

# CURRENT AFFAIRS



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## MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS SEPTEMBER : 2024



Near Riddhi-Siddhi Circle, Gopalpura Bypass, Jaipur

# 1. Rajasthan Affairs

## 'Rising Rajasthan' Global Investment Summit 2024

- Event: 9-11th December 2024 in Jaipur.
- It will be inaugurated on December 9<sup>th</sup>, by Prime Minister Modi.
- Its naming and logo were launched on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024.
- It's theme is "REPLETE, RESPONSIBLE, READY".
- It aims to make Rajasthan a \$350 billion economy in the next 5 years and take forward the 'Developed Rajasthan' Action Plan.
- The event is being organized under the aegis of the Government of Rajasthan in collaboration with the Department of Industries and Commerce, Bureau of Investment Promotion (BIP) and Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO).
- Its nodal department is the Bureau of Investment Promotion (BIP).
- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) is the summit partner.
- The knowledge partner of this investment summit is PwC India.
- MSME Conclave and Pravasi Rajasthani Conclave will also be organized.
- In order to attract investors in Rajasthan, investors meet will be held at the district level from October 1<sup>st</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup> in the state .
- In this, collectors and officers will hold meetings with entrepreneurs interested in investing at the local level.
- The ministers and secretaries in charge will also participate in the investors' meet of the district.
- This meet will be organized in collaboration with District Administration, District Industries Center and RIICO.

## Investors Roadshows Abroad

- To invite investors, Industry Minister Rajyavardhan Rathore and delegation organized International Investors Roadshows in United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Doha (Qatar) from September 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Two major MoUs signed between Japan and Rajasthan government

- In the context of the 'Rising Rajasthan ' Global Investment Summit 2024, the Investors Meet was organized in Osaka during the Japan visit of the Chief Minister of the state, Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma.
- In this, MoUs were signed on 2 major projects-
  1. Bioseed Corporation and Government of Rajasthan
  2. Sartaj Group and Government of Rajasthan

- Under this MoU, Research and Development Institutions and Sports Academy will be set up in Jaipur and Jodhpur.

## Investment agreements worth Rs 8 lakh crore signed at Investor Meet in New Delhi

- Under the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit-2024, an investor meet was organized in New Delhi on 30 September 2024.
- MoUs worth more than Rs 8 lakh crore were signed between the State Government's Bureau of Investment Promotion and various companies for investment in Rajasthan .
- The total value of MoUs for investment in Rajasthan has exceeded Rs 12.5 lakh crore.
- In the investor meet , MoUs were signed for investment in sectors like renewable energy, power transmission, oil and gas, CNG, logistics, agrotech.
- The maximum number of MoUs have been signed in the energy sector .

## Facts to keep in mind

- Industries Minister of Rajasthan: Rajyavardhan Rathore
- Chief Secretary of Rajasthan: Sudhansh Pant
- Principal Secretary of Industries Department: Ajitabh Sharma

## Provision for Ease of Doing Business in Rajasthan

- The state government will implement 21 policies before the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit to be held in Rajasthan.
- Such provisions will be made in these policies so that investors can easily set up industries in the state.

## Provisions for Tourism in Rajasthan

- The Tourism Department of Rajasthan has launched the Rajasthan Tourism Unit Policy (RUTP-2024) for heritage restaurants , rural tourism, eco-tourism, health resorts, yoga and meditation centers , wellness centers , studio apartments, tour operators, travel agents, It has also been decided to consider the event management company as a tourism unit.
- In the new policy, the annual obligation of license for tourism units will be abolished.
- One time 10-year licenses will be given by the local bodies .
- A grant of Rs 12,500 per employee will be given to all tourism units receiving certificates to increase employment opportunities and skill development of employees working in the tourism sector.

**World Tourism Day**

- World Tourism Day is celebrated on 27<sup>th</sup> September to promote tourism globally.
- The United Nations started it in the year 1980.
- The theme of this year's Tourism Day is "Tourism and Peace."

**Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme ( RIPS) 2024 approved**

- The scheme was approved by the Rajasthan government on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- In this, provisions have been made to attract investment from the MSME sector to new emerging sectors.
- The list of new emerging sectors has been expanded to include sectors such as aerospace , defence, drones, semiconductors, agritech and waste recycling.
- The minimum investment limit for incentives under the Standard Services Package in RIPS-2024 has been reduced from Rs 50 crore to Rs25 crore.
- The minimum investment limit for incentives for tourism units has been increased to Rs 10 crore.
- MSME enterprises with fixed capital investment of less than Rs 1 crore have also been brought under the ambit of RIPS- 2024.
- Priorities such as green growth , export promotion and capacity development have been included.
- Along with setting up new units and encouraging the already running units, entrepreneurs who become exporters for the first time will also be benefited in this.
- Land and power related incentives have been introduced to reduce the cost of MSME units.
- A flexible model of payment of land cost for investors setting up manufacturing units has been included in RIPS, in which after making an upfront payment of 25 per cent of the land cost, the remaining 75 per cent will be given in 10 instalments with 8 percent interest rate.
- Electricity cost incentives will be provided to 8 types of energy intensive industries.
- The benefit of interest subvention will be given for a longer period (7 years) as compared to the standard manufacturing package for the MSME sector.
- Additional benefits will be given for Khadi, rural tourism and agro-processing MSMEs.

**5 times incentive on investment of more than 3 thousand crores**

- Startups run by women will be provided 100% SGST reimbursement for 2 years.
- 5 times above said incentives will be given on all investment of more than three thousand crore rupees.

**Knowledge Enhancement Program**

- The Rajasthan government had announced the launch of the "Knowledge Enhancement Program" in Budget 2024- 25.
- Under this, 100 young and progressive farmers of Rajasthan will be sent abroad for training.
- Under this program, in the first phase, these progressive young farmers will be sent to those countries where innovations are being made in the field of agriculture and animal husbandry and more crops are being produced in less space and cost with the use of high technology.

Selection Criteria	
Agriculture Sector	Dairy Animal Husbandry Sector
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The farmer should have ownership of at least one hectare of agricultural land.</li> <li>• Scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and women farmers should have land ownership of 0.5 hectare agricultural land.</li> <li>• The farmer should have been cultivating for the last 10 years.</li> <li>• Higher agricultural techniques such as protected farming, micro irrigation, mulching, solar power pump, drone fertigation, automation, farm pod, diggi are being adopted by the farmers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actual ownership of at least 20 cow-buffalo dairy or 10 camels or 50 sheep</li> <li>• Be associated with dairy or animal husbandry profession for the last 10 years.</li> <li>• Uses higher animal husbandry or dairy technology.</li> <li>• Should have been selected for district or state level award in dairy sector.</li> <li>• Should have been recognized as a progressive pastoralist in his area.</li> </ul>

- Out of the 100 young farmers selected in the first phase, 80 will be from the agriculture sector and 20 from the dairy and animal husbandry sector.
- In this, the age of the farmers applying for training in the agricultural sector should be less than 55 years.

**Changes in Lado Incentive Scheme**

- Recently, the Rajasthan government has made significant changes in the Chief Minister Rajshri Yojana after merging it with Lado Incentive Scheme.
- Under this, now daughters studying in private schools and born in private hospitals in the state will also get assistance of Rs 1 lakh.
- Earlier, the Rajshri scheme was available only to daughters born in government hospitals and studying in government schools.

Instalment	Amount
First	Rs. 2500 at birth
Second	Rs 2500 on one year's full vaccination
Third	Rs 4,000 on admission to class 1
Fourth	Rs 5,000 on Class 6 admission
Fifth	Rs 11,000 on Class 10 admission
Sixth	Rs 25,000 on Class 12 admission
Seventh	Rs 50,000 on passing graduation exam

#### MAA (Chief Minister Ayushman Arogya) Voucher Scheme

- The scheme was launched at the state level on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024 .
- Its purpose is to provide free sonography facility to pregnant women.
- The scheme was launched on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as a pilot project in 3 districts- Baran, Bharatpur, and Phalodi.
- Under this scheme, free sonography services will be available at government sonography centers as well as private sonography centers.
- Through this scheme, pregnant women will be able to get sonography done for free of cost at 1,161 privately registered sonography centers.
- The state government will spend more than Rs 10 crore annually on this scheme.

#### Gopal Credit Card Scheme

- The scheme has been launched by the Rajasthan government on the lines of Kisan Credit Card for rural Gopalak families.
- In this scheme, eligible cattle owners will get an interest free loan of up to Rs 1 lakh for a period of one year.
- In the budget of the year 2024-25, the Gopal Credit Card Scheme was announced by the state government on the lines of Kisan Credit Card for dairy related activities to the Gopalaks.
- This loan is given for the shed for cows and buffaloes. The loan can be given for the purchase of necessary equipment including milk, fodder, distribution.
- In its first phase, loans will be provided to 5 lakh Gopalak families.
- A budget of Rs 150 crore has been fixed for this scheme.
- If the Gopalak repays on time or before time, a new loan can be sanctioned for the next one year.

#### Loan Eligibility

- The farmer must be a member of the Primary Milk Producers' Cooperative Society.
- A member of a Gopalak family, who sells milk to a cooperative dairy society, can avail a loan on the recommendation of the Primary Milk Society.

#### Atal Entrepreneurship Program

- It was announced in Rajasthan Budget 2023-24.
- Objective: To encourage youth to establish startups and increase the quality of entrepreneurship in them.
- Through this, the youth will get the guidance of excellent CEOs from India and abroad.
- Under this, funding up to Rs 10 crore will be provided to selected startups.

#### Atal Innovation Studio & Accelerators

- It was announced in the Rajasthan Budget 2023-24.
- These will be set up in Jaipur, Bharatpur, Bikaner and Udaipur.
- Cost: Rs 1,000 crore.
- Objective: To provide adequate employment opportunities to the youth.

#### The scope of Chief Minister Ayushman Arogya Yojana will increase

- Under this scheme, the network of private hospitals along with government hospitals will now be made available to the villages.
- The network of hospitals will be increased by the state government with private sector participation.
- For this, changes and simplification will be made in the rules related to the scheme.
- The grievance redressal system will be strengthened to overcome the problems related to this scheme.
- Portability facility will be started soon in this scheme. Citizens outside the state will also be able to take advantage of this scheme and patients of Rajasthan will be able to get treatment in other states.

#### Chief Minister Ayushman Arogya Yojana(MAA)

- **Objectives:**
  - To provide cashless treatment to eligible beneficiaries in government as well as private empanelled hospitals.
  - Providing financial protection to families against high health care costs.
- **Free Health Insurance for-**
  - Identified in the National Food Security, Socio-Economic and Caste Census
  - Small and marginal farmers
  - Contract workers
  - Families of beneficiaries of COVID-19 Anugriha Scheme
- The remaining population has to pay an amount of Rs 850 per family per year, the remaining premium cost is being borne by the state government.
- At present, about 1.43 crore families are registered under the scheme.

### Key features

- The new phase was launched on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, under which the insurance company is paid a premium amount of Rs 1,965 per family per year.
- The scheme includes a total of 1,806 packages, including 1,761 packages on insurance mode and 45 packages on trust mode.
- Under the scheme, cashless treatment of Rs 25 lakh per family per year is being provided, which is divided into two parts.
  - Rs 5 lakh coverage in insurance mode
  - Coverage up to Rs 20 lakh in trust mode
- It also includes special packages for organ transplants and cochlear implants such as bone marrow transplant, kidney transplant, liver transplant, heart transplant and lung transplant.
- According to the budget announcement 2024, 73 day care packages of cancer treatment are also included in the scheme.

### 'Swachhta Hi Seva' Campaign

- Chief Minister Shri Bhajanlal Sharma launched the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign at the state level in Jaipur on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- The duration of this campaign is from 17<sup>th</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October.
- Under this, cleanliness and hygiene work will be done in villages and cities through shramdaan of mass public participation at the state level.

### Tobacco Free Youth Campaign 2.0

- Medical and Health Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Khinvsar launched the Tobacco Free Youth Campaign 2.0 at a state-level function in Jaipur on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.
- In this program, all the participants were also administered the oath of tobacco and drug free.
- Under this campaign, tobacco control rules will be followed on priority with public awareness.
- Rajasthan has been awarded the Tobacco Control Excellence Award at the national level for outstanding work towards tobacco control and prevention.

### Senior Citizen Pilgrimage Scheme

- The scheme was launched in the year 2013.
- The scheme covered rail travel from 2013 and rail and air travel from 2016.
- The scheme is being implemented by the Devasthan Department of Government of Rajasthan.
- Under this scheme, 36,000 elderly people will be made travel by the Rajasthan government in the year 2024.

- Under this, eligible beneficiaries are selected by lottery.
- In this, 30,000 senior citizens will be taken to pilgrimage sites through rail and 6,000 through air.
- The objective of this scheme is to provide free pilgrimage to the senior citizens (60 years and above) of the state.

#### Travel by Rail:

1. Rameswaram - Madurai
2. Jagannathpuri
3. Tirupati
4. Dwarkapuri - Somnath
5. Vaishnodevi - Amritsar
6. Prayagraj - Varanasi
7. Mathura-Vrindavan-Barsana
8. Sammedshikhar - Pavapuri - Baidyanath
9. Ujjain - Omkareshwar - Trimbakeshwar (Nashik)
10. Gangasagar (Kolkata)
11. Kamakhya (Guwahati)
12. Haridwar - Rishikesh - Ayodhya
13. Mathura - Ayodhya
14. Bihar Sharif
15. Velkani Church (Tamil Nadu)

- **Air travel:** Senior citizens will be flown by airplane for the pilgrimage to visit Pashupatinath, located in Kathmandu, Nepal.

### Incentive Scheme for Domestic Connections through Pipeline

- **Started:** A joint venture of the Government of Rajasthan and Rajasthan State Gas Limited (RSGL). It will be started in Kota.
- **Objective:** Incentives for those who take new connections of domestic gas through pipelines and promotion of green energy.
- Under this, gas for one month will be provided free of cost to the first 1,000 consumers who have taken connection in Kota city from September 20<sup>th</sup> to October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Scheme/Campaign	Inauguration	
Chief Minister's Employment Festival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Date :</b> 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2024</li> <li>• <b>Location:</b> Jaipur</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointment letters to more than 8 thousand youth.</li> </ul>
Swachhta Hi Sewa Pakhwada		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From September 17<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup></li> <li>• Inauguration of Waste to Art Exhibition</li> </ul>

**HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Project**

- Context: More than 90% work of 10 process units of Rajasthan Refinery Project has been completed.
- It is being set up at Pachpadra in Balotra with 74:26 partnership of HPCL & Rajasthan Government and debt/equity ratio of 2:1.
- Capacity: 9 million tons annual capacity.
- It is a joint venture of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and the Government of Rajasthan.
- State-of-the-art refinery of BS-6 standard
- Petrochemical products other than petrol and diesel
  - By-products - Polypropylene, Butadiene, LLDPE, HDPE, Benzene and Toluene etc.

**National Nutrition Month Campaign**

- National Nutrition Month is being run in Rajasthan from 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September.
- In this, programs like anemia, complementary food, nutrition also studies, technical measures for better governance, environmental protection are being conducted.
- It is being run by the Department of Women and Child Development.
- Rajasthan ranks 8th at the national level in this campaign.
- In this, Churu district is at the 1<sup>st</sup> place in Rajasthan, Ajmer is at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Hanumangarh is at 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

**10 percent increase in grant amount for Gaushalas**

- The grant for cow progeny has been increased by 10% in Gaushalas registered by the Rajasthan government.
- This increase will come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024.
- Under the grant amount, a grant of Rs 44 will be given in place of Rs 40 for big cattle and Rs 22 in place of Rs 20 for small cattle.
- Minister of Gopalan and Animal Husbandry: Shri Joraram Kumawat

**Grant for Cold Storage in Rajasthan**

- A grant of up to Rs 1.40 crore is being given by the Rajasthan government for cold storage.
- This grant is given to the farmer entrepreneur or farmers group for building cold storage.
- Under the National Horticulture Mission Scheme on Cold Storage, there is a provision of grant for construction of cold storage ranging from 250 metric tonnes to a maximum of 5 thousand metric tonnes.
- On the construction of cold storage, the unit cost is calculated from Rs 8,000 per metric ton and a grant of 35 percent of the unit cost or maximum of Rs 1.40 crore is given on a maximum of 5 thousand metric tons.

**Country's first transformer testing lab**

- The country's first transformer testing laboratory will be set up in Manda R IICO Industrial Area (Jaipur) by the National Laboratory of the Union Consumer Affairs Ministry.
- It will check short circuit tests of transformers up to 10 mega volt amp (MVA) capacity.
- This lab will be built in an area of 10,000 square meters.
- For this, a budget of about 84 crores has been approved by the Central Government.
- At present, there are testing labs in Kolkata and Ghaziabad, in which the facility of testing small transformers is available.
- Manda will be the first such lab in the country, in which the equipment of the power and distribution sector will also be tested.

**Rajasthan's first waste-to-energy plant**

- This plant is being set up at Langdiyawas (Jamwaramgarh Road, Jaipur).
- The cost of this plant is 180 crores.
- The project will be completed by March 2025.
- This plant will consume 1000 tonnes of waste per day and generate 12 MW electricity in 1 hour.
- This will generate electricity in the plant for an average of 330 days per year and about 95,000 MW of electricity will be generated from 3.30 lakh tonnes of waste.
- The waste will be processed in this plant to produce Residue Dry Fuel (RDF).
- Using RDF in a boiler, its heat will create steam.
- Electricity will be generated from this steam and steam will turn into water.
- Sewer water will also be used for power generation in this plant.
- At present, Waste to Energy plants are established in Delhi, Hyderabad, Pune and Jabalpur etc.

**The 25th IIFA Awards will be held in Jaipur**

- IIFA's Silver Jubilee event (25th celebration) will be held in Jaipur from 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
- The IIFA Awards show will be held in Jaipur for the first time.
- On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, MoUs were signed on 'Jaipur Host City Agreement Signing Ceremony' in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari.
- It was signed by IIFA Vice President Suresh Iyer and Vijay Pal, Commissioner of Tourism, Government of Rajasthan.
- The awards show will mark the launch of the digital awards for the first time, covering Indian cinema.
- It will cover not just Hindi but Indian cinema.
- Note: The last time 'IIFA 2020' was held in India was in Mumbai

- Benefits: The state will get strengthened in many sectors like employment, investment and tourism.

#### **Inauguration of Sainik School in Jaipur**

- Inauguration: 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- Location: In the Bhawani Niketan Public School campus of Jaipur.
- The school will be operated on a Public Private Partnership model.
- This is the first Sainik School in Jaipur and the third in Rajasthan.
- The central government had announced to set up Sainik schools in Jaipur, Jodhpur, Sikar and Hanumangarh districts in September 2023.
- There are Sainik Schools in Chittorgarh and Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan.
- Note: Land has been allotted by the state government for Sainik School in Haldina village of Malakheda tehsil of Alwar district.

#### **BSF's Raising Day to be held in Jodhpur**

- The BSF Raising Day of the year 2024 will be celebrated in Jodhpur on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024.
- The responsibility of this event has been entrusted to Rajasthan Frontier.
- This is the fourth consecutive time that BSF Raising Day is being celebrated outside the national capital Delhi.

#### **Training of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Rajasthan**

- In Rajasthan, the vocational training of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has started in Jodhpur and Jaipur.
- This initiative has been launched by the National Skill Training Institute (NSTI) to skill the youth in the latest technology.
- The courses have been started from this session at the National Skill Training Institute (NSTI) under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- NSTI so far used to provide training in traditional areas.
- After being trained by NSTI, the candidates themselves become eligible to give training in ITI and other institutions.

#### **India's third indigenous nuclear power reactor commissioned**

- The third nuclear power reactor built with India's indigenous technology has been made operational in Rawatbhatta (Rajasthan).
- "In Rajasthan, controlled nuclear fission has begun for the first 700-megawatt unit of the nuclear power plant."

- That is, criticality controlled nuclear fission process in a reactor has been completed for the first time in this unit.
- It is the 25th nuclear reactor in the India.
- Rawatbhatta's Unit-7 is the third in the series of 16 indigenous 700 MW Pressurised Heavy Water (D2O) reactors being set up in the country.
- This heavy water reactor has been developed by the Department of Atomic Energy.
- The cost of this project is 17 thousand crores.
- There are 24 nuclear power plants in the country with a capacity of 8080 MW.

#### **SMS Stadium Jaipur: Centre for Excellence of Sports to be set up**

- In Rajasthan, under Mission Olympics-2028, the Center for Excellence of Sports will be developed at Sawai Mansingh Stadium, Jaipur.
- Under this, wrestling, boxing, equestrian shooting ranges will be prepared.
- In this, 10 games that will get medals for the players of Rajasthan will be identified.

#### **NSG-1 category status Rajasthan's first railway station**

- The Railway Board has announced new station upgrades for the financial year 2024-25.
- There are 28 highest revenue and passenger load railway stations across the country, which have been ranked in the NSG-1 (Non-Suburban Group) of the top category.
- Jaipur railway station has become the first station in Rajasthan to get NSG-1 status.
- By joining this category, passenger facilities at the station will be expanded.

#### **State's first university certified with ISO**

- Rajasthan University has become the first university in the state to be certified with ISO for better management and innovative processes of environmental protection at the international.
- The current Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan University is Alpna Kateja.

#### **Gandhi Vatika Museum**

- The Gandhi Vatika Museum will be opened to the public by the Rajasthan government from 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2024.
- It is located in Jaipur.
- Gandhi Vatika is the first museum in the country where pictures of Gandhi with holographic technology are installed.
- It will be operated by the Department of Tourism, Art and Culture.
- At present, the Gandhi Vatika is being operated and maintained by JDA.

- Apart from this, Gandhi Vatika Museum will be included in the list of Tourism Department.
- Gandhi Vatika was built to highlight Gandhiji's connection with his biography and Rajasthan.
- It was constructed under the direction of Prashant Kumar (Gandhian and President of Gandhi Peace Foundation Delhi).
- It was launched on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023.
- It is spread over 14500 sqm.
- The previous Gehlot government had created the 'Gandhi Vatika Trust' by passing the Gandhi Vatika Trust Jaipur Act 2023 Bill in the Assembly for the operation and management of Gandhi Vatika.
- This trust has been abolished by the present state government.

#### **Gandhinagar becomes Rajasthan's first covered track station**

- Jaipur's Gandhi Nagar railway station has become the first station in Rajasthan to have a covering above the track.
- Its covering is 70 meters long and 38 meters wide.
- This station will be operated by developing a shopping area, food and game zone in 25 thousand square feet of Roof Plaza with the help of a private firm.
- The entire station will be managed by the private firm in addition to the train operation at the station.
- An expression of interest (EOI) will be issued for this.

#### **Country's first 'Kavach 4.0' track**

- The Sawai Madhopur-Kota railway track has become the first track in the country to be equipped with 'Kavach 4.0'.
- Railways has installed the automatic train protection system Kavach4.0 here.
- The trial of this Kavach 4.0 system was conducted by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Kavach 4.0 is a state-of-the-art security system, which will prove helpful in preventing rail accidents.
- It has been installed in a distance of 108 km between Sawai Madhopur to Kota.
- Under this –
  - If the speed control of the train exceeds the prescribed limit of 2 km per hour, then the armor will sound an over speed alarm.
  - If the speed of the train is more than 5 km per hour, then brakes will be applied automatically.
  - Emergency brakes will be applied when the speed is 9 km per hour.

#### **MNIT Jaipur: First NIT Institute in the country to release its own anthem**

- President Droupadi Murmu attended the MNIT Jaipur's 18th Convocation on 18th September 2024.
- During this, the anthem of MNIT Jaipur was released. It has become the first NIT institute in the country to release its own anthem.

#### **Deomali village of Beawar received the "Best Tourism Village" award**

- On the occasion of Tourism Day, on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024, in New Delhi, the award was given to Pooja Gurjar the Sarpanch of Dev mali village in Masuda subdivision of Beawar district.
- The award was presented by the Department of Tourism of the Government of India.
- The award was received by the then Beawar District Magistrate Utsav Kaushal and Sarpanch of Deomali village Pooja Gurjar.
- Deomali village was given this award in the community based tourism category.
- The Best Tourism Village competition by the Ministry of Tourism recognizes a village that presents the best example of a tourist destination and which preserves the natural resources of culture.

#### **Rajasthan wins first prize in solar energy, & second prize in renewable energy**

- At the fourth Global Renewable Energy Investors Meet held in Gandhinagar (Gujarat) on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024, Rajasthan was awarded the first place in solar power capacity and second place in renewable energy in the country.
- The awards were received by Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma at the hands of Union Minister of New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi.
- Rajasthan ranks first in renewable energy generation in India.
- World's largest solar park: Bhadla Solar Park (Phalodi) (Capacity: 2245 MW)
- In Rajasthan, 28 GW renewable energy projects are generating about 470 crore units of electricity and 32 GW projects are under construction.
- Solar power generation potential in Rajasthan: 142 GW
- Wind Power Generation Potential: 284 GW

#### **Global Renewable Energy Investors Summit & Expo**

- Version: Fourth.
- Event: 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- Inaugurated: By Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Theme: 'Invest Innovate and Inspire'



**'Sujan Jawai Hotel'**

- Sujan Jawai Hotel in Sumerpur in Pali district of Rajasthan has been ranked 43rd in the list of 50 best hotels in the world.
- The list of the 50 best hotels of 2024 was released at the award ceremony in London.
- It is the only hotel in the India to feature in this list.
- It is released by 'The World's 50 Best Hotels' group.
- The list of the world's 50 best hotels is prepared by voting at the international level.

**She Shakti 2024 Award**

- Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar presented the She Shakti 2024 Award to Para Olympic gold medalist Avani Lekhara.
- Avani Lekhara is the only female player from the country to win 2 gold and 1 bronze medal in the Paralympic Games.

**OTS gets recognition for training of civil services**

- Harishchandra Mathur Institute of Public Administration (OTS: Officers' Training School), Jaipur has been granted accreditation by the Capacity Building Commission (CBC) of the India Government for adherence to National Standards for Civil Services Training Institutes.
- This prestigious recognition reflects the Institute's commitment to excellence in public administration.
- The current Director General of OTS is Shreya Guha.
- This has made OTS one of the best civil services training institutes at the national level.

**World's largest cheetah reserve**

- According to the 2023-24 annual report of the National Tiger Conservation Authority, the world's largest cheetah conservation area will be developed from Kuno National Park in Sheopur, Madhya Pradesh, to Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary in Mandasaur via Mukandra Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan.
- It will include forests of 8 districts of Madhya Pradesh, 7 of Rajasthan and 2 districts of UP.



<b>7 districts of Rajasthan</b>	Baran, Karauli, Kota, Jhalawar, Bundi, Chittorgarh and Sawai Madhopur
<b>8 districts of Madhya Pradesh</b>	Sheopur, Shivpuri, Gwalior, Morena, Guna, Ashoknagar, Mandasaur and Neemuch
<b>2 districts of Uttar Pradesh</b>	Jhansi and Lalitpur

- Cheetah corridor will also be developed between Kuno to Gandhi Sagar in Madhya Pradesh in the next 5 years.
- Capacity will be developed to manage population of 70 cheetah in the area from Kuno National Park to Gandhisagar Sanctuary.

**Global Tiger Forum to take over tiger conservation in Sariska**

- The new plan for conservation of tigers in the next 10 years in Sariska Tiger Reserve will be undertaken by the Global Tiger Forum (GTF).
- A target has been set to increase more than 100 tigers in Sariska in the next 10 years.
- Separate provisions will be made for core, buffer, eco sensitive zone under GTF.

**Global Tiger Forum (GTF)**

- It is an international intergovernmental body, established exclusively for the conservation of wild tigers in range countries.
- Currently 7 out of 13 tiger range countries are members of GTF.
- Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Vietnam.

**Coal India launches joint venture for renewable energy in Rajasthan**

- Coal India Limited (CIL) has entered into a Joint Venture (JV) agreement with Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RRVUNL) for renewable energy in Rajasthan.
- CIL will hold 74 per cent stake in the joint venture, while RRVUNL will hold 26 per cent.
- It will have the right to appoint four executive directors in the joint venture, while RRVUNL will have the right to appoint two executive directors.
- This Joint Venture Company shall be set up as a Private Limited Company with an initial paid-up share capital of Rs. 10 lakhs.

**Solar Power Project of NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd.**

- On 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024, NTPC Renewable Energy Limited's 160 MW solar power project was inaugurated in Bhisada village of Jaisalmer.
- Apart from this, an agreement was signed between NTPC Green Energy Limited and Rajasthan Power Generation Corporation for the establishment of a joint venture company.

**Land allotment for solar energy and wind-solar hybrid projects approved**

- In order to increase power generation in Rajasthan, approvals were accorded for allotment of 10,418 hectares of land for 5,708 MW of solar and wind-solar hybrid projects.

**Solar Power Project**

- A 2000 MW solar power project based on crystalline technology will be set up in village Bodan of Nachna-1 subdivision tehsil of Jaisalmer district,.
- A 1500 MW solar power project based on crystalline technology with tracker will be set up in village Mohangarh of Mohangarh number 1 subdivision tehsil of Jaisalmer district .
- Village Poha d of Tehsil Mohangarh No-2 of Jaisalmer district (1,500 MW) (Based on Crystalline Technology with Tracker)
- 1,000 MW in Village Siambar in Tehsil Ramgarh of Jaisalmer district.
- 1,100 MW in Jaisalmer.

**Wind- Solar Hybrid Project**

- 108 MW in Phalodi

**Approval of proposals of three Joint Venture Companies to increase power generation**

- The MoU was signed between the Central Public Sector Companies and the Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 in Rajasthan .
  - Objective: To meet the future power demand in Rajasthan.
  - Approval of proposals for formation of three Joint Venture Companies-
- 1. NLC India Limited and Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam (RVUN)**
    - For lignite based project.
    - These include setting up of 3,125 MW lignite based thermal power station
  - 2. NLC India Renewable Limited and Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam (RVUN)**
    - For renewable energy projects.
    - Setting up Solar Power Project of 2,000 MW
  - 3. NTPC and Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam (RVUN)**
    - Additional electric thermal units of 660 and 800 MW capacity will be set up at Chhabra Thermal Power Plant.
    - The shareholding of NLC India Limited and NLC India Renewable Limited will be 74% and that of Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam will be 26%.
    - NTPC and RVUN will hold 50% shareholding each.

**MoU between Department of Medicine and CIFF**

- The MoU was signed between the Department of Medical, Health and Family Welfare of Rajasthan and the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Objective: To further strengthen maternal and child health services.

**Benefit :**

- Technical cooperation in improving maternal and child health services.
- Promotion of family planning programme.
- Ease of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals related to maternal and child health.
- Better treatment options for pregnant women with anemia.
- Improving the quality of life of women and children.

**Color N Design signs MoU with Rajasthan Chamber**

- To promote renewable energy in Rajasthan, Color N Design signed an MoU with the Rajasthan Chamber of Commerce on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Under this, both institutions will run an awareness campaign in the context of renewable energy.
- Colour in Design will organize camps in major cities of Rajasthan called Harit India.
- In these, the public will be made aware of government schemes of renewable energy.
- President of Rajasthan Chamber: Dr. K. L. Jain

**Squadron Leader Mohana Singh of Rajasthan is the first woman fighter pilot to fly 'Tejas'.**

- Squadron Leader Mohana Singh of Rajasthan has become the first woman fighter pilot to fly 'Tejas'.
- Mohana Singh recently flew Tejas fighter aircraft during the 'Tarang Shakti' exercise in Jodhpur.
- Mohana belongs to Papada village of Udaipurwati in Jhunjhunu.
- She has joined the '18 Flying Bullets' squadron flying Tejas .
- Mohana Singh became the first woman fighter pilot of the India in the year 2016 along with Bhawana Kant and Avani Chaturvedi.

**Neeta Upadhyay receives National Earth Award**

- Neeta Upadhyay, chairperson of Jaipur-based Orion Greens, was awarded the National Earth Award for her outstanding work in the field of environmental protection.
- The award was given by the Ministry of Environment and ESG Research Foundation in Delhi.
- Through this institution , awareness is being created in the context of environmental protection in the whole India for almost 20 years.

**Hiranand Kataria**

- He has recently been appointed as the observer in the 10th Senior Asian Wushu Competition.
- Hiranand Kataria is currently the Vice President of the Wushu Association of India and President of the Rajasthan Wushu Association.
- The 10th Senior Asian Wushu Competition will be held in Macau.

**Radhe Lal Sharma receives National Florence Nightingale Award**

- President Droupadi Murmu presented the National Florence Nightingale Awards for the year 2024 to nursing professionals on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Among the 15 nursing professionals selected from across the country, Radhey Lal Sharma from Rajasthan, Senior Nursing Officer, Trauma Centre, Sawai Man Singh Hospital, Jaipur was awarded the National Florence Nightingale Award 2024 by the President in the Clinical Nurse category.

**Riya Singha crowned Miss Universe India**

- The 'Miss Universe India' competition was held in Jaipur (Rajasthan).
- In this, 19-year-old Riya Singha of Ahmedabad (Gujarat) became 'Miss Universe India 2024'.
- Pranjal Priya from Maharashtra was the first runner-up and Chhavi from Rajasthan was the second runner-up.
- Rhea Singha will represent India at the global Miss Universe pageant in Mexico.
- Note: India's Harnaaz Sandhu won the 'Miss Universe' title in the year 2021.

**Rajendra Singh**

- Rajendra Singh took charge as the secretary of the Rajasthan State Sports Council on 30 September 2024.
- He is a 2015 batch Rajasthan Administrative Service (RAS) officer.
- Rajasthan State Sports Council is located at Sawai Mansingh Stadium, Jaipur.

**Rajasthan State Sports Council**

- It is a registered society under the Rajasthan Societies Registration Act, 1958.
- It is the apex body for development of sports in Rajasthan under the control of the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- Patron of Rajasthan State Sports Council: Governor of The State.
- Deputy Patron of the Council: Chief Minister of the State
- The Chairman of the Council is the Chief Executive.

- Apart from this, the council consists of vice-president, treasurer and more than 12 members nominated by the state government while 6 officers are its ex-officio members.
- First Chairman of the Council: Shri V Kanetkar
- Current Chairman of the Council: Neeraj K. Pawan

**Awards given by State Sports Council**

- "Maharana Pratap Award" (to sportspersons for outstanding achievements at national and international level)
- "Vashishta Award" (to coaches of sportspersons who have brought laurels to the state at national and international level)

**Suresh Upadhyay**

- Suresh Upadhyay has been elected as the President of Rajasthan Durbal Association.
- Apart from this, Awadhesh Sedawat was appointed as Senior Vice President.
- Note: The World Cup 2024 of Durbal will be held in Baghdad, Iran..

**Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Jayanti**

- It is celebrated every year on 25th September as Antyodaya Day in India.
- In the year 2014, On the occasion of Pt Upadhyaya's birth anniversary the Indian government decided to celebrate Antyodaya Diwas to honour his contribution to the upliftment of people.
- Upadhyaya's 'Antyodaya' refers to the upliftment of the last man standing in the society.
- Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was born on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1916 in Dhankya, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- His native village was Nagla Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.
- In 1952, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was made the General Secretary of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh.
- He died on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 1968 in New Delhi.

**Suryakanta Vyasa**

- Senior BJP leader and former MLA Suryakanta Vyas died on September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Suryakanta Vyas is popularly known as 'Jiji'.
- She contested the MLA election seven times since 1990 and won 6 of them.
- She was a three-time MLA from Jodhpur and Sursagar.
- She became MLA for the first time in the year 1990.

**Ramesh Singh**

- He was a former legendary footballer and famous referee of Rajasthan.

- He passed away on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 at the age of 87.
- Ramesh Singh used to play for United Club and Union Club.

**Kaka Sunderlal**

- He died on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- He has been a Cabinet Minister of Rajasthan twice, Minister of State and Parliamentary Secretary once.
- He has been MLA 5 times from Surajgarh and 2 times from Pilani.

**Successful field trial of indigenous 'Zorawar' tank in Rajasthan**

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test-fired the indigenously built light weight Zorawar tank in the desert region of Jaisalmer on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- The tank has been developed by the Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment, a unit of the Defence Research and Development Organisation, in collaboration with Larsen & Toubro Ltd.
- It weighs 25 tons.
- It is capable of deployment in high altitude areas and is being prepared primarily for rapid deployment along the border with China.
- These tanks can be taken to the deployment sites through the C-17 Globe Master of the Indian Air Force.
- Zorawar tank is able to move fast in hilly terrain (due to low weight).
- It will replace ,72-T T-90 tanks in mountainous areas.
- It will be inducted into the Indian Army by the year 2027.
- Its manufacturing facility is at the L&T plant in Hazira (near Surat, Gujarat).

**The first squadron of Tejas Mark-1A will be formed in Bikaner**

- Tejas Mark-1A is the country's first indigenous supersonic fighter aircraft.
- Its first squadron will be stationed at Nal Air Force Station in Bikaner, which will replace the current MiG-21 Bison.
- Tejas Mark-1A made the first successful flight on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
- Tejas Mark-1A, manufactured by Bengaluru-based Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), is a jet of 4.5 generation of fighter aircraft.
- Note: The Indian Air Force has already placed orders for the purchase of 83 Tejas Mark-1A.
- At present, the IAF has two squadrons of Tejas Mark-1, which has 40 aircraft. The first is 45 Squadron "The Flying Daggers" and the second

Squadron "Bullets". Both are located at Sullur airbase in Tamil Nadu.

**AshwaBot**

- It is a horse-like robot, developed by Phalodi-based defence start-up 'Deftech and Green India Private Limited (DGPL)'.
- The AshwaBot is a low-level autonomy robot, designed for the military.
- The AshwaBot can carry up to 100 kg of weapons, missiles, medicines and other material up to 20 kilometers.
- Defence laboratory DRDO, Jodhpur has also offered to install a special sensor in AshwaBot so that military material can be transported by AshwaBot at the time of threat of nuclear radiation, chemical and biological attack.

**Features of AshwaBot**

- 7 Highresolution cameras.
- Light Detecting and Ranging Sensor.
- There is an AI-powered technology including ultrasonic sensors that run on four wheels.
- Capable of walking up to 20 km at a speed of 10 kmph.
- It can be opened only with OTP after programming.
- Cost: Around Rs 70 lakh.

**'Arjun'**

- 'Arjun' is a trained eagle of the Indian Army.
- 'Arjun' is useful for surveillance for the Indian Army.
- It has a camera on its head and a GPS chip on its back, so that it is capable of giving accurate live information of the enemies.
- **Note:** "War Practice" is being organized between India and United States America at Mahajan Field Firing Range in Bikaner.

**Defence Aviation Expo 2024**

- It was organized in Jodhpur, Rajasthan from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- It was inaugurated by the country's Defense Minister Rajnath Singh on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- **Note:** **Tarnag shakti exercise** 2024 is a multilateral exercise of the Indian Air Force which has been conducted for the first time in the country. Its second phase was organized in Jodhpur from 1<sup>st</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

**Cabinet sub-committee constituted to review new districts**

- Madan Dilawar has been made the chairman of the cabinet subcommittee constituted to review the newly constituted 17 districts and three divisions.

- He replaced Dudu MLA and Deputy Chief Minister Premchand Bairwa.
- The Lalit K. Panwar Committee, constituted to review the new districts, gave a detailed report to the state government on several points including population, area.
- The meeting of this committee was held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- **Sub Committee Members**
  - Rajyavardhan Rathore (Minister of Industry)
  - Kanhaiyalal (Water Supply Minister)
  - Hemant Meena (Minister of Revenue)
  - Suresh Singh Rawat (Minister of Water Resources)
- Additional Chief Secretary and Secretary of the Revenue Department will also be members of the subcommittee.
- This committee will review and report on the new districts and divisions formed during the Gehlot government.

#### First state to conduct on-demand exam

- Rajasthan will be the first state in the country where the On Demand Examination (ODE) will be conducted.
- State Open School was started in 2005.
- Now under this system, the student will be able to take the examination every month.
- Note: Currently, the 10th and 12th exams are conducted between March to May and October to November.
- The concept of On Demand Examination ( ODE) is an important step in open and distance learning.
- The On Demand Examination System was first introduced by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) .

#### 'Operation Anti-Virus'

- Context: Operation Anti Virus will be implemented across Rajasthan.
- To take action on cyber thugs of Mewat and curb cyber crimes, Bharatpur Range IG Rahul Prakash started Operation Anti Virus on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024 in Deeg district.
- There will be a nodal officer in all districts for implementation in the entire state.
- These nodal officers have been given training at the Rajasthan Police Academy.
- In this, the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Center ( I4C) takes information about the active numbers of cyber thugs from the portal.
- After this, teams formed make raids and catch the thugs according to the location.

#### 'One city, one body'

- The Rajasthan government has recently announced to implement 'One City One Body ' on the lines of 'One State One Election' in the state.
- Under this , two corporations of Jaipur, Jodhpur and Kota will be reunited in the state.
- **Note:** In the Rajasthan Changed Budget 2024-25, 2 new municipal corporations were announced in Pali and Bhilwara .
- **Note:** Earlier, the state government had announced the formation of a municipal corporation in Alwar as well.
- If 'one city one body ' is implemented then the number of municipal corporations in Rajasthan will be 10.

#### Rajasthan Domestic Travel Mart (RDTM)

- The fourth edition is being held in Jaipur on September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The event will be held under the joint aegis of Federation of Hospitality and Tourism of Rajasthan ( FHTR) and Rajasthan Tourism Department.
- Its theme is 'Wedding, Incentives, Conference and Event'.
- More than 200 stalls and more than 600 heritage hotels will be promoted in this mart .
- The Mart will include various travel planners, tour operators, travel agents, hoteliers, event planners, wedding planners , meetings, incentives, conference and exhibition ( MICE) organizers and tourism stakeholders.

#### Jaipur' s RUHS to be developed as RIMS

- The hospital affiliated to Rajasthan University of Health Sciences ( RUHS) will be developed as Rajasthan Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) on the lines of AIIMS.
- It will be developed at a cost of Rs 750 crore.

#### TiE Smashup

- Conducted by: TiE Rajasthan in collaboration with Department of Information Technology (DoIT), Government of Rajasthan and i-START.
- When: 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 (2 days).
- Version: 8th
- Theme: 'Speed Dating with Startups'
- Under this, ideas were presented to investors by various startups.
- 41 startups were selected in this competition , out of which 26 startups are from Rajasthan.
- The winning startups will be given incentives under the state government's i-Start project and from TiE Rajasthan.
- President of TiE Rajasthan: Dr. Shinu Jhanwar

**AI based Employability Assessment & Career Guidance Services**

- This initiative has been launched by Rajasthan Knowledge Corporation Limited ( RKCL) in collaboration with startup Edubuild Technology for career guidance of the youth of the state.
- Through this Artificial Intelligence ( AI) based service, the youth of the state can assess their talent and get career guidance.
- This facility is available in both Hindi and English mediums.
- This service is available at all IT Knowledge Centres of RKCL.

**Rajasthan Sanskrit Sahitya Sammelan**

- It was organized at Rajasthan Teacher Training Vidyapeeth Shahpura (Jaipur -Rural) on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- The following personalities were given the Sanskrit Sudhi Award in this conference:
  - Prof. Ved Prakash Sharma (Retired Professor, National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur)
  - Dr. Mandan Sharma (Former Director Sanskrit Education)
  - Pandit Sanwermal Sharma (Former Acharya Sanskrit Shiksha)
  - Pro. Madhureshwar Pareek ( Former Acharya Rajasthan University)
  - Pro. Vinay Sharma ( Former Acharya Pareek Mahavidyalaya)
  - Pt. Chandrashekhar Sharma
  - Pro. Janki Ballabh Sharma (Former Professor of Sanskrit Education)

**Master plan and draft new cities in Rajasthan will be made on the basis of tender**

- Master plans of 12 cities in Rajasthan will be prepared on the basis of tenders.
- These include Deedwana , Anupgarh, Pilibanga, Tijara, Shahpura, Bari, Deeg, Phalodi, Abu Road, Anta, Pratapgarh besides Jaipur.
- Apart from this, a draft will also be prepared for 38 newly formed cities of the state.

**Master Plan**

- The master plan is the policy document for the development of the city.
- This includes a comprehensive plan for the development of the entire city. For example , in which area of the city the land use will be residential, institutional, commercial.
- From road network to transport , entertainment, housing, a blueprint is drawn.
- There is a plan for area-wise development.
- Space is reserved for public convenience.

- For the conservation of ecological , greenery and hilly area. Oxygen is to be developed in every area.

**Rajasthan in the context of National Highway**

- Maharashtra ranks first in terms of length of National Highways.
- After this, Uttar Pradesh is at the second place.
- Rajasthan ranks third in this context.

**'Recycle' and 'Jaipur 311' App**

- This is an initiative of the Jaipur district administration.
- 'Recycle App: On receipt of information by the Municipal Corporation through this, dry waste will now be collected category-wise from home.
- Jaipur 311 App: Through this, corporation related problems will be resolved.

**Rajasthan to get 2 new Vande Bharat trains**

- Two new Vande Bharat trains will be operated in Rajasthan in November 2024.
  1. Jodhpur to Delhi (via Jaipur)
  2. Delhi to Bikaner (via Churu- Ratangarh)
- The following 4 Vande Bharat trains are currently operating from Rajasthan-
  1. Jaipur-Udaipur-Jaipur.
  2. Ajmer-Delhi-Ajmer (via Jaipur).
  3. Bhagat's Kothi-Sabarmati-Bhagat's Kothi.
  4. Udaipur-Agra Cantt-Udaipur.
- After the operation of these trains, Jaipur will be the only station in Rajasthan from where three Vande India trains will pass.
- Note: 55 Vande Bharat trains are currently operating in the country.
- The sleeper variant of the Vande India train will also be launched by December 2024.

**Prorogation of Second Session of 16th Assembly**

- Governor Haribhau Kishanrao Bagde prorogued the second session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Assembly on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.
- **Note:** In this context, the Assembly Secretariat issued its notification.
- The second session of the Assembly was held from July 3<sup>rd</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup> .
- The budget session of the Rajasthan Assembly began on July 3<sup>rd</sup> .

**Constitutional Provisions**

- At the state level, the session is called by the Governor on the recommendation of the State Council of Ministers.
- Under Article 174, the Governor summons the session of the state legislature , prorogues it and can also dissolve the Assembly.

- Article 175 enumerates the right of the Governor to address and to send messages to the Legislature.
- Article 176 mentions the special address of the Governor.

- Shishant Sharma is working in Police Commissionerate, Jaipur.

#### State Legislature Secretariat Recruitment and Modification in Service Conditions

- The Rajasthan government has reduced the maximum age for the post of Principal Secretary of the Legislative Assembly from 70 years to 65 years.
- For this, the Department of Parliamentary Affairs has amended the Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha Secretariat Recruitment and Conditions of Service Rules 1992 .
- Principal Secretary of present Rajasthan Legislative Assembly: Shri Mahavir Sharma
- Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha Speaker: Shri Vasudev Devnani

#### Minimum age and minimum experience period for accreditation of independent journalists

- Implementing the state budget announcement for the year 2024-25, the Rajasthan Press Representative Authorization Rules 1995 have been amended and the minimum age for the authorization of independent journalists has been reduced from 50 years to 45 years.
- Minimum journalistic experience has been reduced from 25 years to 15 years.

#### Swati Dudhwal won 3 gold medals

- Swati Dudhwal won 3 gold medals in the state level senior archery competition .
- Sikar's Swati won the gold medal in the singles event.
- In the mixed team event, Rajat Chauhan won the gold medal.
- In the team event, the Sikar team comprising Swati, Supyar, Shivani and Neelam Jakhar defeated Jaipur in the finals to clinch the title gold.

#### Shishant Sharma won silver medal in weightlifting

- Shishant Sharma of Rajasthan Police won the silver medal in the 83 kg weight category in the first All India Weightlifting Cluster (Weightlifting, Yoga and Power Lifting) Competition.
- It was organized under the aegis of All India Police Control Board, New Delhi and Chhattisgarh Police.
- Shishant Sharma, a resident of Bharatpur , lifted a total of 632.5 kg, including 235 kg in squats, 127.5 kg in benchpress, 270 kg in deadlit.

#### Ayan, Yuvan and Gauravi become champions in squash championship

- Ayan Kuchhal, Yuvan Verma and Gauravi Ajmera won their respective age group titles at the concluded DSI Open Squash Championships in Bengaluru.
- In the boys' U-17 age group, Ayan Kuchhal defeated Aryaman Singh of Karnataka by 10-12, 13-11, 11-6, 12-14, 11-3 to clinch the title.
- Both the U-9 age group boys and girls titles were won by Rajasthan players.
  - In the boys category, Yuvan Verma beat Ayaansh Kolte by 11-4, 8-11, 11-6, 15-13 .
  - In the girls' category, Gauravi Ajmera defeated Karnataka's Nadia Ippe by 11-0, 11-5, 11-0 to win the title.

#### 43rd Sub Junior National Ball Badminton Championship

- Event: Rohtak (Haryana) .
- Conducted by: Ball Badminton Federation of India.
- Both boys and girls teams of Rajasthan participated in this competition.
- Boys Captain: Harshit Jangid
- And Girls category captain: Saloni.
- President of State Ball Badminton Association: Dr. Rajpal Sharma

#### Senior Women's Football Championship

- The Senior Women's Football Championship will be held from October 6<sup>th</sup> to October 17<sup>th</sup> at the newly built Turf Football Ground in Jaipur.
- This is the first time that Rajasthan has got to host the Senior Women's Football Championship.
- President of Rajasthan Football Association: Col. Manvendra Singh Jasol
- President Jasol nominated Roshni Tank as the new chairperson of Rajasthan Women's Wing and Pratibha Meena as Vice Chairperson.

#### 33rd Senior National (Men/Women) Wushu Championship

- Event: In Dehradun (Uttarakhand).
- In this, Rajasthan Wushu team performed brilliantly and won 18 medals including 6 gold, 6 silver and 6 bronze.
- Rajasthan secured the trophy by winning the first place and bagged 8 medals including 4 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze in the Sanshou category.
- In the palatte category , Rajasthan won 10 medals including 2 gold, 4 silver and 4 bronze.

- **Gold Medal:** Aman Pareek , Isha Gurjar , Nitika Bansal, Mehak Sharma , Gaurang Saini , Keshika Joshi.
- **Silver Medal:** Shubham Gora , Payal Saran, Divya Chaudhary, Kishan Kumar, Manoj Chittauria, Rohit Teji.
- **Bronze medals:** Devraj Singh , Divya Yadav, Divya Chaudhary, Neelam Chaudhary (3 bronze medals).
- President of Rajasthan Wushu Association: Hiranand Kataria

**National School Games Federation of India Under 17 Chess Championship**

- Event: Kota (Rajasthan) .
- Winner in Boys category: Anuj Chaumal (Jaipur)
- Winner in Girls category: Ashi Upadhyay (Jaipur)

**57th Inter Railway Shooting Championship**

- Events: At the Shooting Range in Jaipur.
- When: From 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Conducted by: Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB).
- Launch: Ravneet Singh Bittu (Minister of State for Railways, Food Processing, Industries) .
- It will have 10m air rifle , 10m air pistol , 25m sports pistol, 50m prone rifle and 3 position rifle.
- About 120 players from 17 teams including Paris Olympics bronze medalist Swapnil Kusale, fourth place Arjun Babuta, players of Asiad, Commonwealth Games level will participate in this competition.

**IFMA Youth World Championships 2024**

- When: 11<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- Event: In Bangkok, Thailand.
- In Muaythai, Indian players won 15 medals.
- Rajasthan players won 5 medals.

**Sanskar Saraswat**

- Rajasthan's Sanskar Saraswat has won the Under-19 singles title in the All India Junior Ranking Badminton Tournament held in Panchkula.
- Sanskar was the runner-up in the U-19 doubles category.

**Subhash Chaudhary won gold in squash**

- Jaipur's Subhash Chaudhary won the gold medal in the Under 19 category at the 7th NSCI SKUCCII Super Clinic Open Squash Championship held in Mumbai.
- Subhash defeated Meiyappan L of Tamil Nadu 11-8, 11-5, 7-11, 12-10 in the final.

**Yug Chellaney**

- In the 77th Senior Swimming Championship held in Karnataka, Rajasthan's Yug Chellaney won the gold medal in the 400 m category on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024. He won the gold medal in Individual category.
- Yug became the first player from Rajasthan to win a gold medal in the Senior Swimming Championship.
- Earlier, Yug won the bronze medal in the 200m event at this championship on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024 .
- President of Rajasthan Swimming Association: Anil Vyas

**Siddharth Chaudhary**

- In the South Asian Junior Athletics Championships, Siddharth Chaudhary (Jaipur , Rajasthan) won the gold medal with a shot put of 19.19 meters in the shot put event .
- The South Asian Junior Athletics Championships were held in Chennai.
- In this event, Anurag Singh Kaler won Silver medal with the 18.91 m throw and Jayavi Ranidha of Sri Lanka won bronze medal with 15.61 meters Shot put.

**State Food Safety Index 2023-24**

- Issuer: Issued by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), New Delhi.
- **Top 5 States**
  1. Kerala
  2. Tamil Nadu
  3. Jammu & Kashmir
  4. Gujarat
  5. Punjab
- Rajasthan ranks sixth in the country in this index. (Was ranked 18th in 2020-21)
- Rajasthan has got 54.75 marks out of a total of 100.
- Rajasthan ranks first in the country in terms of taking food samples.
- Rajasthan got the highest score of 24 in Structure and Surveillance .
- Parameters of the index
  - Human Resources
  - Compliances
  - Food Testing Infra
  - Structure & Surveillance
  - Training-Capacity Building
  - Consumer Empowerment

**Hurun India Under 35 Entrepreneurs List**

- Hurun India has released the Under 35 Entrepreneurs list focused on Indian entrepreneurs for the first time .



- It includes 150 entrepreneurs aged 35 and under, whose businesses are valued at minimum \$ 50 million (Rs 415 crore) and they are future business leaders.
- The list is topped by ShareChat founder Ankush Sachdeva (31-year) and is also the youngest entrepreneur.
- Nitish Sharda of Smartworks stood at the second place. And Akshit Jain of GoldMedal Electricals is at the third place.
- The list also includes Vaibhav Khandelwal of Jaipur, Lalchand Bishoo and Sachin Agarwal of Sikar.
- There are a total of 7 women in this list.
- Parita Parekh, the founder of teaching and learning platform Toddle among women, is the youngest entrepreneur (32 years).
- Unacademy's Roman Saini and Himesh Singh have the most followers (10.95 lakhs).
- There are 123 self-made entrepreneurs in this list. Their share in the list is 82%.
- All these entrepreneurs are from 41 cities of the country. The highest number of entrepreneurs are from Bengaluru (29).

**Rajasthan ranks 6th nationally in implementation of nutrition programme**

- Rajasthan ranks sixth in the country on the basis of activities being carried out under the nutrition program.
- National Nutrition Month is celebrated every year in the month of September.
- Women and Child Development Secretary of Rajasthan: Shri Mahendra Soni.

**POSHAN Abhiyaan (Earlier- National Nutrition Mission)**

- It was launched on 8th March, 2018.
- It was launched to improve the nutritional status of children 0-6 years, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers in a time bound manner and reduce stunting and malnutrition in children (0-6 years) as well as anemia among women, children and adolescent girls.
- Its key components include use of technology, behaviour change communication through convergence and mass movement.
- Under this, nutrition gardens or nutri-gardens are being established across the country to provide proper nutrition.
- POSHAN Abhiyaan has now been launched as part of the Mission Saksham, Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 with Anganwadi services and revised scheme for adolescent girls.

**Vasudev Devnani's report on reforms in RPSC**

- In August 2024, the state government had asked Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani to study the Haryana Public Service Commission from a constitutional perspective.
- The Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC) will be reconstituted by the Rajasthan government.
- The number of members in RPSC will also be increased on the lines of Haryana Public Service Commission.
- Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani has recommended doubling the number of members in RPSC in the report submitted to the CM.
- Apart from this, the selection of chairman and members has been recommended on the lines of UPSC on the basis of merit.
- At present, there are 7 posts of members in the commission besides the chairman. One of these posts is vacant while Babulal Katara is suspended.
- The tenure of Kailash Chand Meena, Sangeeta Arya and Manju Sharma is till 2026, while Kesari Singh Rathore and Ayub Khan will be in office till 2029.
- Of these, Kailash Chand Meena is the senior-most and is currently the acting chairman of RPSC.

**Ozone Report of Central Pollution Control Board**

- According to the Central Pollution Control Board, according to the data from March 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, Jodhpur is the most polluted among the big cities in terms of ozone pollution.
- Jhunjhunu ranks first among small cities in terms of ozone pollution. Jhunjhunu had 84 days of pollution.

Most polluted districts		Districts with least pollution	
District	Day period of 24 hour	District	Day period of 24 hour
Jhunjhunu	84	Alwar	0
Banswara	69	Nagaur	0
Chittorgarh	61	Bhiwadi	0
Churu	56	Jaisalmer	1
Barmer	50	Hanumangarh	1

- The United Nations started World Ozone Conservation Day in the year 1994 for the protection of the ozone layer located in the stratosphere (A layer located between 16 to 50 km above the Earth's surface).
- It is celebrated annually on 16<sup>th</sup> September.
- The ozone layer protects the earth from ultra-violet rays coming from the Sun.

## 2. National Scenario

### Polity and Governance

#### Approval for constitution of 23<sup>rd</sup> Law Commission

- **Declaration:** 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2024
- **Notification:** Issued by the Union Ministry of Law and Justice.
- **Tenure:** 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2027 (3 Years)
- The Law Commission has been tasked with examining existing laws, reforms and suggesting ways for reforms in the light of the Directive Principles of State Policy.
- The main objective of the Commission is to suggest such laws which can fulfill the objectives set out in the Preamble of the Constitution.

#### Composition of the Commission:

- A president
- Four full-time members
- Ex-officio Member: Secretary of Department of Legal Affairs and Legislative Department
- Five part-time members
- Chairperson and whole-time members: shall be serving judges of the Supreme Court or High Courts.

#### Law Commission

- The Law Commission is a non-statutory body constituted by notification of the Ministry of Law and Justice.
- Its recommendations are advisory which the Government is not bound to accept.
- The first Law Commission was set up in 1834 under the chairmanship of Lord Thomas Babington Macaulay.
- The 22<sup>nd</sup> Law Commission was headed by former Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court Ritu Raj Awasthi.
- The Law Commission has so far submitted 277 reports, but its recommendations are not binding on the Government.

#### Flag and Insignia of the Supreme Court

- President Droupadi Murmu unveiled the flag and insignia of the Supreme Court on September 1<sup>st</sup> to commemorate 75 years of the establishment of the Supreme Court.
- **Flag:** The flag of the Supreme Court has a Sanskrit verse inscribed: 'Yato dharmastato jaih', which means "Where there is righteousness, there is victory. This verse has been taken from Bhishma Parva: Chapter 21: Verse 11 of Mahabharata.

- **Logo:** Painted in dark blue, the Supreme Court logo has the image of the Supreme Court building at the centre, over which the Ashok Chakra is situated. The symbol is inspired by the Lion Pillar of Sarnath, the Ashoka Pillar, which was built by the Mauryan Emperor Ashoka in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC.
- **Ashoka Chakra:** The Ashoka Chakra, inscribed on the Indian flag, represents the Dharmachakra or the "Wheel of Law".

#### 'One Nation, One Election' proposal approved

- **Approval:** September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- **Panel:** High-level committee headed by former President Ram Nath Kovind

#### Key recommendations:

- In the first phase, it was recommended to hold simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and the state assemblies.
- Municipal and Panchayat elections proposed to be held within 100 days.
- Two constitutional amendment bills proposed:
  1. A Bill will provide for simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies (without requiring the consent of the states).
  2. The second Bill seeks to hold Lok Sabha election and state legislative assemblies elections and local elections, within 100 days (for which the consent of half the states will be required).
- It recommended 15 amendments to the Constitution.
- A new Article 82A will be added, according to which the state legislatures elected in general elections held after the 'due date' shall cease to be at the end of the term of the Lok Sabha, irrespective of whether they have completed their five-year term or not.
- The government will initiate detailed discussion on this proposal across the country and an implementation group will be formed to implement it.
- During 1951-1967, simultaneous elections were held in the country.
- The 170<sup>th</sup> Report of the Law Commission (1999) suggested holding simultaneous elections to one Lok Sabha and all the Legislative Assemblies in five years.
- The 79<sup>th</sup> report (2015) of the parliamentary committee suggested holding elections in two phases.

**Supreme Court's directive on preventive detention**

- On September 12<sup>th</sup>, the Supreme Court gave important directions in the context of preventive detention in the case of Jaseela Shaji vs India Union and others, 2024.
- The Supreme Court directed that it would be mandatory for persons under preventive detention to submit documents related to the reasons for detention.
- A bench headed by Justice Bhushan R Gavai strengthened the constitutional guarantee of personal liberty by this judgment and emphasised the importance of giving a fair opportunity under Article 22(5) of the Constitution to a person in preventive detention.

- The bench said the right of a detenu to be heard is a constitutional right which cannot be violated.
- The case pertained to a preventive detention order under the COFEPOSA Act (1974), which was upheld by the Kerala High Court in March, 2024.

**Constitutional Provisions of Preventive Detention**

- **Article 22(5):** Officers seeking detention to be given an opportunity to state grounds of detention and to oppose detention orders.
- **Article 22(3):** A person arrested under preventive detention laws will not get the benefit of the protection provided in Articles 22(1) and 22(2).
- **Preventive detention can be done on four grounds:**
  - The country's security,
  - Protection of Public Order,
  - Protect essential services and supplies,
  - Protection of foreign affairs or India.

## 3. Economic Scenario

### PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) Scheme

- The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Heavy Industries for implementation of 'PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM e-DRIVE) Scheme' to promote electric mobility in the country.

- The scheme involves an outlay of Rs 10,900 crore over a period of two years.

#### Major Components of the Scheme:

- Subsidy/demand incentives worth Rs 3,679 crore have been provided for e-2Ws and e-3Ws (two-wheelers and three-wheelers), e-ambulances, e-trucks and other new electric vehicles (EVs).
- 24.79 lakh e-2Ws, 3.16 lakh e-3Ws and 14,028 e-buses will be supported under the scheme.

### E-Voucher

- E-vouchers will be provided for electric vehicle buyers under the Ministry of Heavy Industries.
- The buyer will be sent an Aadhaar authenticated e-voucher to their registered mobile number, which he/she will hand over to the dealer at the time of EV purchase.
- The e-voucher will be signed by both the buyer and the dealer and will be uploaded on the PM e-Drive portal.

### PM-e-Bus Sewa-Payment Security Mechanism (PSM) Scheme

The Union Cabinet has approved the "PM-eBus Sewa-Payment Security Mechanism (PSM) Scheme.

- The scheme will be implemented by the Union Ministry of Heavy Industries.
- It aims to provide assistance to Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) in procuring and operating electric buses (e-buses).
- The financial outlay of the scheme is ₹3,435.33 crore.
- More than 38,000 e-buses will be deployed under this scheme from 2024-25 to 2028-29.
- The e-buses will receive operation support for 12 years from the date of their deployment.
- Currently, many public transport authorities depend on diesel or CNG buses, which cause environmental pollution. In contrast, e-buses provide a clean alternative with lower operational costs.
- This scheme has been brought in to solve the problem of high initial expenditure and low revenue in the purchase of e-buses.

- The PM-e-Bus service scheme ensures timely payment through a dedicated fund.
- If any public transport authorities default in payment, the implementing agency Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL) will cover the payment using funds from the scheme.

### Union Cabinet approves 'Mission Mausam'

- The Union Cabinet has approved the launch of 'Mission Mausam', a two-year initiative of the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- The scheme aims to enhance the capacity of India to deal with extreme weather and climate challenges.
- The financial outlay of the Mission is ₹2,000 crore.

Major objectives of Mission Mausam	Major components of Mission Mausam
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of state-of-the-art weather monitoring technologies and systems.</li> <li>Implementation of high degree environmental monitoring.</li> <li>Implementation of state-of-the-art radars and satellites.</li> <li>Development of High Performance Computer (HPC).</li> <li>Improving weather and climate processes and forecasting capabilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expanding research in atmospheric sciences.</li> <li>Focusing on weather monitoring, forecasting and modeling.</li> <li>Installing 50 Doppler Weather Radars, 60 Radio Wind Stations, 100 Disdrometers, 10 Wind Profilers and one Urban Test Bed.</li> <li>Installing 10 marine automatic weather stations with upper air monitoring.</li> </ul>

### NPS Vatsalya Yojana

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched the NPS Vatsalya scheme on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Savings Plan for Children : Parents can invest in a pension account for their children's future.
- The scheme is an extension of the already existing National Pension Scheme.

#### Key Points:

- Parents can open pension accounts for minor children.
- The minimum contribution to open an account is ₹1,000, and a contribution of ₹1,000 annually is required.
- The scheme will be run under the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- PRAN cards will be issued to minor subscribers.

- This account will become NPS account till the age of 18 years .
- There will be a lock-in period of three years after contribution. 25% withdrawal is allowed under certain circumstances.

**Union Cabinet approves Bio-RIDE Scheme**

- The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of two umbrella schemes of the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) under the Ministry of Science and Technology.
- These schemes have been merged in the 'Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development ( Bio-RIDE)' scheme.
- It includes a new component biomanufacturing and biofoundry .

Key objectives of Bio-RIDE Scheme	Key Components of Bio-RIDE Scheme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fostering innovation.</li> <li>• Encourage bio-entrepreneurship.</li> <li>• Strengthening the position of India in bio manufacturing.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Biotechnology Research and Development (R&amp;D).</li> <li>2. Industrial and Entrepreneurship Development (I&amp;ED).</li> <li>3. Biomanufacturing and Biofoundry.</li> </ol>

**Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan approved**

- The Union Cabinet has approved the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan.
- The scheme will be launched with a total outlay of Rs 79,156 crore (central share: Rs 56,333 crore and state share: Rs 22,823 crore).
- The scheme aims to improve the socio-economic status of tribal communities by achieving percent coverage of tribal households in tribal dominated villages and aspirational districts .
- The scheme will cover 549 districts, 2,740 blocks and 63,000 villages spread across all tribal dominated villages in 30 States/UTs .
- According to the 2011 Census , the Scheduled Tribes population in India is 10.45 crore, and over 705 tribal communities spread across the country live in remote and inaccessible areas.
- The mission comprises 25 programmes that will be implemented by 17 ministries.

**Major Components of the Scheme:**

- Tribal Home Stay
- Sustainable Livelihood Forest Rights Holder (FRA)
- Improvement of infrastructure of government residential schools and hostels
- Advanced features for diagnosing sickle cell disease
- Tribal Multipurpose Marketing Centre

**Extension of PM-AASHA schemes approved**

- The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the schemes of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sangrakshan Abhiyan (PM AASHA).
- Objective: To provide remunerative prices to farmers for their produce and to control price volatility of commodities essential to consumers.
- The total outlay of the scheme will be Rs 35,000 crore, which will continue till 2025-26.

**Schemes covered in PM ASHA:**

- **Price Support Scheme (PSS ):** Procurement of notified pulses , oilseeds and copra at Minimum Support Price.
- **Price Stabilization Fund (PSF):** To maintain price stability.
- **Price Deficit Payment Scheme (POPS):** Compensate farmers for the difference between minimum support price and selling price.
- **Market Intervention Scheme (MIS):** To ensure fair price for farmers' produce through market intervention.

**Key Points:**

- 100% procurement of tur, urad and masoor at the minimum support price will be done for the 2024-25 season.
- The government has increased the government guarantee for procurement of oilseeds, pulses and copra from farmers at the minimum support price to Rs 45,000 crore.
- Procurement of pulses will be done through e-portals of NAFED and NCCF.
- Under the Price Stabilisation Fund scheme , subsidised retail sales of tomato, India pulses , India flour and India rice will be intervened.
- Under the Price Deficit Payment Scheme, coverage will be increased to 40% of the state production of oilseeds.
- A new option has been added to pay the difference of price directly to farmers' accounts.

**Direct Tax Vivad se Vishwas Scheme (DTVSV) 2024**

- In line with the announcement of the Union Budget 2024-25, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has notified the Direct Tax Vivad Se Vishwas Scheme (DTVSV) 2024.
- The scheme will come into effect from 1st October 2024.
- DTVSV 2024 aims to reduce litigation involving income tax.
- Under this, taxpayers can dispose of appeals, writs and petitions pending till July 22, 2024.
- The scheme provides taxpayers with the opportunity to settle disputed tax , interest, or penalties at rates lower than the actual total demand.

- The scheme is available only to taxpayers whose appeals, writs and petitions are pending as on July 22, 2024.

**White Revolution 2.0**

- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah launched the Standard Operating Procedure for White Revolution 2.0.
- This initiative will aid in the empowerment of women and the fight against malnutrition.
- Objective: To involve women farmers in formal employment and strengthen dairy infrastructure.
- The target is to increase milk procurement from the present 660 lakh litres per day to 1,000 lakh litres per day.
- Focus on four key areas: women empowerment, increase local milk production, dairy exports and improving dairy infrastructure.
- A target has been set to increase milk procurement by 50% in the next five years.

**Cabinet approves proposal for setting up of Semiconductor Unit at Sanand**

- The Union Cabinet approved the proposal to set up a semiconductor unit at Sanand in Gujarat.
- Investment: Rs 3,300 crore.
- Production capacity: 60 million chips per day.
- The chips produced from this unit will be used in sectors such as industrial, automotive, electric vehicles, consumer electronics, telecommunications, and mobile phones.

**Other Semiconductor Units:**

- In 2023, the Union Cabinet approved semiconductor units at Dholera in Gujarat and Morigaon in Assam.
- The total 4 units will bring an investment of Rs 1.5 lakh crore, with a total capacity of producing 7 crore chips per day.

**Extension of beneficiaries of Ayushman India Yojana**

- The Union Cabinet has approved to provide health coverage to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above under the Ayushman India Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).
- Beneficiaries: Around 4.5 crore families.
- Health insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh per annum.
- Senior citizens above 70 years of age belonging to families covered under AB PM-JAY will get additional top-up cover.
- Senior citizens who are already covered under private health insurance or Employees' State Insurance Scheme will also be eligible for the benefits of AB PM-JAY.
- AB PM-JAY is the world's largest government-funded health scheme.

**Digital Agriculture Mission**

- The Union Cabinet Committee approved the Digital Agriculture Mission with an outlay of Rs 2817 crore. This includes Central share of Rs 1940 crore.
- The mission is conceived as a comprehensive plan to support digital agriculture initiatives, including:
  - Building Digital Public Infrastructure
  - Implementation of Digital General Crop Estimation Survey (DGCES)
  - Pursuing other IT initiatives by the Central Government, State Governments and academic and research institutions
- The three digital public infrastructures to be created under this mission are:
  - AgriStack
  - Agricultural Decision Support System
  - Soil Profile Mapping
- Apart from enabling farmer-centric digital services, these digital public infrastructures will make timely and reliable information available to the agriculture sector.
- Under Agristack, farmers will be given a digital identity (Kisan ID), which will be linked to the state's land records, livestock ownership, crops sown, demographic details, family details, schemes and benefits received.
- The crops sown by farmers will be recorded through a mobile-based digital crop survey to be conducted each season.

**AgriSure Fund Launch**

- Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the AgriSURE Fund in New Delhi on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- It is an innovative fund in the form of AgriSURE – Agri Fund for Start-ups & Rural Enterprises, which aims to revolutionize the agricultural landscape of the India.

**Key Points:**

- AgriSure is a Category II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) registered with SEBI.
- The fund has a total corpus of ₹750 crore, consisting of:
  - Indian Govt's contribution - ₹250 crore
  - NABARD's contribution - ₹250 crore
  - ₹250 crore is being raised from banks, insurance companies and private investors.
- The scheme will promote innovation and growth in agriculture and rural start-up ecosystems with a focus on high-risk, high-impact technology-driven ventures.

**PM lays foundation stone of PM Mitra Park in Amravati**

- The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of

PM MITRA (Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel) Park in Amaravati .

- Spread over 1000 acres, the park is being developed by the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC).
- The Indian government has approved setting up of 7 PM Mitra Parks for the textile industry, which will be set up in Tamil Nadu , Telangana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra.

#### **CREATE was inaugurated in Leh**

- Union MSME Minister Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi inaugurated the Centre for Rural Enterprise Acceleration through Technology (CREATE) installed in Leh through virtual mode.
- CREATE will provide training for development of Pashmina wool roving facility , production facility for obtaining essential oils from roses and other flowers and development of production facility for bio-processing of available fruits and other raw materials.
- The machinery required for Pashmina wool roving has been installed and is ready to be commissioned and operated.
- The centre will enhance local productivity , product quality , economic efficiency and provide livelihood opportunities to local communities.

#### **Vishwasya-Blockchain Technology Stack Launch**

- The Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology ( MeitY) has launched Vishwasya-Blockchain Technology Stack to offer blockchain-as-a-service (BaaS).
- It is a geographically distributed infrastructure designed to support different permissioned blockchain based applications.
- MeitY also unveiled NBFLite-lightweight blockchain platform , Pramanik, which is an innovative blockchain-enabled solution to verify – the original source of mobile apps and the National Blockchain Portal.

#### **Blockchain-as-a-Service (BaaS):**

- BaaS is a third-party cloud-based infrastructure and management available to companies building and operating blockchain apps.
- This is based on the software-as-a-Service (SaaS) model and works similarly.
- It allows customers to leverage cloud-based solutions to create, host, and operate their own blockchain apps and related functions on the blockchain.

#### **Blockchain Technology:**

- Blockchain technology is an advanced database mechanism that allows transparent information sharing within a business network. A blockchain

database stores data in blocks that are linked together in a chain.

- Just as the Internet was invented by connecting thousands of computers together , in the same way a long chain of data blocks (data) has been added to the name of blockchain.
- Blockchain technology is an amalgamation of three different technologies , including cryptography of the Internet , personal keys, and control over protocols.

#### **VisioNxt-Fashion Forecasting Initiative**

- Union Textiles Minister Shri Giriraj Singh launched the 'VisioNxt Fashion Forecasting Initiative' of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) and the India-specific fashion trend book 'Paridhi 24x25' on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.
- NIFT VisioNxt is the first such initiative of India that combines AI and EI for fashion trend insights and forecasting .
- VisioNxt is a trend Insights and forecasting initiative. It was established at NIFT Delhi (Creative Lab) and NIFT Chennai (Insights Lab) in 2018 with the support of the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.
- The initiative focuses on delivering trend insights and forecasts for the Indian fashion and retail market.
- Consultancy services, educational courses, workshops, etc. related to fashion trends are also provided.

#### **NaBFID notified as Public Financial Institution**

- Indian government has notified National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) as a Public Financial Institution under the Companies Act.
- The Corporate Affairs Ministry stated that in exercise of powers under Section 2 of the Companies Act , 2013, the Central Government notified NaBFID as a "Public Financial Institution" in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India.
- The move will enhance the bank's ability to finance large-scale infrastructure projects, thereby boosting infrastructure development in the country.

#### **NaBFID:**

- It is the Development Finance Institution ( DFI) established in 2021 by the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development Act , 2021.
- It aims to bridge gaps in long-term non-recourse finance for infrastructure development and strengthen the development of bond and derivatives markets in the India.

**BHASKAR Digital Platform**

- BHASKAR Full Form: "Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry"
- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade ( DPIIT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry will launch the BHASKAR digital platform.
- It aims to strengthen the startup ecosystem of the India.
- This platform will be launched under the Startup India program.
- BHASKAR will centralize and streamline collaboration between startups , investors, mentors, service providers and government entities.

**Central Government approves revisions in minimum wage rates based on VDA**

- The central government has announced a revision in minimum wage rates by adjusting the Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA).

- Unskilled workers will get Rs 783 per day (Rs 20,358 per month).
- Semi-skilled workers will get Rs 868 per day (Rs 22,568 per month).
- Skilled and clerical workers will get Rs 954 per day (Rs 24,804 per month).
- Highly-skilled workers will get Rs 1,035 per day (Rs 26,910 per month).

**Minimum wage**

- Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the central and state governments fix minimum wages for the workers employed in their jurisdiction.
- Minimum wage rates are classified based on the skill levels of the workers: unskilled , semi-skilled, skilled, and highly skilled.



## 4. International Scenario

### 6th Quad Leaders Summit

- It was held on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2024 in Wilmington (Delaware), United States of America.
- It was attended by the heads of state of India, Japan, USA and Australia.

#### Key Announcements:

- **Quad Cancer Moonshot:** Under this program, all four countries announced financial contributions to combat cervical cancer. India pledged \$ 10 million for screening for the disease, and the Serum Institute of India (SII) and Gavi will provide up to 40 million vaccines for the region.
- **Quad-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission:** The first-ever Quad-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission is planned to be launched between the U.S. Coast Guard, the Japan Coast Guard, the Australian Border Force, and the Indian Coast Guard in 2025.
- **MAITRI (Maritime Initiative for Training in the Indo-Pacific):** The initiative has been taken to train the Quad countries to monitor, protect, and prevent unlawful practices in their waters.
  - India will host the first MAITRI workshop in 2025.
- **Open RAN deployment:** The Quad deployed the Open Radio Access Network (RAN) for the first time in the Pacific in Palau. There are plans to expand support to the ongoing field trials and Asia Open RAN Academy (AORA) in the Philippines.

### India's First National Security Semiconductor Manufacturing Plant

- Under the cooperation of India and the US, India will get its first national security semiconductor manufacturing plant.
- It has been named "Shakti".

#### Key Points:

- The plant will produce chips for use in military hardware, telecommunications networks, and electronics.
- It will be set up to manufacture infrared, gallium nitride, and silicon carbide semiconductors.
- Called 'Shakti', India will focus on fab, advanced sensing, advanced communication and high voltage power electronics.
- The fab will be developed as part of a strategic partnership between Bharat Semi, 3rdiTech, and the US Space Force.

### India Signs IPEF's Clean Economy and Fair Economy Agreements

- India signed agreements focused on Clean Economy, Fair Economy, and IPEF Overreaching Arrangement under the Indo-Pacific Economic

Framework (IPEF) in Delaware (USA) on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

IPEF Clean Economy Agreement (Pillar-III)	IPEF Fair Economy Agreement (Pillar-IV)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It aims to promote technical cooperation, workforce development, capacity building and research collaboration.</li> <li>• Encouraging the development of clean energy and climate-friendly technologies is also a key objective of this agreement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It aims to create a more transparent and predictable trade and investment environment in the Indo-Pacific.</li> <li>• Cooperation will be made to prevent and combat corruption, improve tax transparency and tax administration.</li> </ul>

#### IPEF Overreaching Arrangement:

- It is an administrative agreement, which establishes an oversight ministerial mechanism.

#### Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF):

- The IPEF was launched on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 in Tokyo (Japan).
- It consists of 14 countries: Australia, Brunei, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea Republic, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and the USA.
- It aims to promote growth, economic stability and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region.

#### Four pillars of IPEF:

1. Business (Pillar I)
2. Supply Chain Resilience (Pillar II)
3. Clean Economy (Pillar III)
4. Fair Economy (Pillar IV)

**Note:** India had ratified the Agreement on Supply Chain Resilience (Pillar II) in February 2024 and is involved in Pillar I as an observer.

#### UN's "Pact for Future" agreement

- The "UN Pact for the Future" agreement was adopted by the United Nations on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2024.
- The agreement is a historic declaration of concrete action for a safer, more peaceful, sustainable and inclusive world for future generations.
- Along with this agreement, its annexation, the Global Digital Compact and the Declaration on Future Generations were also adopted unanimously.
- The agreement has five key focus areas:
  - Sustainable Development
  - International Peace and Security
  - Science & Technology
  - Young and future generations
  - Transforming Global Governance

- The agreement also promises to reform the Security Council, recognising the need to make it more representative, transparent, and democratic.
- It supports the India's side of reform, which has called for Security Council reform for years.
- Seven countries, including Russia and Iran, opposed the "Pact for Future."
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the two-day United Nations 'Summit of the Future' conference.

#### Agreement on civil nuclear cooperation between India and UAE

- India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for civil nuclear cooperation on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- The agreement was signed between Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and ENEC (Emirates Nuclear Energy Company)-led Barakah Nuclear Power Plant Operations and Maintenance.
- The agreement was signed during the India visit of Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Khalid bin Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.
- Previously, India signed civil nuclear cooperation agreements with France, United States the US, Russia, Namibia, Canada, Argentina, Kazakhstan, Korea Republic, Czech Republic, Australia, Sri Lanka and the United Kingdom.

#### Key Agreements

1. MoU on Nuclear Cooperation.
  2. Agreement for long-term LNG supply.
  3. Agreement between ADNOC and India Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPR).
  4. Gujarat Government signs MoU with Abu Dhabi Development Holding Company PJSC on development of food park.
- India and the UAE are part of the I2U2 group, which also includes Israel and the US. Under this, food parks will be set up in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

#### Approval of India's membership of International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)

- The Union Cabinet has approved the membership of India by signing and ratifying the Framework Agreement on the establishment of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA).

#### Key Points:

- The Union Cabinet on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 approved the establishment of the India-headquartered IBCA with a one-time budgetary support of Rs 150 crore.
- It aims to create a multi-country alliance among 95 range countries, non-range countries,

conservation partners, scientific organizations, and corporates with the realization of Big Cats.

- All member countries of the United Nations are eligible to become members of IBCA, and so far 24 countries (including India) have agreed to become members of IBCA.
- India, Nicaragua, Eswatini and Somalia are members of IBCA, and India is its founding member.

#### International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)

- On the occasion of the completion of 50 years of India's Project Tiger, Prime Minister Modi launched IBCA on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- It aims to secure the future of the Big Cats and their habitat.
- Big cats include 7 big cat species: tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, puma, jaguar and cheetah.
  - Five of these species are found in India.

#### India signs BBNJ agreement

- India signed an international agreement to protect marine biodiversity in the sea.
- External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar signed the "Convention on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)" at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

#### BBNJ Agreement

- BBNJ Full form: Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction
- This treaty is known as the "Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction" i.e. It is also known as the High Seas Treaty.
- The treaty is an international agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
- BBNJ was adopted on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023 by the Intergovernmental Conference on Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction held under the auspices of the United Nations.
- It is an international legal binding treaty, which will be available for signature until 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025.
- The treaty will allow the creation of large protected areas on the High-Sea to enhance the restoration of marine life and its tolerance to climate change.
- So far, 101 countries have signed the treaty, including India. However, only 10 countries have ratified it so far.
- It will formally come into force when at least 60 governments adopt it into national law.

- The treaty covers about two-thirds ( 64%) of the ocean 's area, which is about half of the Earth's surface.
- It ensures the conservation and sustainable use of marine life beyond the territorial waters of nations and beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).
- Parties to this Agreement cannot claim or exercise sovereignty over marine resources derived from the open seas and shall ensure a fair and equitable sharing of benefits.

#### Operation Sadbhav

- India launched Operation Sadbhav to provide humanitarian assistance to the countries affected by Yagi Typhoon– Myanmar, Laos and Viet Nam.
- India has taken the initiative to provide Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) to these countries.
- To this end, the India has sent immediate relief materials to Myanmar, Laos and Viet nam to help them deal with the impact of Yagi Typhoon.
- Operation Sadbhav is part of the India's 'Act East Policy', contributing to HADR in the ASEAN region.

#### India joins "Mineral Security Finance Network (MSFN)"

- India formally joined the US-led Minerals Security Finance Network (MSFN).

##### MSFN

- It aims to strengthen cooperation among members to secure the supply chain for critical minerals.
- It is an agreement signed by 14 countries and the European Union, which brings together DFI (Development Finance Institutions) and ECA (Export Credit Agencies) to build synergy and increase impact.
- MSFN originates from the Mineral Security Partnership (MSP).

##### Mineral Security Partnership (MSP)

- It is a framework established in 2022.
- MSP aims to attract public and private investment in critical mineral supply chains globally.
- India was included in MSP in June 2023. The group focuses on supply chains of cobalt, nickel, lithium and 17 "rare earth" minerals.

#### Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits Brunei and Singapore

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on an official visit to Brunei Darussalam and Singapore on 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- **Brunei Visit:** This was the first bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Brunei. Prime Minister Modi visited the iconic Omar Ali Saifuddin

Mosque at Bandar Seri Begawan.

- The Prime Minister met Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei and agreed to cooperate in ICT , fintech, cyber security, new technologies and renewable energy.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the Omar Ali Saifuddin Mosque during his historic visit to Brunei on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024. This coincides with the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Brunei.

#### Brunei :

- The country is located on the northern coast of the island of Borneo in Southeast Asia , and its western section is large , in which the capital of Bandar Seri Begawan is located.
- Brunei gained independence in 1984 , and is a member of the Commonwealth and ASEAN.

#### Singapore Visit:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Prime Minister Lawrence Wong and President Tharman Shanmugaratnam of Singapore during his Singapore visit from 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Bilateral and multilateral issues were discussed in this meeting. The Prime Minister made the following announcements to further facilitate India-Singapore cooperation:
- **Invest India office** : Invest India office will be set up in Singapore.
- **Thiruvalluvar Cultural Centre** : India's first Thiruvalluvar cultural centre will be opened in Singapore.

#### Key Agreements

- During the visit , India and Singapore exchanged MoUs for cooperation in the following areas:
  - Semiconductor
  - Digital Technology
  - Skill Development
  - Health service

#### Singapore

- Location: South-East Asia
- Singapore main island is separated from the peninsular Malaysia by the Strait of Johor in the north.
- It is a narrow channel crossed by road and rail.
- Its southern border passes through the Singapore Strait.
- Capital: Singapore City

#### The International Cooperative Alliance will be organized for the first time in India

- India will for the first time organise the General Assembly of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) from 25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 in New Delhi.

- It will be the first time in ICA's 130-year history that the conference will be held in India.

**International Cooperative Alliance**

- ICA unifies, represents and serves cooperatives worldwide.
- It was established in 1895 and is one of the oldest and largest non-governmental organizations.
- ICA's members are international and national cooperative organizations dealing with agriculture, banking, consumer, fisheries, health, housing, insurance, and industry and services.
- ICA's global office is located in Brussels.

**Jordan becomes first country in the world to eradicate leprosy**

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has confirmed Jordan's Hashemite kingdom to become the world's first country.
- WHO has also verified the elimination of leprosy in Jordan.

**Leprosy:**

- Leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, is an ancient infectious disease.
- It mainly affects the skin, peripheral nerves, mucosal surfaces of the respiratory tract and eyes.
- Leprosy is a neglected tropical disease (NTD), still present in more than 120 countries, and has more than 200,000 new cases each year.

**India became a member of the Steering Committee of the GlobE Network**

- India has been selected to the 15-member steering committee of the GlobE network.
- It is a Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities, an initiative launched under the G20 framework.
- The Union Home Ministry acts as the central authority for the GlobE network in India.
- The CBI and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) represent India as member authorities.

**GlobE Network**

- It was established on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, during the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGASS).
- It aims to address international corruption and financial crime.
- The GlobE network currently comprises 121 member countries and 219 member authorities.
- The GLOBE network enables global agencies to exchange best practices, share criminal intelligence, and formulate strategies to combat corruption.

**India gets approval for non-invasive exploration in 3 lithium blocks of Argentina**

- India's KABIL (Khanij Bidesh India Ltd) has received permission to conduct non-invasive exploration in 3 of the 5 recently acquired lithium blocks in Argentina.
- After submission of detailed report for the same, the company will be allowed to undertake exploration activities in these blocks.
- Non-invasive exploration uses remote sensing and other techniques to identify mineral systems without damaging the environment.
- In January, 2024, KABIL signed a ₹200 crore lithium exploration agreement for the acquisition of 5 lithium blocks in Argentina and their commercial utilization.
- These brine blocks are located in the Catamarca district of Argentina and cover an area of about 15,703 hectares.
- Lithium, called white gold, is the key mineral for India's green transition. It is widely used in mobile phones and batteries of electric vehicles.

**Lithium Triangle:**

- Argentina is included in the Lithium Triangle, which is called Argentina, Bolivia and Chile in the Andes mountains of South America. These three countries hold more than 75% of the world's lithium supply.

# 5. Space & Defence Technology

## Space Technology

### Women in Space Leadership Program (WiSLP)

- The Department of Science and Technology ( DST) in collaboration with the British Council launched the "Women in Space Leadership Programme (WiSLP) on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- The programme has been launched under the UK-India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI).
- It aims to encourage gender-inclusive activities to promote female leadership in space science.
- Coventry University is acting as a distribution partner in this initiative.

### Chandrayaan-4 mission approved

- The Union Cabinet has approved the Chandrayaan-4 mission to return to Earth after landing on the moon and collect and analyse the samples of the moon.
- **Aim:**
  - To develop and demonstrate technologies for Indian landing on Moon and return to Earth safely.
  - Accomplishing key technology performances such as docking/undocking, landing , safe return to Earth, and Moon sample collection.
- Budget for Chandrayaan-4 mission : ₹2104.06 crore
- This cost includes conducting spacecraft development, two launch vehicle missions of LVM3, external deep space network support , and special tests for design verification.
- The Mission is related to the successful return with the Moon sample , which will enable India to become self-reliant in critical baseline technologies.

### Development of Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV) approved

- The Union Cabinet has approved the development of Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV).
- It is a significant step towards the goal of establishing and operating the Indian Space Station and developing the capability of the Indian manned mission to the Moon by 2040.

Features of NGLV	Development of NGLV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NGLV will have 1.5 times lower cost than LVM 3 and 3 times more of current payload capacity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It will be demonstrated with three development flights (D1, D2 &amp; D3).</li> <li>• The target for completion of its development phase</li> </ul>

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It will be made reusable.</li> <li>• It is designed for a maximum payload capacity of 30 tonnes in Low Earth Orbit (LEO), in which the first stage is re-usability.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is 96 months (8 years).</li> <li>• The total fund sanctioned for this is ₹8240 crore, which includes development cost, three developmental flights , necessary facility establishment, event management, and launch campaign.</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

### Benefits of NGLV:

- The development of NGLV will help in human space flight missions on the Indian space station , lunar and other planetary exploration missions , and sending communication satellites and earth observation satellites to low earth orbit.
- It will also enable national and commercial space missions, benefitting the entire space ecosystem in the country.

### Currently Indian Launch Vehicles:

- With PSLV, GSLV, LVM3 and SSLV, India is currently self-reliant in launching satellites up to 10 tonnes into Low Earth Orbit (LEO) and satellites up to 4 tonnes into Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).

### Construction of Bharat Space Station (BAS) approved

- The Union Cabinet has approved the construction of the first unit of the Bharat Space Station (BAS), expanding the scope of the Gaganyaan programme.

### Features of BAS:

- Missions will be launched to demonstrate and validate various technologies for development of the first module of BAS-1 and its construction and operation.
- While revising the Gaganyaan programme , the requirement of unmanned missions and additional hardware to carry out new developments and ongoing programmes has been included.
- Technology development and demonstration will be accomplished through 8 missions to launch the first unit of BAS-1 by December 2028.
- **Note:** India has set a target of an Indian space station by 2035 and an Indian landing on the moon by 2040 .

### Development of Venus Orbiter Mission ( VOM) approved

- The Union Cabinet has approved the development of Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM).
- This would be an important step towards the government's goal of exploring and studying Venus beyond the Moon and the Mars.
- Venus is the closest planet to Earth and is believed to have formed under conditions similar to Earth.
- Under this mission, the spacecraft will orbit Venus to study the surface and subsurface of Venus , atmospheric processes and the influence of the Sun on the atmosphere of Venus.
- Total amount approved for Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM): Rs 1236 crore
- Expenditure on spacecraft: Rs. 824.00 crore

**Venus**

- Venus is the second planet from the Sun and is the closest neighbor of the Earth.
- It is one of the four inner , terrestrial (or rocky) planets, and is often called Earth's twin because both planets are similar in size and density.
- Despite being called twin planets, there are many differences between Venus and Earth. Venus has a dense, toxic atmosphere filled with carbon dioxide and is constantly shrouded in dense, yellow clouds of sulfuric acid that trap heat , creating a greater greenhouse effect.
- Unlike most other planets in the solar system, Venus rotates backwards on its axis. This means that on Venus, the sun rises in the west and sets in the east.

**Various missions to Venus**

- Venus was the first planet that was flyby/explored by NASA's Mariner-2 on December 14<sup>th</sup> ,1962.
- Recent Venus missions include the European Space Agency's ( ESA)'s "Venus Express" and Japan's "Akatsuki Venus Climate Orbiter".
- In June 2021, three new missions to Venus were announced.
  - NASA announced two new missions (VERITAS and DAVINCI)
  - ESA announced an (EnVision).

**Polaris Dawn Mission**



**जेरेड आइसेकमैन**  
मिशन कमांडर

**किल्ड पोटेट**  
पायलट



**सारा गिलिस**  
मिशन स्पेशलिस्ट

**अन्ना मेनन**  
मिशन स्पेशलिस्ट

- The Polaris Dawn mission was launched on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024 from SpaceX Falcon9 rocket.
- It is a joint mission of Isaacman and Elon Musk's SpaceX.
- In the Crew of this mission Dragon capsule "Resilience", 4 people were sent to space orbit for about five days.
- It is the first of three test and development missions under the Polaris program.
- In this, the astronaut did a spacewalk of about 700 km above the Earth. It was the world's first private spacewalk.
- In this, astronauts Jared Isaacman and Sarah Gillis took a spacewalk 700 km above the Earth.
- Its purpose was to do spacewalks and experiments related to human health.
- During this mission, 36 research studies and experiments related to human health were also done.
- Apart from this, Starlink's desab-resal communication was tested in space.
- Note: Falcon 9 is ssalc latibro tsrfi s'dlrow eht elbasuer two-stage rocket, developed by SpaceX.
- This Dragon spacecraft is capable of carrying 7 astronauts into space. It is the only private spacecraft that takes humans to the space station and back.
- Under this, astronauts passed through an area of space, which is known as the Van Allen belt.
  - It contains high levels of radiation , but crew members will be protected by the spacecraft and their newly advanced spacesuits.

**Spacewalk**

- A spacewalk or extravehicular activity ( EVA) is a period of activity spent outside a spacecraft by an astronaut in space.
- The first spacewalk was performed on March 18<sup>th</sup> , 1965 by Soviet cosmonaut Alexei Leonov.

## Defence Technology

### INS Malpe and INS Mulki

- It is two Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Watercrafts indigenously designed and manufactured for the Indian Navy.
- They were launched at the Cochin Shipyard on 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.
- These ships are capable of undertaking anti-submarine operations in coastal waters, low intensity marine and mine laying operations, sub-sea surface surveillance and search and rescue operations.
- These are equipped with light-weight torpedoes, anti-submarine warfare rockets, a close-in weapon system and remote-controlled guns.

### FWD 200B: India's first indigenous fighter unmanned aircraft

- Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace (FWDA) successfully launched the country's first indigenously built Combat Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), FWD 200B.
- After this, India joined the ranks of countries equipped with advanced unmanned combat aircraft.
- The FWD 200B is classified as a Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) unmanned combat aerial vehicle (UCAV).
- Its cost is only one-tenth of the imported American drone.
- **Features:**
  - Flight altitude: 12,000 feet, up to a maximum of 15,000 feet
  - Cruise speed: 152 kmph
  - Max speed: 250 kmph
  - Flight capacity: 7 hours
  - Range: 800km

### Flight test of vertical launch short range surface-to-air missile (VL-SRSAM)

- Its successful flight test was conducted by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at Chandipur off the coast of Odisha.
- The test was conducted from a ground based vertical launcher and successfully hit a high-speed aerial target.
- The missile system successfully tracked the target and hit it.

### Advanced Ballistics for High Energy Defeat (ABHED)

- This is a light weight bullet proof jacket.
- For this, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT-Delhi).

- **Features of the jacket:**

- These are made of Polymers and indigenous boron carbide ceramic material.
- Able to withstand the highest threat level.
- Weight according to BIS level: between 8.2 kg and 9.5 kg.
- Provide 360 degree protection with modular design.

### Param Rudra Supercomputer and 'Arka' and 'Arunika' HPC

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated three PARAM Rudra supercomputers and high-performance computing (HPC) systems to the nation on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- These supercomputers are developed indigenously under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) which have been installed in Pune, Delhi and Kolkata to facilitate pioneering scientific research.

#### Param Rudra Supercomputer

- Pune-based Giant Meter Radio Telescope (GMRT) will be used to detect Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs) and other astronomical phenomena.
- This supercomputer at the Inter-University Accelerator Centre (IUAC) in Delhi will boost research in areas such as material science and atomic physics.
- The supercomputer at the S.N. Bose Centre in Kolkata will promote advanced research in areas such as physics, cosmology and earth sciences.

#### High-Performance Computing (HPC)

- The Prime Minister also launched 'Arka' and 'Arunika', systems designed for weather and climate research.
- These HPC systems have been installed at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) Pune and the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) Noida.
- These high-resolution models will help in accurate prediction of tropical cyclones, heavy rainfall, thunderstorms, hailstorms, heat waves, droughts and other important meteorological phenomena.

### Approval to BPaLM treatment, a new treatment method for multidrug anti-tuberculosis (MDR-TB)

- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has approved BPaLM, a new treatment modality for Multidrug Anti-Tuberculosis (MDR-TB) under the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP).
- BPaLM treatment includes a combination of Bedaquiline, Pretomanid, Linezolid, and Moxifloxacin.

- This treatment offers a six-month option instead of 20 months, with fewer side effects and a higher success rate.
- This will reduce both the time and cost of treatment.
- India has the world's largest TB laboratory network for MDR-TB.
- India is working towards eliminating TB by 2025, which is five years ahead of the global target.

#### **Neuralink's experimental implant "Blindsight" rated as "Breakthrough Device"**

- Elon Musk's brain-chip startup Neuralink's experimental implant "Blindsight" has been rated a "breakthrough device" by the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA).
- The blindsight device can restore vision and will help people who have lost both their eyes and optic nerve.
- The FDA 's breakthrough tag is given to medical devices that provide treatment or diagnostics of deadly diseases.
- Elon Musk's Neuralink company is building a brain chip interface that can be implanted within the human skull.
- Neuralink's device processes human nerve signals and transmits them to a device such as a computer or phone.
- Objective: To help patients with disabilities walk , communicate and restore sight to the visually impaired by the device.

#### **Varuna Exercise 2024**

- It is an exercise between the Indian Navy and the French Navy.
- The naval exercise was held in the Mediterranean Sea from 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- This bilateral naval exercise started in 1993 and in 2001 it was named 'Varuna'.

#### **Exercise "Yudh Abhyas-2024"**

- It is a joint military exercise of India-United States of America.
- It was held on 9<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> September , 2024 at the Mahajan Field Firing Range in Bikaner, Rajasthan.
- The exercise is being conducted annually since 2004 alternately in India and USA.

#### **Eastern Bridge Exercise 2024**

- It is an exercise between the air forces of India and Oman.
- It was held at Air Force Base Masirah in Oman from 11<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024.
- This is the seventh edition of the Eastern Bridge exercise.

#### **Al Najah Exercise 2024**

- It is a joint military exercise (Army) held between India and Oman.
- The exercise was conducted at Rabkut Training Area in Salalah, Oman from 13<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- The exercise focuses on military operations in desert environments.

#### **Ocean 2024 Drill**

- This is the largest naval exercise in Russia.
- The Ocean 2024 drill was conducted simultaneously in the Mediterranean Sea, Caspian Sea and Baltic seas along with the Pacific and Arctic Oceans.
- The purpose of this exercise is to assess the combat readiness of the Russian Navy and the Air Force.
- China also participated in the exercise.



## 6. Game scenarios

### Paris Paralympic Games-2024

- **Version:** 17<sup>th</sup>
- **Host and Venue:** France (Paris)
- **Countries involved:** 169 (Including NPA and RPT team)
- **Events:** 549 events in 22 sports
- **Launched:** August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- **Closing:** September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- **Mascot:** The Phryges
- **Motto:** Games Wide Open (French: Ouvrons Grand les Jeux)
- **Indian flag bearers at the opening ceremony** : Sumit Antil ( Javelin throw er) and Bhagyashree Jadhav (Shot put).
- **Indian flag bearers at the closing ceremony** : Harvinder Singh (Archer) and Preeti Pal (Sprinter).
- **Previous edition** : The 16<sup>th</sup> Paralympic Games were held in Tokyo (Japan) from August 24<sup>th</sup> to September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- This is France's second time hosting the Paralympics. Earlier in 1992, they were held in Tignes and Albertville, France.
- This is the first time Paris has hosted the Paralympics.

### Medal Table

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total Medals
1 <sup>st</sup>	China	94	76	50	220
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Great Britain	49	44	31	124
3 <sup>rd</sup>	United States	36	42	27	105
4 <sup>th</sup>	Netherlands	27	17	12	56
5 <sup>th</sup>	Brazil	25	26	38	89
18 <sup>th</sup>	India	7	9	13	29

### Performance of India:

- **India's place** : 18<sup>th</sup> (7 Gold, 9 Silver, 13 Bronze; Total 29 medals)
- India won the highest number of athletics medals at the Paris Paralympic Games.
  - Total- 17 (4 Gold , 6 Silver, 7 Bronze medals)
- **Participants:** 84 paraathletes from India (highest ever) competed in 12 sports.
  - Indian athletes took part in three new sports: Para Cycling , Para Rowing and Blind Judo.
- **Tokyo Paralympics** : 54 Indian athletes participated in 9 sports and won 19 medals.

### Indian Medal Winners

Player	Medal	Game	Competition
Avani Lekhara	Gold	Shooting	Women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1
Nitesh Kumar	Gold	Badminton	Men's Singles SL3
Sumit Antil	Gold	Athletics	Javelin Throw F64 (Men)
Harvinder Singh	Gold	Archery	Individual Recurve Open (Men)
Dharambir Singh	Gold	Athletics	Club Throw F51
Praveen Kumar	Gold	Athletics	Men's High Jump T64
Navdeep	Gold	Athletics	Javelin Throw F41 (Men)
Manish Narwal	Silver	Shooting	Men's 10m Air Pistol SH1
Nishad Kumar	Silver	Athletics	Men's High Jump T47
Yogesh Kathunia	Silver	Athletics	Men's Discus Throw F56
Tulsimathi Murugesan	Silver	Badminton	Women's Singles SUS
Sharad Kumar	Silver	Athletics	Men's High Jump T63
Ajit Singh Yadav	Silver	Javelin Throw	F-46 Event (Men)
Suhas Yathiraj	Silver	Badminton	Men's Singles SL4
Pranav Soorma	Silver	Athletics	Club Throw F51
Sachin Sarjerao	Silver	Athletics	Shot Put F46 (Men)
Mona Agarwal	Bronze	Shooting	Women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1
Preeti Pal	Bronze	Athletics	Women's 100m T35
Rubina Francis	Bronze	Shooting	Women's 10m Air Pistol SH1
Preeti Pal	Bronze	Athletics	Women's 200m T35
Manisha Ramdas	Bronze	Badminton	Women's Singles SU5
By Rakesh Kumar Sheetal Devi	Bronze	Archery	Mixed Team Compound Open

Nithya Sri Sivan	Bronze	Badminton	Women's Singles SH6
Sunder Singh GurjarS	Bronze	Javelin Throw	F-46 Event (Men)
Deepti Jeevanji	Bronze	Athletics	Women's 400m T20
Mariyappan Thangavelu	Bronze	Athletics	High Jump T63
Kapil Parmar	Bronze	Judo	J1-60kg Category
Simran Sharma	Bronze	Athletics	200m T12 (Women)
Hokato Hotze Sema	Bronze	Athletics	Shot Put F57 (Men)

### Duleep Trophy 2024

- It is related to first-class cricket of domestic cricket of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).
- Matches between four teams (India A, India B, India C, India D) for the Duleep Trophy were played from 5<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024.
- India A won the trophy by defeating India C by 132 runs in the final.
- India A's Shashwat Rawat was given the Player of the Match award.

### Diamond League 2024

- Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra won the silver medal at the Diamond League Final in Brussels, Belgium on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Neeraj Chopra missed the gold medal by just 1 centimeter by throwing the javelin 87.86 meters.
- Paris Olympics bronze medalist Anderson Peters won the gold medal with a javelin throw of 87.87 meters.

### Dhanup wins bronze at World Junior Weightlifting Championship

- Indian weightlifter Loganathan Dhanup won a bronze medal at the World Junior Weightlifting Championship held in León (Spain) on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Dhanup lifted a total of 231kg (107kg in snatch and 124kg in clean and jerk) in the 55kg weight category.

### Durand Cup 2024

- It is the oldest football tournament in Asia.
- In the final of its 33rd edition, North East United won the trophy for the first time by defeating Mohun Bagan SG 4-3 in a penalty shootout.
- North East goalkeeper Gurmeet Singh made two saves in the penalty shootout and was awarded the Player of the Match title.

### 45<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad

- The 45<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad under the auspices of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) was held in Budapest (Hungary) from 10<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024.
- India won gold medals in both the open and women's categories.

### Team Awards:

- Hamilton Russell Cup (Open Category):** Arjun Erigaisi, Rameshbabu Pragganandhaa, Dommaraju Gukesh, Vidit Gujrathi, Pentala Harikrishna.
- Women's Category :** Vantika Agarwal, Divya Deshmukh, Harika Dr onavalli, Vaishali Rameshbabu, Tania Sachdev.

### Indian Gold Medalists in Individual Category:

- Open Board 1:** D. Gukesh.
- Open Board 3:** Arjun Erigaisi.
- Women's Board 3:** Divya Deshmukh.
- Women's Board 4:** Vantika Agarwal.

### US Open Tennis 2024

- The 144<sup>th</sup> edition of the US Open, the last Grand Slam tennis tournament of the year 2024, took place in New York City on 26<sup>th</sup> August – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

Category	Winner
Men's Singles	Jannik Sinner (Italy)
Women's Singles	Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus).
Men's Doubles	Max Purcell and Jordan Thompson (Both Australia).
Women's Doubles	Lyudmyla Kichenok (Ukraine) and Jelena Ostapenko (Latvia).

### India's duo Jeevan & Vijay wins men's doubles title of Hangzhou Open(Tennis)

- The Indian pair of Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth won the men's doubles title of the Hangzhou Open 2024.
- This is the pair's first ATP title.
- They defeated German pair of Constantin Frantzen and Hendrik Jebens 4-6, 7-6, 10-7 in the final.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Men's Hockey Asian Champions Trophy

- It was held in Hulunbuir City, China from 8<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- In its final, the Indian team defeated China by 1-0 to win the Asian Champions Trophy for the record 5th time.
- Earlier, India has won this trophy in 2023, 2018, 2016, and 2011.
- Indian team captain Harmanpreet Singh was awarded the 'Player of the Tournament' title.(7 goals)

**U-20 World Wrestling Championship 2024**

- It was held on 2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at Pontevedra (Spain).
- Indian women wrestlers won 1 gold, 1 silver, and 3 bronze medals in this competition. Male wrestlers won 2 bronze medals.

**Indian Medal Winners**

Indian Wrestler	Category	Medal
Jyoti Berwal	Women's 76kg	Gold
Nikita	Women's 62kg	Silver
Neha	Women's 57kg	Bronze
Komal	Women's 59kg	Bronze
Srishti	Women's 68kg	Bronze
Ankush	Men's 57kg	Bronze
Bhuvnesh	Men's 61kg	Bronze

## 7. Awards and Honors

### Clean Air Survey Awards 2024

- Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav and Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma presented the Clean Air Survey Awards 2024 in Jaipur on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- This year's event was hosted by the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board.
- **Note:** Municipal Commissioners of the winning cities were awarded cash prizes, trophies and certificates.

### Best Performing Cities:

- **Category-1** (Population above 10 lakh): Surat, Jabalpur, Agra.
- **Category-2** (3 to 10 lakh population): Firozabad, Amravati, Jhansi.
- **Category-3** (Population less than 3 lakh): Raebareli, Nalgonda, Nalagarh.

### 'Best Tourism Village Competition -2024'

- **Announcement:** By Ministry of Tourism
- **Date of Announcement:** 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 (World Tourism Day)
- **Objective:** To promote tourism in villages while preserving the cultural and natural wealth of the India.
- In this, 36 villages from 30 states and union territories were declared winners in 8 categories.

### Winner Village (2024):

- **Adventure Tourism Category:**
  - Ghughmaras (Chhattisgarh), Aru (Jammu and Kashmir), Kutlur (Karnataka), Jakhol (Uttarakhand)
- **Agri-tourism Category:**
  - Kumarakom (Kerala), Karade (Maharashtra), Hansali (Punjab), Supi (Uttarakhand), Vadanagar (West Bengal)
- **Community Tourism Category:**
  - Chitrakot (Chhattisgarh), Minicoy Island (Lakshadweep), Sialsuk (Mizoram), Deomali (Rajasthan), Alpana Village (Tripura)
- **Craft Category:**
  - Sualkuchi (Assam), Pranpur (Madhya Pradesh), Umden (Meghalaya), Manibandha (Odisha), Nirmal (Telangana)
- **Heritage Category:**
  - Hafeshwar (Gujarat), Andro (Manipur), Maflang (Meghalaya), Keeladi (Tamil Nadu), Pura Mahadev (Uttar Pradesh)

- **Responsible Category:**

- Dudhani (Dadar Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu), Kadalude (Kerala), Tar Village (Ladakh), Sabarwani (Madhya Pradesh), Ladpura Khas (Madhya Pradesh)

- **Spiritual and Wellbeing Category:**

- Ahovilam (Andhra Pradesh), Vandora (Goa), Rickypeeth (Jharkhand), Melaklingam Patti (Tamil Nadu), Somasila (Telangana)

- **Vibrant Village Category:**

- Harsil and Gunji (Uttarakhand)

### National Florence Nightingale Award (2024)

- President Smt. Droupadi Murmu presented the National Florence Nightingale Awards to nursing professionals on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- A total of 15 nursing personnel were awarded for their outstanding commitment to duty and service to the community this year.
- Nursing worker Radhelal Sharma from Rajasthan was also honoured with the National Nightingale Award.
- Each winner was awarded a certificate of merit, a cash prize of ₹1 lakh, and a medal.
- The National Florence Nightingale Award was instituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- It aims to recognize and honour the meritorious services of outstanding nursing personnel.

### 54<sup>th</sup> Dadasaheb Phalke Award

- Veteran actor Mithun Chakraborty was honoured with the country's highest (54<sup>th</sup>) Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award.
- It was announced by Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnaw on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- The award was presented to him at the distribution ceremony of the 70<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024.
- Under this award, an amount of ₹ 10 lakh is awarded along with a golden lotus.
- Mithun Chakraborty has worked in more than 350 films in Bengali, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Odia and Bhojpuri in a career spanning 5 decades.
- He started his career with the film 'Mrigaya' in 1976 and received his first National Award for this film.
- Mithun has received the National Award 3 times so far. He was also awarded the Padma Shri in January 2024.

- **Note:** In the year 2023, actress Waheeda Rehman was awarded the (53<sup>rd</sup>) Dadasaheb Phalke Award.

**National Award for Teachers (2024)**

- President Droupadi Murmu conferred the National Teachers Award to 82 teachers for the year 2024 on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- The function was held on the occasion of National Teachers' Day at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- The awardees include 50 school teachers, 16 teachers from Higher Education Institutions and 16 from the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
  - The selected 50 school teachers are from 28 states, 3 union territories and 6 organizations.
  - These include 16 women.
- Teachers belonging to the Department of Higher Education and the Ministry of Skills and Entrepreneurship were brought under the purview of this award from 2023.
- Each awardee received a citation, silver medal, and a cash prize of Rs 50,000 each.

**Two teachers from Rajasthan honoured**

- Two teachers from Rajasthan were awarded the National Award for Teachers
1. Baljinder Singh Brar (Sriganganagar)
  2. Hukam Chand Chaudhary (Bikaner)
    - Baljinder Singh has been promoting Punjabi language and contributing to 'PM Poshan Yojana' through 'Paryavaran Paathshala'.
    - The app and web portal created by Hukam Chand Chaudhary proved useful for the students during the Corona period.

**Dhruvi Patel**

- Dhruvi Patel of USA won the title of 'Miss India Worldwide 2024' held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024 in New Jersey, USA.
- The first runner-up was Lisa Abdoelha of Suriname and the second runner-up was Malvika Sharma of Netherlands.

- The competition is organised by the India Festival Committee of New York.

**SASTRA Ramanujan Award 2024**

- Alexander Dunn has been awarded the prestigious SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for 2024.
- The award will be presented during the International Conference on Number Theory.
  - It will be held on December 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, at SASTRA University in Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu.
  - Kumbakonam is the hometown of Ramanujan.
- Dunn will be honored for his outstanding contributions to analytic number theory.

**SASTRA Ramanujan Award**

- The award was instituted in 2005.
- It is given to young mathematicians for their contributions to areas influenced by Ramanujan's research topic.
- Previous laureate mathematicians include Manjul Bhargava (2005), Terence Tao (2006), Akshay Venkatesh (2008), Peter Scholze (2013), James Maynard (2014), and Maryna Viazovska (2017).

**'Missing Ladies' becomes India's official entry to 97<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards**

- Kiran Rao-directed film "Missing Ladies" was selected as the India's official entry in the Best Foreign Film category at the 97<sup>th</sup> Oscar Awards (2025).
- The film stars Ravi Kishan, Sparsh Shrivastav, Pratibha Ranta and Nitanshi Goyal.
- The story revolves around two women — one woman who runs away from her family life in search of her husband while the other woman runs away from her family life in search of independence.

## 8. Popular Personalities

### Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh

- Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh was appointed as the new Indian Chief of Air Staff on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 .
- He replaced Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
- He was commissioned into the fighter branch of the Indian Air Force on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 1984.
- He is a qualified flight instructor and experimental test pilot.
- He has more than 5,000 hours of flying experience.
- Honours: He has been awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 2019 and Param Vishisht Seva Medal in 2023.

### Air Marshal Tejinder Singh

- Air Marshal Tejinder Singh became the Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
- Air Marshal Tejinder Singh has been awarded the Vayu Sena Medal in 2007 and the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 2022.

### Atishi Marlena

- Atishi Marlena has been appointed as the new Chief Minister of Delhi.
- She replaced Arvind Kejriwal.
- Atishi Marlena was sworn in as the third woman Chief Minister of Delhi on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
- Atishi Marlena has become the youngest Chief Minister of Delhi. Before him, Sushma Swaraj and Sheila Dikshit have been Chief Ministers.
- Along with her, Saurabh Bhardwaj , Gopal Rai , Kailash Gehlot , Imran Hussain and Mukesh Ahlawat also took oath as ministers.
- Atishi is a three-time MLA from Kalkaji seat.

### Sharath Kamal

- Top table tennis player Sharath Kamal was appointed as the first Indian ambassador of the International Table Tennis Federation ( ITTF) Foundation.
- He was felicitated at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
- Sharath Kamal has a record of winning 13 medals in the Commonwealth Games.
- He was also the men's flagbearer of the recent Paris Olympics.

### Tuhin Kant Pandey

- Senior IAS officer Tuhin Kant Pandey has been appointed as the Finance Secretary in the Union Government.
- He replaced T.V. Somanathan (now Cabinet Secretary).

### Amrit Mohan Prasad

- Senior Indian Police Service officer Amrit Mohan Prasad was appointed as the new Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- He is a 1989 batch officer of Odisha cadre.
- His tenure will be till August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025 or until further orders.

### Ramsevak Sharma

- The Open Network for Digital Commerce ( ONDC) has appointed R S Sharma as its non-executive chairman.
- Ramsevak Sharma has previously served as Director General of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), Chairman of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India ( TRAI) and CEO of the National Health Authority .
- ONDC is a government e-commerce platform , which works on a network-centric model , where sellers and buyers can transact without any platform or application.

### Justice Suresh Kumar Kait and Justice M.S. Ramachandra Rao

- In September 2024, new Chief Justices were appointed to the Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh High Courts.
- Justice Suresh Kumar Kait was sworn in as the 28<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- Justice M.S. Ramachandra Rao was sworn in as the 16<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice of the Chhattisgarh High Court on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### Alok Ranjan

- Alok Ranjan has been appointed as the Director of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).
- He is a 1991 batch Indian Police Service officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre.
- His term will be till June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

### Randhir Singh

- Former Indian shooter Randhir Singh was elected unopposed as the President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- He will hold this post till 2024-28.

### Shigeru Ishiba

- Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party has elected Shigeru Ishiba as the new Prime Minister of the country on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- Ishiba is a former defence minister of Japan.
- He replaced Fumio Kishida.

### Michel Barnier

- Michel Barnier has been appointed Prime Minister of France.
- He assumed office on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### Anura Kumara Dissanayake

- Anura Kumara Dissanayake was sworn in as the 10<sup>th</sup> President of Sri Lanka on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.
- He replaced Ranil Wickremesinghe.

**Harini Amarsuriya**

- She has become the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka.
- She became the third female Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. Before her, Sirimao Bandaranayake and Chandrika Kumaratunga have held this post.
- Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake administered the oath of office to Harini Amarsuriya as Prime Minister on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Abdelmadjid Tebboune**

- Abdelmadjid Tebboune has won Algeria's presidential election.
- He got 94.65 percent of the votes and was elected President for a second term.

**Zafar Hasan**

- Zafar Hassan has been appointed as the Prime Minister of Jordan.
- He took oath as Prime Minister on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Didier Guillaume**

- Didier Guillaume has become Monaco's Minister of State of the Principality.
- He assumed office on September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024.

**Saleema Imtiaz**

- Saleema Imtiaz was nominated to the ICC International Panel of Development Umpires.
- She is Pakistan's first female ICC umpire.

**Demise****Sitaram Yechury**

- He was the General Secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist).
- He passed away on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the age of 72.
- He was the General Secretary of CPI(M) since 2015.
- He was elected as a Rajya Sabha MP in 2005.

**Keki N. Daruwala:**

- He was a famous English poet and former IPS officer.
- He passed away on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the age of 87.
- He was a 1958 batch Indian Police Service officer.
- He also served in the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW).
- He won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1984.

**Aruna Vasudev**

- She was a famous film critic and writer.
- She died on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the age of 88.
- She was known as the 'Mother of Asian Cinema'.

## 9. Popular Places

### 'Sri Vijaya Puram': New name of Port Blair

- The central government has renamed Port Blair, the capital of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, as 'Sri Vijaya Puram'.
- The name Sri Vijaya Puram symbolizes the victory achieved in the freedom struggle of India and the unique role of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- This island region also served as the naval base of the Chola Empire.
- Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose hoisted the tricolor for the first time at this place.
- Earlier, Ross Island was renamed as Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Island, where a model of a national memorial dedicated to Netaji was constructed.

### Pune (Maharashtra): India's first 'CO<sub>2</sub>-to-methanol pilot plant'

- The foundation stone for India's first CO<sub>2</sub>-to-methanol pilot plant was laid at Thermax Ltd in Pune, Maharashtra.
- The plant has a capacity of 1.4 tonnes per day (TPD) and is a pioneering effort in carbon reduction and conversion technology.
- The project is being implemented under a public-private partnership (PPP) between the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi and Thermax Limited.
- It is supported by the Department of Science & Tech (DST) under the Union Ministry of Science and Technology.

### Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh): India's first conservation and breeding centre for Asian vultures

- The India's first conservation and breeding centre for Asian vultures was inaugurated on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at Bharawisi in Campierganj

range of Gorakhpur forest division of Uttar Pradesh.

- This centre has been named as "Jatayu Conservation and Breeding Centre".
- The centre aims to improve the population of the Asian king vulture species.
- Since 2007, Asian vultures have been listed as Critically Endangered in the Red list of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

### Kalinganagar (Odisha): India's largest blast furnace

- Tata Steel Limited has commissioned the 'India's largest blast furnace' as part of the second phase expansion of its plant at Kalinganagar in Odisha.
- It is a reactor converting iron ore into pig iron (Impure Iron), which is used in the iron and steel industry.
- The capacity of this new blast furnace is 5,870 m<sup>3</sup> and will enhance the overall production capabilities of Tata Steel.
- This furnace will be able to meet the demands of various industries including automotive, infrastructure, power, shipbuilding, and defence.

### Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh): Vedic-3DMuseum

- The Uttar Pradesh government will construct a Vedic-3D museum in the main building of Sampurnanand Sanskrit University in Varanasi.
- The museum will be dedicated to Indian astrology, astronomy and Vedic literature.
- "Showcasing the development of Vedic literature, it will highlight the contribution of Indian sages along with the 16 rites (Samskaras), 64 arts, and 18 centers of knowledge (Vidya Sthalas)."



## 10. Important facts

### "Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF)"

- Union Bank of India decided to sign the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF) on September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- It is the first bank in India that is signing the PCAF.
- The move is in line with the draft guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Climate Risk Management and Climate-Related Risk Disclosure.
- PCAF was initiated in 2015 by 14 financial institutions in the Netherlands led by ASN Bank.
- This initiative serves to increase the transparency and accountability of the financial industry for the Paris Agreement.

### Habitation rights formally granted to Mankidia community

- Recently, the Mankidia community of Odisha was formally granted habitat rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.
- Mankidia is the second Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) to get Habitat Rights in Odisha.
- Habitat rights are provided by District Level Committees (DLCs).
- The Mankidia community is an Austro-Asiatic community that earns a living mainly from forests.
- Odisha has so far granted Habitat Rights to 6 PVTG communities which is the highest in the country.

### Nutrition Month Program 2024 : Ranking

- Maharashtra has become the top performing state in conducting awareness campaigns under the Poshan Maah organised by the central government.
- The nutrition month programme focuses on prevention of anaemia, monitoring of growth, good governance and effective service delivery through technology.
- Every year September is celebrated as National Nutrition Month all over the country.

### Cyclone Asna

- Cyclone Asna is a rare meteorological phenomenon, which originated in the Arabian Sea.
- The name "Asna" was given to this cyclone by Pakistan, which means "to be accepted or deserve praise".
- The cyclone took the form of a cyclone in the Kutch coast of Gujarat and surrounding areas of Pakistan.
- Cyclone Asna was a land-originating rare storm that started as a low-pressure area in the Bay of Bengal on August 16<sup>th</sup> and moved westwards and intensified into a cyclone in the Arabian Sea near Kutch on August 30<sup>th</sup>.
- This is only the fourth cyclone after 1944 to originate in the Arabian Sea in August.

### Thanjavur Veena

- The Thanjavur veena is the first musical instrument in the country to get the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- After this, Bobbili Veena of Andhra Pradesh has also been given the GI tag.
- There are four types of veena:
  - Rudra Veena and Vichitra Veena (popular in Hindustani classical music)
  - Saraswati Veena and Chitra Veena (used in Carnatic classical music)
- Thanjavur is the only place where Saraswati Veena is made.

### First Combined Commanders' Conference

- It was held in Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh) from September 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- The theme was "Empower and Secure India: Transforming the Armed Forces".
- The defence minister and top brass of the armed forces were led by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan.

# 11. Indexes & Reports

## Global Innovation Index-GII 2024

- Institution: Issued by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).
- First place: Switzerland
- Last place (133rd): Angola

### Top 5 Countries

1. Switzerland
2. Sweden
3. US
4. Singapore
5. UK

### Performance of India:

- India finished at 39th with a score of 38.3. (India was ranked 40th in the year 2023).
- **Listed Indian cities** : Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru and Chennai among the world's top 100 technology clusters.

## Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2024

- Institution: Issued by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
- Countries in GCI 2024 have been evaluated based on five key parameters:
  1. Legal
  2. Technical
  3. Organizational
  4. Capacity Development
  5. Cooperation
- GCI has reached Tier 1 in 2024 with India 98.49 score and joined the ranks of 'role modeling' countries, the highest level in cybersecurity.
- In this, 46 countries have been placed in Tier 1, including India's neighboring countries Bangladesh and Pakistan. They demonstrate strong commitment across all five cybersecurity parameters.
- Most of the countries (105) are placed in Tier 3 and Tier 4.
- According to GCI 2024, the Africa region has made the most progress in cybersecurity since 2021.

## State Food Security Index (SFSI) 2024

- Institution: Issued by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
- The index annually evaluates the food safety performance of states and union territories.
- **Top 5 States:**
  1. Kerala (2nd Consecutive year)
  2. Tamil Nadu
  3. Jammu & Kashmir
  4. Gujarat
  5. Nagaland

## Asia Power Index 2024

- Institution: Released by the Australia's Sydney-based think tank Lowy Institute. '
- In this index, United States of America is the first and China is second.
- India (with a score: 39.1) is ranked 3rd in the Asia Power Index 2024 .
- The index ranks 27 countries and territories based on their ability to deliver foreign policy direction.
- India has shown remarkable economic recovery after the Covid pandemic, which contributed to a 4.2-point increase in its economic potential.
- India is ranked as the third largest economy in the world in terms of huge population and strong GDP growth and purchasing power parity.

## IMD World Talent Rankings 2024

- This ranking is released by Switzerland-based Institute for Management Development (IMD).
- It covers 67 economies. It is published by the IMD World Competitiveness Centre (WCC).
- Under this, Switzerland has topped the list as the world's most competitive country for the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.
- In this, the ranking of India has fallen 2 places from 56<sup>th</sup> position (2023) to 58<sup>th</sup> position (2024). The overall score of the India is 40.7.
- In this, the performance of India in the appeals category has been stable compared to the previous year and ranked 53<sup>rd</sup> in 2024.
- The India's rankings have dropped significantly in the readiness and investment and development category.
- The ranking of India in the readiness category has decreased from 18 (2022) to 35 (2024 ). Similarly, the ranking of India in investment and development declined from 61 (2022) to 66 (2024).
- In this, India has secured 12<sup>th</sup> position in Asia-Pacific countries.



**Time 100 AI 2024 List**

- The famous American magazine Time released the list titled 'Time 100 AI 2024' on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- This list is of 100 influential people who have made special contributions in the field of artificial intelligence (AI). Time has divided this list into four categories:

1. Leaders
2. Innovators
3. Shapers
4. Thinkers

**Indians included in the list (included only in the Shapers category)**

1. Ashwini Vaishnaw (Minister of Railways)
2. Anil Kapoor (Bollywood actor)
3. Nandan Nilekani (Co-founder of Infosys)

**Indian-Americans included in the list**

Leaders Category	Innovators Category	Thinkers Category	Shapers Range
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sundar Pichai (CEO of Google and Alphabet)</li> <li>• Satya Nadella (CEO of Microsoft)</li> <li>• Rohit Prasad (Amazon, SVP and Head Scientist)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arvind Srinivas (CEO, Perplexity)</li> <li>• Shiva Rao (Co-founder of Abridge)</li> <li>• Anant Vijay Singh (Product Lead, Proton)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amba Kak (Co-Executive Director, AI Now Institute)</li> <li>• Dwarkesh Patel (Host, Dwarkesh Podcast)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amandeep Singh Gill (UN Secretary-General's Technology Envoy)</li> <li>• Aarti Prabhakar (Director of US Office of Science and Technology Policy)</li> <li>• Vinod Khosla (Founder, Khosla Ventures)</li> <li>• Divya Siddharth (Co-founder, Collective Intelligence Project)</li> </ul>

**Relative Economic Performance of Indian States: 1960-61 to 2023-24 Report**

- The Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) has released a working paper titled 'Relative Economic Performance of Indian States: 1960-61 to 2023-24'.
- The western and southern regions of the India have performed better economically than other regions from 1960-61 to 2023-24.
- In the financial year ending March 2024, the 5 large southern states (Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, Tamil Nadu) together contributed about 30% to the India's GDP.
- Maharashtra is still the largest contributor (13.3%) state to India's GDP.
- Gujarat's share in GDP increased from 6.4% in 2000-01 to 8.1% in 2022-23.
- Uttar Pradesh's contribution to GDP has come down from 14% in 1960-61 to 9.5% at present.
- Bihar contributes 4.3% to GDP. (It is the third most populous state in India.)
- West Bengal's share in national GDP was 10.5% in 1960-61, which has now declined to 5.6% in 2023-24.

- Delhi, Telangana, Karnataka and Haryana will have the highest relative per capita income in 2023-24.
  - Delhi's per capita income is 250.8% higher than the national average.
- Gujarat (160.7% of the national average) and Maharashtra (150.7% of the national average) have maintained above-average incomes since the 1960s .
- Odisha's per capita income has improved significantly, from 55.8% in 2000-01 to 88.5% in 2023-24.

Richest Indian states (based on relative per capita income) as% of average per capita national income		
State/UT	1960-61	2023-24
Delhi	218.30%	250.80%
Telangana	-	193.60%
Karnataka	96.70%	180.70%
Haryana	106.90%	176.80%
Tamil Nadu	109.20%	171.10%

## 12. Important Days and Weeks

Date	Day	Important facts
September 2 <sup>nd</sup>	World Coconut Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: 'Coconut for a Circular Economy: Building Partnerships for Maximum Value'</li> <li>The purpose of World Coconut Day is to raise awareness about the importance of coconuts and their role in the economic stability of many countries.</li> <li>The Asian Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) started this day in 2009.</li> </ul>
September 5 <sup>th</sup>	International Day of Charity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: "Global solidarity to eradicate poverty"</li> <li>The United Nations established this day in 2012 to promote charity as a means of alleviating poverty and humanitarian crises.</li> <li>It commemorates the anniversary of Mother Teresa's death, a symbol of philanthropic work and compassion.</li> </ul>
September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Teachers' Day (India)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher's Day in India is celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> September, which is the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who was the second President of India, revered philosopher and teacher.</li> </ul>
September 8 <sup>th</sup>	International Literacy Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: 'Promoting Multilingual Education: Literacy for Mutual Understanding and Peace'</li> <li>Established by UNESCO in 1966, International Literacy Day aims to highlight the importance of literacy as a matter of dignity and a human right.</li> </ul>
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	World Suicide Prevention Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme for 2024: "Creating Hope through Action"</li> <li>World Suicide Prevention Day has been observed since 2003.</li> <li>It is organized by the International Suicide Prevention Association (IASP) in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO).</li> </ul>
September 11 <sup>th</sup>	National Forest Martyrs Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Forest Martyrs Day honours those who have sacrificed their lives while protecting forests and wildlife.</li> <li>It was first celebrated in 2013.</li> <li>It commemorates the Khejarli massacre of 1730, in which 360 members of the Bishnoi tribe were martyred while protecting trees in Rajasthan.</li> </ul>
September 14 <sup>th</sup>	World First Aid Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: "First Aid in a Digital World"</li> <li>World First Aid Day is observed on the second Saturday of September each year.</li> <li>It was initiated in 2000 by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).</li> </ul>
September 14 <sup>th</sup>	Hindi Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: "Hindi – Connecting traditional knowledge and artificial intelligence"</li> <li>Hindi Day commemorates the adoption of Hindi as one of the official languages of the India by the Constituent Assembly in 1949.</li> </ul>
September 15 <sup>th</sup>	International Day of Democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The day was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007.</li> <li>It aims to promote and follow the principles of democracy.</li> </ul>
September 15 <sup>th</sup>	Engineer's Day (India)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This day is celebrated in honor of eminent Indian engineer Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya.</li> </ul>
September 16 <sup>th</sup>	World Ozone Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: 'Montreal Protocol: Advancing Climate Action'</li> <li>The day commemorates the signing of the Montreal Protocol in 1987.</li> <li>Its objective was to protect the ozone layer by phasing out substances that could damage the ozone layer.</li> </ul>

September 17 <sup>th</sup>	World Patient Safety Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: "Improving diagnosis for patient safety"</li> <li>Established in 2019 by the World Health Organization (WHO), World Patient Safety Day aims to raise awareness of patient safety and reduce the risk of medical errors.</li> </ul>
September 18 <sup>th</sup>	World Bamboo Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: "Next Generation Bamboo: Solutions , Innovations and Design"</li> <li>The day promotes the sustainable use and conservation of bamboo , which is an important natural resource.</li> </ul>
September 21 <sup>st</sup>	International Day of Peace (UN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: "Developing a Culture of Peace. "</li> <li>This day is celebrated globally to promote peace and non-violence.</li> </ul>
September 21 <sup>st</sup>	World Alzheimer's Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme for the year 2024: "Time to act on dementia , time to act on Alzheimer's. "</li> <li>The day is part of World Alzheimer's Month , an international campaign to challenge and raise awareness of the stigma associated with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.</li> </ul>
September 21 <sup>st</sup>	International Red Panda Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Red Panda Day, celebrated on the third Saturday of September, was observed on September 21<sup>st</sup> this year.</li> <li>The day was started in 2010 by the Red Panda Network and focuses on raising global awareness about the endangered Red Panda.</li> </ul>
September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Rose Day (Welfare of Cancer Patients)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rose Day aims to provide support and hope to people battling cancer.</li> </ul>
September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	World Rhino Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was first established in 2010 by the World Wildlife Fund ( WWF) and various conservation partners to highlight the plight of rhinos and the urgent need for their conservation.</li> <li>The day aims to draw attention to the dangers faced by rhinos.</li> </ul>
September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	World Rivers Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: 'Waterways of Life'</li> <li>World Rivers Day, celebrated on the fourth Sunday of September, was first established in 2005.</li> <li>It aimed to raise awareness about water issues globally.</li> </ul>
September 23 <sup>rd</sup>	International Day of Sign Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme for the year 2024: 'Sign up for Sign Language Rights'</li> <li>Declared by the United Nations General Assembly, the day highlights the importance of sign languages in achieving the full realization of the human rights of deaf people.</li> <li>This date marks the establishment of the World Federation of the Deaf in 1951.</li> </ul>
September 25 <sup>th</sup>	World Pharmacists Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme for 2024: "Pharmacists: Meeting Global Health Needs. "</li> <li>The day is celebrated by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) to promote the profession and its contribution to global health.</li> <li>It is observed annually to acknowledge the role of pharmacists in improving healthcare across the world.</li> </ul>
September 27 <sup>th</sup>	World Tourism Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: "Tourism and Peace. "</li> <li>The day was established by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in 1980.</li> <li>It promotes sustainable tourism for economic development and cultural exchange.</li> </ul>
September 28 <sup>th</sup>	World Rabies Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: 'Breaking Rabies Boundaries'</li> <li>It aims to raise awareness about rabies prevention and control.</li> <li>It is dedicated to Louis Pasteur, who developed the first rabies vaccine.</li> </ul>
September 29 <sup>th</sup>	World Heart Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme of the year 2024: 'Use Heart for Action'</li> <li>Established by the World Heart Federation , World Heart Day promotes awareness of cardiovascular diseases.</li> </ul>
September 30 <sup>th</sup>	International Translation Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The day honours the work of translators The role of interpreters and authors is critical in promoting global communication and understanding.</li> </ul>

<b>1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>	<b>National Nutrition Week</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theme: "Nutritious Foods for All"</li><li>• The objective of the National Nutrition Week is to raise awareness about the importance of balanced diet and healthy eating practices.</li></ul>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>, September 2024:</b>	<b>India Water Week</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inaugurated: By Smt. Droupadi Murmu, President of India.</li><li>• Conducted By: Ministry of Jal Shakti.</li><li>• Theme: 'Partnership and Cooperation for Inclusive Water Development and Management'.</li></ul>