - **Focus of Pavilion:** The pavilion focused on the **'One Health' approach**, highlighting the interconnectedness of **human, animal, and ecosystem health**.
 - **IITF Theme:** The **43rd IITF** had the theme **'Viksit Bharat @2047'**.
 - **Organizer:** IITF is organized by the **India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO)** in **Delhi**
-