

MONTHLY

CURRENT AFFAIRS

DECEMBER-2024

INDEX

- International
- ▶ National
- ▶ Rajasthan
- ▶ Science & Tech.
- ▶ Summary
- ▶ Sports





INDEX

		Page No.
1	Rajasthan Affairs	1 – 13
2	National Affairs	14
3	Economic Affairs	15
4	International Affairs	16 – 17
5	Space & Defence Technology	18 – 19
6	Sports	20 – 21
7	Awards and Honors	22 – 24
8	Person in News	25 – 27
9	Place in News	28
10	Miscellaneous	29
11	Index and reports	30 -32

MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

December: 2024



Near Riddhi-Siddhi Circle, Gopalpura Bypass, Jaipur



1. Rajasthan Affairs

Redrawing of newly formed districts and divisions in Rajasthan

- In Rajasthan, the newly formed districts and divisions have been redetermined. Under this, the formation of 9 newly formed districts and 3 divisions in Rajasthan has been canceled.
- In this context, the notification was issued by the Revenue Department of the Government of Rajasthan on 29th December 2024.
- With the addition of 8 new districts in Rajasthan, now there will be 41 districts and a total of 7 divisions in the state.
- Note: The previous government had decided to create 17 new districts and 3 new divisions in the state in the year 2023, in order of which the notification was issued by the Revenue Department on 5 August 2023.
- A Cabinet Sub-Committee headed by Madan Dilawar and a High Level Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Lalit K. Panwar, Retired IAS, was constituted by the State Government to review these districts and divisions.
- The report and recommendations made by the Expert Committee regarding realignment of newly formed districts and divisions were placed before the Cabinet Sub-Committee.
- Apart from this, the state cabinet has also decided to cancel 3 new districts Malpura, Sujangarh and Kuchaman City announced just before the code of conduct.

Cancelled Districts	Districts retained
Anupgarh	Phalodi
Dudu	Balotra
Gangapur City	Kotputli-Behror
Jaipur Rural	Khairthal-Tijara
Jodhpur Rural	Bayavar
Kekri	Deeg
Neem Ka Thana	Deedwana-Kuchaman
Sanchore	Salumbar
Shahpura	

Now 7 Divisions in Rajasthan

Division as District wise

1. Jaipur	Jaipur, Dausa, Alwar, Sikar,	
	Jhunjhunu, Kotputli - Behror,	
	Khairthal - Tijara	
2. Jodhpur	Jodhpur, Pali, Jaisalmer, Barmer,	
	Jalore, Sirohi, Phalodi, Balotra	
3. Bikaner	Bikaner, Sri Ganganagar, Churu,	
	Hanumangarh	

4. Ajmer	Ajmer, Nagaur, Tonk, Bhilwara,	
	Didwana-Kuchaman, Beawar	
5. Kota	Kota, Bundi, Baran, Jhalawar	
6. Udaipur	Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Rajsamand,	
	Banswara, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh,	
	Salumbhar	
7. Bharatpur	Bharatpur, Dholpur, Karauli, Sawai	
	Madhopur, Deeg	

'Rising Rajasthan' Global Investment Summit 2024

- Event: 9-11 December 2024 in Jaipur.
- Inauguration: On December 9, by Prime Minister Modi.
- Theme: "REPLETE, RESPONSIBLE, READY"
- The objective is to invite big and small companies, international institutions and investors from the country and abroad to work in the state, to cooperate in setting up various types of industries in the state and to provide other facilities.
- Goal: To make Rajasthan a 350 billion dollar economy in the next 5 years and to pursue the 'Developed Rajasthan' action plan.

Summit Organizers

- Industries & Commerce Department, Government of Rajasthan
- o Bureau of Investment Promotion (BIP)
- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO)
- Rajasthan Foundation
- Nodal Department: Bureau of Investment Promotion (BIP).
- Summit Partner: Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)
- Industry Partner of 'Rising Rajasthan' Summit: Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- Knowledge Partner of 'Rising Rajasthan' Summit: PwC India
- Prior to the start of this summit, MoUs worth more than Rs 35 lakh crore were signed.
 - This is the highest figure ever in Rajasthan's investment summit.

Partner Countries of 'Rising Rajasthan' Global Investment Summit 2024 (17)

Argentina
 Brazil
 Costa Rica
 Cuba
 Denmark
 Japan
 Morocco
 Nepal
 Oman
 Poland
 Singapore
 South Korea



15. Switzerland17. Venezuela

16. Thailand

Participating Countries (15)

1. Australia
 2. Chad
 3. Ecuador
 4. Egypt
 5. Finland
 6. Germany
 7. Ghana
 8. Indonesia
 9. Iraq
 10. Madagascar
 11. Paraguay
 12. Russia
 13. Seychelles
 14. The UK

15. Zimbabwe

Rising Rajasthan will be held every 2 years

- Upcoming events: Year 2026.
- MoU review: December 11, 2025.
- Central Government Assistance:
 - Advanced Technology Labs to be set up in institutions like IIT Jodhpur and Central University.

• State Government Initiatives:

- Rajasthan Investment Promotion Policy-2024 and other 9 policies released.
- MoUs: Over ₹35 lakh crore.
- MSME contribution: 25% to the state's GSDP

Pravasi Rajasthani Day

- It is celebrated every year on 10 December.
- Overseas Department: Special department in the interest of migrant Rajasthanis.
- Honour:
 - Pravasi Rajasthani Award every year.
- Aid:
 - Single Point Contact at District Level for migrant Rajasthani's.

PKC-ERCP: Laying of foundation stone of first phase

- Draw Date: 17 December 2024.
- Location: Dadia Village, Jaipur.
- Inaugurated by : Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



• Memorandum of Agreement (MOA):

 Between Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and the Central Government.

Profit:

- Rajasthan: 21 districts, 3.45 crore population, 85 assembly constituencies.
- Madhya Pradesh: 13 districts.

Water Allocation:

- Rajasthan: 4103 million cubic metres (MCM).
- Madhya Pradesh: 3000 million cubic metres (MCM).

First Step:

• Bringing water from Navnera Barrage to Bisalpur and Isarda.

Beneficiary 21 Districts:

 Jaipur, Jhalawar, Baran, Kota, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, Ajmer, Tonk, Dausa, Karauli, Alwar, Bharatpur, Dholpur, Gangapur City, Beawar, Kekri, Kotputli-Behror, Dudu, Khairthal-Tijara, Deeg and Jaipur Rural.

Policies

9 new policies launched in Rajasthan



- Launch: 4 December 2024.
- **Objective:** To attract investment, promote industrial development, create employment opportunities.
 - 1. MSME Policy-2024
 - 2. Export Promotion Policy-2024
 - 3. One District-One Product (ODOP) Policy
 - 4. Tourism Unit Policy-2024
 - 5. Integrated Clean Energy Policy 2024
 - 6. Mineral Policy-2024
 - 7. M-SEND Policy-2024
 - 8. Cluster Development Plan
 - 9. AVGC & XR (Audio Visual Graphics Comics & Extended Reality) Policy-2024

"Medical Value Travel Policy"

Objectives:

- o To promote medical tourism in the state.
- Government and private hospitals have to be developed according to international standards.
- Ayurvedic and wellness services will be promoted.
- Increasing employment opportunities with improvement in health services.



- Under this, the government will have strict control over the activities of agents.
- Clear guidelines will be issued to protect patients from fraud and simplify their medical procedures.

Draft Hill Policy for Hill Areas Released in Rajasthan

- The draft of the Hill Policy was released by the Rajasthan government on 5 December 2024.
- This draft was issued under the name "Regulations for the Protection of Mountains in Urban Areas 2024".

- Construction on mountains with a slope of more than 15 degrees is completely prohibited.
- ISRO uses **Cartosat data** to measure mountain height.
- Applicable in the entire state except Mount Abu Eco-Sensitive Zone.
- Construction of parking at the bottom of the hill is mandatory.
- Effective for conservation of water bodies and Aravalli region.
- GIS software based digital elevation model data to categorization.
- Cooperation of State Remote Sensing Agency mandatory for local bodies.

A Category	B Category	C Category		
 A terrain which slopes up to 8 degrees. 	 An area outside A category and whose slope is more than 8° and up to 15° 	 It refers to a land outside the A and B categories and has a slope of more than 15°. 		
Construction as per the master plan.	 Low-density activities like farmhouses, resorts, and camping sites. Basement and steel floor construction prohibited. Plantation of local trees on 40% of the land area is mandatory. 	 Completely prohibited construction. 		

Person in News

Sanjay Malhotra

- Appointment: 26th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- Approval: Appointments Committee of the Union Cabinet.
- Tenure: 3 years.
- Assumption of office: 11 December 2024.
- Former Revenue Secretary.

Vinod Kumar Jangid

- Fame: The creation of a sandalwood carved sword.
- Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma meets Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Rising Rajasthan Summit.
- Speciality:
 - 40 inches long, Weighing 2 kg.
 - Biography of Maharana Pratap.
- Honour:
 - Craft Guru Award (2017).
 - National Award (1995), State Award (1985).
 - Maharaja Sajjan Singh Award (2006).

Poonam Kanwar

- She is the first woman from Indian Railway Protection Force(RPF) to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in the continent of Africa.
- Post: Women Constable, Railway Protection Special Force, Asnol, West Bengal.

Rajasthan High Court appoints 3 new judges

- Recommendation: Supreme Court Collegium.
- Name: Chandra Shekhar Sharma, Pramil Mathur, Chandra Prakash Shrimali.
- Status: Notification issued after President's approval.
- The current strength of judges in the Rajasthan High Court has gone up to 35. (Approved: 50)

Siddharth Mudgal

 Of Rajasthan origin, to fight election in February 2025 from the Munich seat on the ticket of the CSU party in Germany.

Former athlete Hamida Bano

- Died: 7 December 2024 (aged 64)
- Achievements
 - 1982 Asian Games, Delhi Silver medal.
 - Udaipur's first international medal-winning female athlete.



Place in News

Bharatpur & Bikaner Development Authority

- Notification Released: 15 December 2024.
- **Department:** Urban Development & Housing.
 - Objective: To provide orderly and planned development of urban areas and basic amenities to the common man.
- Regional Expansion:

Bikaner Development	Bharatpur Development	
Authority	Authority	
 Present area of Urban 	 Present area of Urban 	
Development Trust	development Trust	
Bikaner.	Bharatpur.	
 Napasar, Deshnok and 	■ 209 Villages.	
185 villages.		

World's First Industrial Zinc Park

- Announcement: Vedanta Group Chairman Anil Agarwal at the Rising Rajasthan Summit.
- **Location:** Chanderia, Chittorgarh (Near Zinc-led smelter of Hindustan Zinc).
- **Objective:** To make Rajasthan a global hub for metal and manufacturing.
- **Features:** Powered by renewable energy.
 - Facility for new entrepreneurs to start an industry with an investment of less than Rs.
 5 crore.
 - Supply of Zinc, Lead, Silver and related byproducts.

Rajasthan's largest state-of-the-art skill development centre

- Name: Sohan Singh Memorial Skill Development Centre.
- **Location:** Sitapura, Jaipur (Apparel Park Industrial Area).
- **Inauguration:** 11 December 2024, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar.
- **Capacity:** Training of more than 500 youth in one shift.
- **Description:** Area: 1 lakh 25 thousand square feet.
 - o Building: 7 storeys.
 - o Skill courses of more than a dozen subjects.
 - Training of Incubation Centres and Drone Operations.

• Partnerships:

- o National Skill Development Corporation.
- o IIM Bombay.

Rajasthan's first tiger reserve with boating facility

• **Location:** Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve, Bundi.

- Boating facility at **Shambhusagar Lake.**
- The tiger will be the first reserve with boating availability along with safari.

Name Change in Rajasthan

- The firing range located in Jaisalmer is named "Atal Firing Range".
- The name of the Police Training Centre at Jodhpur is "Sardar Patel Police Training Centre".
- **e-Governance Award:** "Atal e-Governance Award".
- The name of the computer room of the state schools is "Atal Computer Room".

Rajasthan Mandapam

- Location: Jaipur.
- Objective: To promote the state's art, culture and tourism.
 - A major centre for cultural and business events.

Features:

- A combination of modern technology and traditional Rajasthani architecture.
- Construction of "Unity Mall" under Make in India and One Nation One Product.

Tanot Mata Temple

- Location: Jaisalmer.
- It will be developed into a world-class religious and tourist destination in a phased manner.

Pugal: World's Largest Solar Park

- Capacity: 4,000 MW.
- Inauguration: 17 December 2024, virtual foundation stone laying by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Description: Three solar parks, total cost ₹2378 crore.

• Phased Construction:

- o 2,000 MW (₹1,200 crore).
- 1,000 MW (₹590 crore and ₹588 crore).
- o Area: 8,000 hectares.
- Developer: Rajasthan Solar Park Development Company Limited.

German Defence Manufacturing Unit in Rajasthan

- Location: Tinwari Industrial Area, Jodhpur.
- Company: Albatross.
- Objective: Manufacture of defence, aerospace and medical equipment.
- Land allotment: 10,000 sqm by RIICO.

Ashop Forest Area

• **Location**: Dantada in Kotri subdivision of Shahpura district, 45 km from Bhilwara.



• **Declaration**: Hunting prohibited and conservation reserve area for the conservation of blackbucks.

Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) at Dahlawas, Jaipur

- Opening: 18 December 2024.
- New unit: 90 MLD capacity.
- Total Treatment Capacity: 215 MLD.

Energy Projects:

- 1.2 MW biogas based power plant.
- 1.5 MW solar power plant.

Technology to grow crops with sewerage water in Jodhpur with the help of Israel

- Location: Salawas, Jodhpur.
- Area: Crop production in 3,000 hectares.
- Cooperation: Israel Embassy, Rajasthan Pollution Control Board, and Water Development Department.
- Irrigation will be done through micro irrigation system.

Govt approves setting up of nuclear reactor in Gandhinagar

- Location: Gandhisagar, Chambal River Valley.
- Organization: Joint Project of Nuclear Power Corporation and NTPC.

700 MW nuclear unit at Rawatbhata

- Specialty: 25th nuclear reactor of the country and 7th nuclear reactor of Rawatbhata.
- Design: Indigenous Design, Prototype Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR).
- This will be similar to units 3 and 4 of Kakrapar project (Gujarat).
- **Capacity:** India's total nuclear capacity after the unit becomes operational is 8,780 MW.

Conservation and Development of Chhatris of Amer, Nahargarh and Gaitore

- Objective: Conservation of tourism and historical sites.
- Budget: ₹49.31 crore
- Project Part: Included in 40 projects from 23 states.
- Benefits: Development of tourist destinations and increase in tourism.

"Vidya Samiksha Kendra" (VSK)

- Venue: Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, Shiksha Sankul, Jaipur.
- Cost: ₹8 crore
- Objective: To ensure quality education, monitoring of attendance and academic performance of students and accountability of teachers and officials.

• Monitoring: More than 70,000 government schools and 1.28 lakh teachers.

7375 MW Solar Projects

Project 1:	Project 2:		
• Capacity: 2000 MW.	 Location: Pugal, 		
Phase 1: MoU with	Bikaner.		
Neyveli Lignite	• Capacity: 2450 MW.		
Corporation for 810 MW.	• Cost: ₹1100 crore		
Project 3:	Project 4:		
 Location: Jaisalmer. 	 Location: Nokh, 		
• Capacity: 2000 MW.	Bikaner.		
Cost: ₹9000 crore	• Capacity: 925 MW.		

Drone Manufacturing Unit & AI Game Development Center

- Drone Manufacturing:
 - o Location: Jaipur.
- Initial investment: ₹450 crore.
- AI Game Development Center: For indoor and outdoor games.

Dr. B R Ambedkar Panorama

- Location: Jaipur.
- Announcement: 8th December 2024, on the 69th Maha Parinirvan Diwas.

Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship Management

- Location: Sawai Madhopur.
- Announcement: State Budget 2023-24.

Information Technology Park in Ajmer

- Location: Makadwali Village, Ajmer.
- Area: 12.95 hectares.
- Advantages: Investment incentives of IT companies.

SMS Jaipur: India's first government hospital with feedback system

- Speciality:
 - Feedback from patients on the lines of private hospitals.
 - Correction based on feedback after discharge.
- Objective: To provide better healthcare facilities to patients.

Awards & Honours

Mukut Maniraj

- **Honours:** Rajasthani language Sahitya Akademi Award 2024.
- Masterpiece: Poem "Gaon Ar Amma".



Sahitya Akademi Awards 2024

- Announcement: 18 December 2024.
- Categories: Eight poetry collections, three novels, two story collections and three essays.
- Awarded books published between 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2022.
- Prize: Engraved copperplate, shawl, ₹1,00,000 cash
- President of Sahitya Akademi: Shri Madhav Kaushik

Award Winners

language	Book & Genre	writer	
English	Spirit Nights (novel)	Esterine Kir	
Hindi	Mei jab tak aae bahar (Poem)	Gagan Gill	
Rajasthani	Gaon Ar Amma (poem)	Mukut Maniraj	
Sanskrit	Bhaskaracharitam (Poem)	Deepak Kumar Sharma	

Rajasthan Youth Icon Award

- Announcement: State Government.
- Will be given on 12 January 2025.
- Areas: Art & Culture, Social Work, Science & Technology, Innovation, Education, Environment, Women Empowerment, Sanitation etc.
- Age group: 15-29 years.

Breed Conservation Award to Equine Research Centre, Bikaner

- Delivered for the second time in a row.
- For the conservation and promotion of Marwari horses
- **Organization:** Provided by Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Karnal.

Salumbar and Dungarpur districts to receive National Award for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities 2024

- Objective: Empowerment and awareness of Persons with Disabilities.
- Salumbar:
 - 1,000+ Government Buildings Accessible to Persons with Disabilities.
 - Ramps and lift facilities through house-tohouse survey.
- Dungarpur:
 - "No One is Left Behind" campaign.
 - Pension, UDID card, and assistance through self-help groups.

Farmers Respect for Organic Farming

- Award: ₹1 lakh to three farmers.
- Eligibility:

- 5 years Agricultural/Horticultural Production, Organic Certification (2 years onwards)
- Activities like vermicompost, green manure, crop rotation.

Rajasthan's Mohammad Salim gets MF Husain Award

- Conferred by the Indian Royal Academy of Art and Culture.
- Contribution to the Indian art world.

Acharya Ramchandra Shukla Award

- Dr. Rajesh Kumar Vyas of Rajasthan.
- Masterpiece: For "Insights into the Arts".
- Provided by the Government of Madhya Pradesh.
- Award: ₹1 lakh and citation.

Sustainable Development Awards

- Dr. Swati Jain of Rajasthan.
- Provided by the Council for Sustainable Peace and Development and the World Academy of Informatics and Management Sciences.
- To contribute to the education sector.

Major Events, Schemes

Mukhyamantri SVANidhi Yojana

- Launch: 15 December 2024, Jaipur.
- Beneficiaries: Unorganised workers, building construction workers, gig workers, transport workers, sanitation workers, domestic workers, etc
- **Provision:** Short term loan up to ₹80,000 without guarantee and processing fee.

Chief Minister Ayushman Bal Sambal Yojana

- Launch: 15 December 2024, Jaipur.
- Benefits: Treatment up to ₹50 lakh to children up to 18 years of age suffering from rare diseases.
- Financial assistance of ₹5,000 per month for care
- Stage 1: Authorized Hospital: JK Lone Hospital (Jaipur), AIIMS (Jodhpur).

Mukhyamantri Vishwakarma Pension Scheme

- Launch: 15 December 2024, Jaipur.
- Administrative Department- Finance Department
- **Nodal department-** Rajasthan State Insurance and Provident Fund Department.
- Benefits: ₹3,000 monthly pension to subscribers who have completed 60 years of age. In case of death person's wife will get half of the pension
- This will be payable in addition to the Chief



- Minister's Old Age Samman Pension.
- **Eligibility-** 18-45 years; Monthly Salary should be less than INR 15,000.
- Contribution- Till 60 years of age; beneficiaries aged 41-45 years to contribute additional 100rs while balance will be paid by State Government

Mukhyamantri Amrit Aahar Yojana

- Start: 14 December 2024, Udaipur.
- Beneficiaries: Children in the age group of 3-6 years studying in Anganwadi centers.
- Provision:
 - Three days a week (Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday) milk prepared from skimmed milk powder.
 - 100 ml Milk from 10 gm Skimmed Milk Powder.

State-level celebrations Kisan Sammelan

- **Events -** December 13, 2024
- Location Kayad, Ajmer

Opening

- Mukhyamantri Mangala Pashu Bima Yojana
- Camel Conservation and Development Mission
 - The camel owner will get an incentive of Rs 20,000 per camel.
- 1,000 Milk Collection Centres
- 200 New Bulk Milk Coolers
- Agri Stacks Farmers Registry Scheme
 - o It started from Sikar.
 - o Through this, the registration process of farmers was launched.

Mukhyamantri Mangala Pashu Bima Yojana

- Launch: 13 December 2024 from Kayad (Ajmer).
- **Objective:** Keeping in mind the interests of the cattle rearers of the state, to provide financial security / economic strength to the cattle rearers by insuring their valuable livestock.
- Under this scheme, insurance coverage will be provided to 21 lakh animals.
 - 5 lakh milch cows, 5 lakh milch buffaloes, 5 lakh sheep, 5 lakh goats, 1 lakh camel animals (camels)

Benefits of the scheme

 There is a provision to provide financial support to the cattle rearers of cows, sheep, goats and camels in the state in case of accidental death of animals.

Determination of Sum Assured

SN	Type of Animal	Standards for Valuation of Animals for Insurance
1	Cow (milch)	The minimum price will be fixed on the basis of

		Rs. 3000 per liter per day , the maximum amount will be Rs. 40,000/- per
	D (() () ()	animal.
2	Buffalo (milch)	The minimum price will be
		fixed on the basis of Rs.
		4000 per liter per day,
		maximum amount of Rs.
		40,000/- per animal.
3	Goat (female)	Maximum amount is Rs.
		4000 per animal
4	Sheep (female)	Maximum amount is Rs.
		4000 per animal
5	Camel (Male &	Maximum amount is Rs.
	Female)	40,000 per animal

The state government will provide an additional amount of Rs 1,500 in the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandan Yojana

• The state government has increased the amount of Rs 5,000 given under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandan Yojana to Rs 6,500(10,000 for specially abled)

Campaign

Ladesar Campaign

- It is an initiative of the Jaipur district administration .
- It will begin on January 14, 2025.
- **Objective: To** improve the condition of malnourished and acutely malnourished children.
- Under this campaign, the nutrition of underweight and extremely underweight children will be monitored.

'Suposhan Gram Panchayat' Campaign'

- Starts: 26 December 2024.
- Objective: To promote nutrition and eradicate malnutrition in rural areas.
- Programme: Ministry of Women and Child Development's Mission (under Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0).
- Goal: Improving nutrition and well-being with community involvement.
 - Improving infrastructure and service delivery by incentivising Anganwadis.
- **Award:** ₹1 lakh per panchayat to 1000 best gram panchayats.
 - o Recognition of top 3 districts.

Suposhit Maa Abhiyan

Third phase begins: 27 December 2024, Kota.



- **Objective:** To ensure nutrition and health protection to pregnant women.
- Beneficiaries: 1500 underprivileged pregnant women.
- 125 kg Nutrition Kit (Desi Ghee, Flour, Lentils, Jaggery, Groundnut, Dates, Oil etc.)
- Services: Monthly nutrition kits, free medicines and vaccinations, medical consultation.
- Launched: March 1, 2020 (Initiative of Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla).
- First two phases: 1 lakh nutrition kits distributed to 15,000 pregnancies.

Sahakar Se Samruddhi Abhiyan Programme

- Start: 25 December 2024.
- This is a central government initiative.
- Objective: To empower the rural economy.
- 10,000 newly formed M-PACS, Dairy, and Fisheries Cooperatives started.

Important facts:

Ministry of Cooperation Formation: 6 July 2021

"Prashashan Gaaon ke Aur Campaign "

- Duration: 19-24 December 2024
- Objective: Organizing camps at Panchayat Samiti headquarters, redressal of public grievances and speedy delivery of services.

'Nai Kiran' Campaign

- Objective: To save the younger generation from drugs, to build a drug-free society.
- Beginning: Government colleges.
- Major Initiatives:
 - Establishment of drug de-addiction centres in colleges.
 - Training for 50-50 students.
 - o Appointment of Nodal Officer.

TB-free campaign

- Launch: 7 December 2024, Jaipur (SMS Hospital).
- Duration: 100 days campaign.
- Districts: Baran, Kota, Jhalawar, Hanumangarh, Rajsamand.
- Aim:
 - o TB free Rajasthan.
 - Identification and treatment of patients left out of the survey.
- Launched at the national level: Union Health Minister JP Nadda, Panchkula.

Mere Gaaon Ki Mitti Abhiyan

- Launched: 5 December 2024, Union Minister of State for Agriculture Bhagirath Chaudhary.
- Objective: Awareness about the ill effects of pesticide and pesticide free and quality crop.
- Profit:

- o Increase in Farmers' Income.
- o Maintaining the fertility of the fields.

Karmabhoomi Se Mathrubhumi Programme

- Objective: To conserve water and increase the groundwater level.
- It will start with the help of migrants and Bhamashahs of Rajasthan.
- Program Area: Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar.
- Work:
 - 45,000 tubewell recharge structures in Rajasthan.
 - Modern recharge shafts

Conferences, Meetings, Festivals

Rajasthan Youth Festival

- The state-level youth festival will be organized from 8 to 12 January 2025.
- It will be held at Sawai Mansingh Stadium, **Jaipur**.
- The festival will be based on the theme 'Science, Technology and Innovation'.
- The following prizes and honorarium will be given in this state-level competition
 - o The first place winner will get Rs 50,000.
 - o The runner-up will get Rs 25,000.
 - The third place winner will get a cash prize of Rs 10,000.

Shilpgram Mahotsav

- Event: 21-30 December 2024, Udaipur.
- Inauguration by: Rajasthan Governor Haribhau Bagde.
- Organizer: West Zone Cultural Center.
- Theme: "Lok ke sang- Lok ke rang"

Features:

- A 10-day festival.
- Showcasing folk culture, art, and cuisine.
- Dr. Roop Singh Shekhawat and Ganpat Sakharam Masge received Dr. Komal Kothari Life Time Achievement Award.
- Folk arts, dances, and handicrafts from India and abroad are on display.

Industrial Incentive Camp

- Event: 20 December 2024, Falna (Pali).
- Organizer: District Industries Centre, Pali.

Aim:

- Information about Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Dalit Adivasi Udyam Protsahan Yojana.
- Preparation of application forms for entrepreneurs.



Chief Minister's Employment Festival & Youth Conference

Event: December 12, 2024

• **Location:** Jodhpur

Opening

- Rajasthan Target Olympic Podium Scheme
- E-Pathshala & Vidya Samiksha Kendra Jaipur
- Learn, Earn & Progress Program
- Sports Life Insurance Scheme
- Business Innovation Program

State Level Women's Conference

• **Event:** December 14, 2024

• **Location:** Udaipur

Opening

- There are 5-5 Anganwadi centers in each assembly constituency.
- One Anganwadi in each block will be a model Anganwadi.

Rajasthan Government's State Level Function

- Date- 17th December, 2024
- Location- Dadia Village (Sanganer, Jaipur)

Laying of foundation stone

- Aqueduct on Ramgarh and Mahalpur Barrage, Chambal River
- Three 4000 MW Solar Parks at Pugal

Dedication of public works

- Navnera Barrage on Kalisindh River
- Delhi-Vadodara-Mumbai 8 Lane Green Field Expressway (Package 12)
- Jamnagar-Amritsar-Katra Economic Corridor (Package 8)

16th Nature International Documentary Film Festival

- **Event:** 4th December 2024 in Jodhpur.
- Organizer: Under the joint aegis of the Faculty of Academic Communication (CEC) and EMMRC of Jai Narayan Vyas University.
- Launch: By Governor Shri Haribhau Bagade.

Objectives:

- Inspiring curiosity and creative minds.
- Promote education and ICT-based learning environment.

Chief Minister Ayushman Health Camp

- **Events**: 15 December 2024 31 January 2025.
- In primary and community health centers.
- Services Available:
 - Diagnosis and treatment by allopathy and AYUSH system.
 - Expert services by teleconsultation.
 - Screening of pregnant women, vaccination of children.
 - Screening of Diabetes, Hypertension, Cancer, Blindness patients.
 - 37 Types of Free Testing Facilities.

Saras Raj Sakhi National Fair 2024

- **Event:** From December 14 to 30, 2024
- **Venue:** Shilp Gram, Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur
- Organizer: Organized by Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council (Rajivika) and sponsored by Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.
- Exhibition of GI tag heritage brought from every corner of India
- Display of more than 603 GI tag heritage such as handlooms, handicrafts and organic foods

Reports & Index

Rajasthan in the 18th India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2023

- The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change released the 18th Report of the India State of Forest Report 2023 Series (ISFR 2023) on 21 December 2024.
- The ISFR is published on a biennial basis. (First time: 1987)

Rajasthan ISFR Statistics			
Type of Land Use	Area (in thousand hectares)	per cent	
Geographic areas	34224	-	
Area Reporting for Land Use	34,292.67	100%	
forest	2,777.56	8.10%	
Land not available for cultivation	4,396.61	12.82%	
Permanent pastures and other pastures	1,655.31	4.83%	
Land under diverse tree crops and groves	28.81	0.08%	
Agricultural Wasteland	3,680.16	10.73%	
Current fallow land	1,584.92	4.62%	
Other fallow lands	2,039.70	5.95%	
Net sown area	18,129.60	52.87%	



- There has been an increase of 394.46 sq km in forest and tree cover in Rajasthan. In this context, it ranks **fourth in the country**.
 - o As compared to the Forest Report 2021, the total forest cover in the state has decreased by 83.80 sq km.
 - The total tree cover in the state has increased by 478.26 sq km as compared to the Forest Report 2021 .
- The area covered by forests and trees in Rajasthan is 27,389.33 sq km, which is 8% of the total geographical area of the state .
- The forest cover of the total geographical area of Rajasthan is 16,548.21 sq km, which is 4.84% of the total geographical area .
- The tree cover of the total geographical area of Rajasthan is 10,841.12 sq km which is 3.16% of the total geographical area .

Top districts with increase in forest area	Top districts with decrease in forest area
1. Sikar (19.14 sq. km.)	1. Baran (33.29 sq. km.)
2. Barmer (19.00 sq. km.)	2. Pratapgarh (30.79 sq. km.)
3. Alwar (16.39 sq. km.)	3. Ajmer (18.34 sq. km.)

Districts with the highest forest cover	Districts with minimum forest cover
1. Udaipur (2766.30 sq. km.)	1. Churu (62.73 sq. km.)
2. Alwar (1198.74 sq. km.)	2. Hanumangarh (92.29 sq. km.)
3. Pratapgarh (996.86 sq. km.)	3. Jodhpur (111.23 sq. km.)

Districts with the highest forest cover percentage	Districts with Lowest Forest Cover Percentage	
1. Udaipur (23.60%)	1. Churu (0.45%)	
2. Pratapgarh (22.48%)	2. Jodhpur (0.49%)	
3. Sirohi (17.50%)	3. Bikaner (0.86%)	

Districts with the highest bush area	Districts with minimum bush area	
1. Pali (453 sq. km.)	1. Hanumangarh (9 sq. km.)	
2. Alwar (321 sq. km.)	2. Sriganganagar (16 sq. km.)	
3. Jaipur (319 sq. km.)	3. Churu (36 sq. km.)	

Type of Forest	definition	Area (Sq. Km.)	Percentage (of geographical area)
Very Dense Forest (VDF)	Terrain with a forest density of 70% or more	223.20	0.07%
Medium Dense Forest (MDF)	Terrain with forest density of up to 40-70%	4237.41	1.24%
Open Forest (OF)	Terrains with forest density ranging from 10-40%	12087.60	3.53%
Total (T)		16548.21	4.84%
(Scrub)		5476.75	1.60%

Entries in Lakhpati Didi Yojana in Rajasthan

• Recently, Rajasthan ranked second in the country in Digital Livelihood Register entries.

Lakhpati Didi Yojana

- Start: 15 August 2023.
- Objective: To empower women economically and provide self-employment opportunities.
- Beneficiaries: Women associated with Self Help Groups (SHGs).

Jaipur Airport Ranking

• Flight Operations: 10th place (4165 flights in November 2024).

- Passenger load: 12th place (5.57 lakh passengers).
- 1st place: Delhi (Flights: 38,572; Passenger Load: 67.88 lakhs).

Digital Health Account (ABHA ID) in Rajasthan

- Status: Over 60 million Abha IDs, ranked second in the country.
- Top 3 Districts:
 - o Jaipur (44.74 lakh).
 - o Udaipur (36.54 lakh).
 - Alwar (27.29 lakh).
- Objective: Digital management and data use of health services.



Auction of Mineral Blocks in Rajasthan

 Achievement: Auction of 47 major mineral blocks in the first year, first place in the country.

App & Portal

Manas e-Arogya Portal

- Initiative of Hanumangarh District Collector Kanaram.
- Objective: Monitoring of drug stocks of banned drugs and drug de-addiction centres.
- Helpful in preventing illegal sale of drugs for intoxication.

Raj Sakhi Portal

- Launch: 14 December 2024.
- Developer: Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council (Rajivika).
- Profit:
 - More than 45 lakh SHG women will be able to sell their products online.
 - E-commerce platform and online training facility.
 - o Marketing of GI tag products.
 - Complaint registration and broadcast facility.

Agreements/MoUs

MoU between Sports Council and Sports Authority of India (SAI) for Khelo India Centres

- MoU on 20th December 2024.
- Aim: To set up Khelo India centres in 17 districts
- Operation: Rajasthan State Sports Council.
- Financial Assistance: ₹5 lakh per annum per centre (Govt. of India).
- Usage: Sports equipment, branding, ground maintenance, honorarium of trainers.

MoU signed between Rajasthan Police and SBI

- MoU on 20th December 2024.
- Objective: To increase the emoluments for police personnel under the 'Rajasthan Police Salary Package'.
- Main advantages:
 - ₹1.2 crore to the family of those who died in an accident.
 - ₹1.1 crore on Permanent Disability
 - ₹2.7 crore for Air Crash Death
 - Plastic surgery/burn case: Rs 10 lakh.
 - Air ambulance: ₹10 lakh, general ambulance: ₹50,000 assistance.

 SBI will contribute Rs 20 lakh to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund and Rs 30 lakh to the Rajasthan Police Welfare Fund.

Joint venture between Rajasthan government and Adani Company

- Project: 2 solar parks (2,000 MW each).
- Location: Mohangarh (Jaisalmer) and Jalore.

MoU for Power Generation from Waste

- MoU signed between Jaipur Heritage Corporation and Jindal Group.
- Cost: ₹350 crore
- Financing: ₹192 crore from Power Finance Corporation Limited.
- Generation: 15 MW power per day (from next year).

MoU between Government of Rajasthan and Atlants Energy

- Project Capacity: 400 MW.
- Project Location: Jodhpur, Sikar, Barmer.
- Investment: ₹1,000 crore.
- The project will promote sustainable energy through a 150 MW solar park, a 50 MW wind power farm and a 200 MW battery energy storage systems.

Sports

Kushagra Singh Rajawat

 Won 5 medals (2 gold, 3 silver) in the 67th National Shooting Championship held in Bhopal.

Sanskar Saraswat

- First player from Rajasthan to win men's doubles title paired up with Arsh Mohammad of Uttar Pradesh at Senior National Badminton Championship at Bengaluru.
- Final: Beat Karnataka's Naveen V and Lokesh P (21-12, 12-21, 21-19)
- In the singles event, the first player from Rajasthan to reach the quarterfinals of the senior badminton singles.

Other Achievements:

 Under-19 National Junior Badminton Championship winner and Under-17 Asian Championship winner.



67th National Shooting Championship

- Event: New Delhi and Bhopal.
- Mixed skeet gold medal: Anantjeet Singh Naruka and Maheshwari Chauhan (gold medal).
- Para Shooting: Gautam Pareek (2 gold medals, 10-meter air pistol shooting event in Para SH 1 category)
- 10m Air Rifle Junior Mix Team: Yashvardhan and Devanshi Katara (Gold Medal).
- Purvi Pratap Kachhava: 2 gold (25m sports pistol senior and junior women).
- Dipendra Singh Shekhawat, Anshul Jagid, Manvendra Singh: Team Gold (50m 3 Position Rifle Event, Bhopal).
- Clay Pigeon Skeet Senior Women's Team: Maheshwari Chauhan, Darshana Rathod, Yashasvi Rathore (Silver Medal).
- Clay Pigeon Skeet Junior Women's Team: Yashasvi Rathod, Divyani Rathod, Sanyogita (Silver Medal), Yashasvi Rathore (Bronze Medal).
- Shikha Chaudhary: Bronze (Senior), Silver (Junior).
- Nihal Singh: Gold (Deaf Category).

Manini Kaushik

- Gold medal (score: 632) with a world record in 10m air rifle at the FISU World University Championship (New Delhi).
- Gold medal in the 50m prone individual event.

Kartik Sharma

- The second cricketer from Rajasthan to score a century in the debut match of Ranji Trophy and Vijay Hazare Trophy.
- Scored 123 runs against Maharashtra in the Vijay Hazare Trophy.
- First player: Gagan Khoda (Ranji Trophy 1991, Vijay Hazare Trophy 1993).

Swati Dudhwal

- Won 2 medals in the Senior National Archery Competition held in Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.
- Compound Women's Team: Silver Medal.
- Mixed Team: Bronze medal (with Jasmeet Singh).

Ojaswini Saraswat

- Won the 5th National title in golf.
- Competition: IGU All India Ladies and Junior Girls Golf Championship.
- Location: Visakhapatnam.
- IGU Merit List of 2024: Top Positions in Category C.

Sachin

• Wins silver medal at Bangladesh Junior International Badminton Championship.

Akshita Maheshwari

- She became the first cricketer from Rajasthan to play in the Women's Premier League.
- Team: Mumbai.
- She scored a hat-trick in the Under-23 National Championship and has been part of the Rajasthan senior team.

Satwik Agarwal

- Won silver medal in Under-13 Sub-Junior National Badminton Championship held in Jammu.
- Earlier, he had won the national title in Dibrugarh, Assam.

Siddharth Choudhury

 Won the gold medal in shot put at the 39th Junior National Athletics Championships, Orissa

• Distance: 19.16 m.

Sub-Junior National Shooting Ball

- Location: Bodh Gaya, Bihar.
- Achievement: Rajasthan U-17 Girls Team: Silver
 Modal

Rajasthan's performance in the Asia Pacific Deaf Games

- Location: Malaysia.
- Gold: Sandeep Kumar (Hammer Throw), Manmeet Kaur (Judo).
- Silver: Deven Soni (800m), Abhinav Sharma (Badminton), Ramesh Kumar (Athletics).
- Bronze: Piyush (Athletics).

Anil Vyas

• He became a member of the committee that prepared the Indian Premier League format.

Muay Thai Boxing National Championships

- Event: New Delhi.
- Gold: Abhyuday Pratap Singh, Navyansh Chaudhary.
- Silver: Riya Yevendra, Srishti Khandelwal, Yashasvi Jain, Charlie Sharma.



Miscellaneous

Poonchri ka Lautha and Govardhan Parikrama Development Project

- Laying of foundation stone: 15 December 2024, Deeg.
- Parikrama route: 21 km (1.2 km in Rajasthan).
 Evolution
- First Zone: Major Temples, Pools, Fountains, Botanical Gardens, Vatika, and Pounds.
- Second Zone: Entrance, route beautification, lights, food joints, idols related to Lord Krishna.
- Third Zone: Entry Plaza, Green Canal, Parking, Museum, Art Gallery.
- Fourth Zone: 250 feet tall statue, ashram, meditation hall, cowsheds, handicraft market.
- Contribution: ₹100 crore by Vedanta Group.

Chief Minister's Sadbhavana Kendra

- Launch: 15 December 2024, Jaipur.
- Services: Collection of used goods and delivering them to the needy.
- The number of centres in Rajasthan will be more than 600.
- Operation: Unemployed registered under Chief Minister's Urban Guarantee Scheme.
- Benefits: Environmental protection and assistance to the needy.

Atal Knowledge Centre

- Announcement: 25 December 2024.
- Services:
 - Library and e-library.
 - Career Counseling.
 - Ensuring the benefits of government schemes.
 - Certificates and public facilities on the lines of e-Mitra.
- Beneficiaries: Rural youth.

'Krishna UGB Robot'

- Constructed: By 'Club First Robotics' of Rajasthan.
- Useful in carrying food supplies and weapons for the army.
- Payload: consisting of weapons, missiles, grenade launchers.
- Features:
 - o Weight: 350 kg.
 - o Range: 3,000 km.
- Surveillance: High definition thermal cameras.
- Price: ₹90 lakh to ₹1 crore.

Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-CEERI) in Pilani has developed indigenous technologies for LEDs

- Development: Manufacturing of a chip in LEDs.
- Exhibit: IISF-2024, IIT Guwahati.

CSIR-CEERI

- Founded: 21 September 1953 in Pilani.
- Objective: Electronics Research and Development.

Project to link Brahmani river with Banas

- Location: Rawatbhata area.
- Dam: On the Brahmani River.
- **Objective:** To transport water to Banas River and Bisalpur Dam.
- A 53 km long mountain tunnel will be built.
- Surplus water will be used.

Education in the local language

- National Education Policy 2020: Teaching in local language.
- Session 2025-26: 9 districts (Jaipur, Udaipur, Pali, Rajsamand, Pratapgarh, Banswara, Chittorgarh, Sirohi, Dungarpur).
- Session 2026: Expansion to 25 districts.

BSF's 60th Raising Day

- Location: Jodhpur.
- Announcement: Anti-Drone Unit.
- Technique: Laser Anti Drone Gun Mount.
- Success: 55% of drones shot down on Punjab border.

9 New Kendriya Vidyalayas in Rajasthan

- Announcement: 85 new KVs, 9 in Rajasthan.
- Location: Sriganganagar (2), Rajsamand (2), Jodhpur, Karauli, Nagaur, Alwar, Dausa.
- Objective: Education to the children of transferred centres and defence employees.

Run for Vikash Rajasthan-2024 ('Ravi Raj' 2024)

- Held in Jaipur on 12th December 2024.
- Organizer: Department of Youth Affairs and Sports.

Kalika Patrolling Unit

- Objective: Safety of women and children.
- Venue: Schools, colleges, malls, religious places.
- Announcement: 500 patrolling units (Budget 2024-25).
- First phase: 250 teams deployed.



2. National Affairs

One Nation One Election Bill tabled in Lok Sabha: Bill submitted to Joint Parliamentary Committee

- Bills: The Constitution (One Hundred Nineteenth Amendment) Bill, 2024 and The Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024
- Draw Date: December 17, 2024
- Presentation: Introduced in Lok Sabha, then referred to Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC)
- JPC Members:
 - o 27 members from Lok Sabha
 - 12 members from Rajya Sabha
- Committee Chairman: BJP MP- P P Chaudhary
- Members of the Committee:
 - Purushottam Bhai Rupala, Bansuri Swaraj, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Anurag Thakur (Lok Sabha)
 - Ghanshyam Tiwari, Randeep Singh Surjewala, Mukul Balkrishna Wasnik, Sanjay Singh (Rajya Sabha)
- Committee Formation: The committee was formed on September 2, 2023 under the chairmanship of former President Ramnath Kovind

Lok Sabha passes Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill

- Draw Date: December 12, 2024
- Objective: Amendment to the Disaster Management Act, 2005
- Key Points:
 - o NDMA, SDMA, DMDA empowered to make disaster plan
 - o Jail term of 1-2 years for spreading false information or rumour
 - Establishment of Urban Disaster Management Authority (UDMA)
 - o Formation of NDRF and SDRF



3. Economic Affairs

India's Green Steel Taxonomy Released:

- Released Date: December 12, 2024
- India: First country to issue green steel taxonomy
- Benefits: Defining green steel, fostering innovation, creating a market for low-carbon products
- Aim to cut emissions to 2.2 tCO2 by 2030
- Definition of Green Steel:
 - Greenness of steel: CO₂ emission intensity per tonne of finished steel (TFS) less than 2.2 tonnes of CO₂
- Green-rated steel:
 - o Five-star: emission intensity 1.6 t-CO₂/tfs
 - o Four-star: emission intensity between 1.6 and 2.0 t-CO₂/tfs
 - o Three-star: emission intensity between 2.0 and 2.2 t-CO₂/tfs

Jalvahak Scheme

- Objective: To encourage freight movement through National Waterways (Ganga, Brahmaputra, Barak River).
- Benefits: Reimbursement of up to 35% on operating costs to cargo owners transporting goods over a distance of more than 300 kilometers .
- Validity: The scheme will remain in force for three years.
- Implementing Agencies: Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and Inland and Coastal Shipping Limited (ICSL).

RBI Sets Up Bhattacharya Committee to Develop Ethical AI Framework:

- Formation Date: 26 December, 2024
- The 8 member committee is a headed by Dr. Pushpak Bhattacharyya
- Committee Chairperson: Prof. Pushpak Bhattacharya, IIT Bombay
- Aim:
- Creating a framework for responsible and ethical use of AI in the financial sector
- Identification and mitigation of risks associated with AI
- Developing Governance Framework for Responsible AI

Suposhan Gram Panchayat Abhiyan

- Launched: By Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 26, 2024.
- Objective: To eradicate malnutrition by promoting healthy competition among gram panchayats.
- 10,000 Gram Panchayats were rewarded



4. International Affairs

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Kuwait

- Visit: 21-22 December, 2024
- Historic: Kuwait visit after 43 years

Agreement:

- o MoU on Defence Cooperation
- o Cultural Exchange Programme (2025-2029)
- Sports Cooperation Executive Program (2025-2028)
- o Kuwait's ISA Membership
- Honorees: 'The Order of Mubarak Al-Kabir' Award
 - Honoured by Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jabri
 - o Modi gets 20th international award
- Hala Modi Event: Interaction with Indian Community (21 December, 2024)

India, Japan Start-ups agree to tackle space debris

- Agreement: Between Tokyo-based Orbital Lasers and Indian space city
- Objective: Use of laser-enabled satellites to remove debris from orbit
- Functions: Removing inactive satellites and increasing the lifespan of spacecraft

Britain joins Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement

- UK entry: 12th member of CPTPP
- First member of a European country
- CPTPP signed: March 8, 2018
- Members: UK, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Canada, Vietnam, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, Peru, Chile, Mexico.

Sri Lankan President Dissanayake's visit to India

- Visit: 15-17 December, 2024
- First Bilateral Visit: Sri Lankan President Visits India

Agreement:

- Energy, Digital Infra, Rupee Trade, Maritime Surveillance, Defence Cooperation
- Multi Product Petroleum Pipelines and Electric Grid Connectivity
- Passenger ferry service between Rameswaram and Talaimannar resumes
- Rehabilitation of Kankesanthurai Port, India's Grant Assistance
- Develop Trincomalee as an energy and industrial hub
- Scholarship Programs for Students in Jaffna and Eastern University

India appointed as Chair of UN Narcotics Drug Commission

- Official appointment: India elected as Chair of the 68th session of the United Nations Commission Against Narcotics (CND)
- Draw Date: December 6, 2024
- Venue: Ambassador Shambhu S. Kumaran, Permanent Representative of Vienna (Austria), India assumed the Presidency

About CND:

- Functional Commission of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC)
- The governing body of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- o Founded: 1946, Vienna (Austria)

Larsemann Hills

- Inauguration: China Launches Atmospheric Monitoring Station 'Larsemann Hills' in Antarctica
- Location: East Antarctica, Zhongshan National Atmospheric Background Station
- Functions: Continuous observation of the transformation of atmospheric components, study of regional atmospheric composition

World's largest gold reserves found in China

- Location: Hunan Province, China
- Discovery: 40 gold veins at 2 km depth
- Gold reserves: 1000 metric tons of gold worth \$83 billion

Global Situation:

- China: Largest Gold Producing Country
- 10% Share of Global Production in 2023
- World Gold Council: 2,264 tonnes of gold reserves

Mines with the largest gold reserves currently known:

- 1. South Deep Gold Mine (South Africa)
- 2. Grasberg Gold Mine (Indonesia)
- 3. Olympiada Gold Mine (Russia)
- 4. Lihir Gold Mine (Papua New Guinea)
- 5. Norte Abierto Gold Mine (Chile)

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCCD-COP16)

- Version: 16th
- Event: December 2-13, 2024 in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia).
- For the first time, West Asia hosted this conference.



 Focus areas: Land restoration, drought, land at the centre of the Sustainable Development Goals, women's land rights.

Doha Forum 2024

- Version: 22nd
- Event: December 7-8, 2024 in Doha (Qatar).
- Topic: 'Essential Innovation'
- Representing India: Dr. S. Jaishankar (External Affairs Minister)

India-Norway Business Forum

- Event: December 8, 2024 in Mumbai.
- Conducted By: Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in collaboration with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.
- Norway emerging as India's 33rd largest investor
- Norway will host Indo-Nordic Summit in 2025.



5. Space & Defence Technology

Successful Launching of SpaDex Mission by ISRO:

• Launch Date: December 30, 2024

 Venue: Sriharikota, Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC)

Rocket: PSLV-C60

Satellite:

- SDX-01 (Chaser)
- SDX-02 (Target)
- Satellite orbit: Low orbit of 475 km

Aim:

- Development of technology for connecting and separating two satellites.
- India will become the fourth country to achieve this feat

Importance:

- Chandrayaan-4, Gaganyaan and Instrumental in the construction of Indian Space Station
- Important step towards human space mission

China launches four remote satellites:

- Satellite: PIESAT-2
- Launch location: Taiyuan Cosmodrome, Shanxi Province
- Rocket: Changzheng-2D (Long March)
- Orbit: Sun-synchronous orbit of 528 km
- Goal: Expanding Earth Monitoring Technologies

China breaks US record in spacewalk

- Astronauts: Cai Xuzhe and Song Lingdong
- Duration of spacewalk: 9 hours 6 minutes
- Record: Broke the record of 8 hours 56 minutes set by NASA
- Location: Tiangong Space Station

ISRO launches European Space Agency's Proba-3

- Launch Date: December 5, 2024
- Venue: Sriharikota, Satish Dhawan Space Centre
- Rocket: PSLV-C59
- Mission: Proba-3, the European Space Agency's solar mission
- Objective: Study of the Sun's atmosphere (corona), solar storms and weather

Satellite:

- Coronagraph Spacecraft (CSC) 310 kg.
- o Occulter Spacecraft (OSC) 240 kg.
- Target: Accurate Formation Flight Performance

Speciality:

 The occult will cause the coronagraph to create a solar eclipse-like situation. • The study and depiction of the Sun's atmosphere.

Launch of the third Copernicus Sentinel-1 satellite:

- Launch Date: December 2024
- Location: French Guiana, European Spaceport
- Rocket: Vega-C
- Satellite: Sentinel-1C
- Objective: Monitoring the Earth's changing environment
- Feature: High-Resolution Radar Images

Successful test of cryogenic engine by ISRO:

- Engine: CE20 Cryogenic Engine
- Test Location: Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu
- Date: November 29, 2024
- Test Purpose: Testing the Re-Start Capability
- Significance: Access to Gaganyaan Mission
- Manufacturer: Liquid Propulsion System Center

IIT Madras conducts Hyperloop test track

- Location: Thyyur, Discovery Campus of IIT Madras
- Length: 410 meters
- Shared Project: Indian Railways, IIT Madras's Avishkar Hyperloop Team, and Startup TUTR Hyperloop Pvt ltd.
- Main Objective: First Major Experiment on Hyperloop Technology
- Speed of test track: 100 kilometers per hour (on short track), 600 kilometers per hour (on long track)

• Hyperloop Technology:

- o High Speed Transportation System
- Pods (pressurized vehicles) move in lowpressure tubes
- o Launched in 2012 by Elon Musk

Defence Technology

Indian Navy gets state-of-the-art ships 'Surat' and 'Nilgiris'

- Launch Date: December 20, 2024
- Design: Warship Design Bureau
- Construction: M/s Mazagon Dock Shipyard (MDL)
- 'Surat':
 - o Type: 'Project 15B' stealth guided missile destroyer
 - This is the fourth and final vessel.under the project



• 'Nilgiris':

- o Type: 'Project 17A' stealth frigate
- o It is a follow-on ship to the 'Shivalik class' (Project 17).
- o It is the first of seven P17A frigates.

Launch of INS Tushil:

- Draw Date: December 9, 2024Location: Kaliningrad, Russia
- Launch: In the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
- Motto: Fearless, Impenetrable and Strong
- Route: Baltic Sea, North Sea, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean

Launch of Survey Ship INS Nirdeshak:

- Draw Date: December 18, 2024
- Location: Visakhapatnam
- Construction: By Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers of Kolkata
- Nirdeshak, the second ship of the Survey Vessel (Large) Project, is designed to conduct hydrographic surveys, aid in navigation, and support maritime operations.
- First Ship: INS Sandhyak (Commissioned on February 3, 2024)

US administration approves \$1 billion defence deal with India

- Deal: MH-60R multi-mission helicopter and related equipment
- Cost: \$1.17 billion
- Draw Date: December 2, 2024
- Key Details:
 - India proposes to buy 30 MIDS-JTRS
 - o Improving anti-submarine warfare capabilities
 - Sea Hork helicopter achieves 95% flight readiness
 - Manufactured by Lockheed Martin

Excercises

India-Malaysia Joint Military Exercise

- Name: 'Harimau Shakti' (4th ed.).
- Location: Bentong Camp in Pahang District, Malaysia.

SLINEX-24

- Sri Lanka-India Naval Exercise
- Location: Visakhapatnam, Eastern Naval Command.

Exercise 'Synbacks'

- Joint Table Top Exercise between India and Cambodia
- Location: Foreign Training Node, Pune.

Exercise 'Desert Night'

- India-France-Dubai joint exercise
- Location: Arabian Sea.



6. Sports

Chess

India's D. Gukesh becomes new world chess champion

- Title: FIDE Chess World Champion (2024)
- Location: Singapore (November 25 December 12, 2024)

Winner: D. Gukesh (India)

- Won by defeating Ding Liren (China).
- Points: Gukesh 7.5, Liren 6.5
- Record: Became world champion in 18 years 6 months 14 days, broke the record of Garry Kasparov (22 years 6 months 27 days)
- Prize Amount: Gukesh ₹11.45 crore, Liren -₹9.75 crore
- State Awards: Tamil Nadu Government Announces ₹5 Crore Cash Award

Koneru Humpy wins World Rapid Chess Championship

- Location: New York
- Winner: Koneru Humpy (India)
 - o Defeated Indonesia's Irene Sukandar
 - o Points: 8.5 points (in the 11th round)
 - History: The second player to win this title more than once after Xu Wenjun
 - First title: 2019 (Georgia)
- Men's World Rapid Chess Champion: Voladar Murzin (Russia)

Badminton

Lakshya Sen's Bronze Medal in King Cup (2024):

Location: Shenzhen, ChinaAgainst: Alex Lanier (France)

• Scores: 21-17, 21-11

Medal: Bronze

Prize amount: ₹36 lakh

Title Winner: Anders Antonsen (Denmark)

86th Senior Badminton Championship (2024):

- Location: Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Inter-State Inter-Zonal Badminton Championships:
 - Men's team title: Karnataka beat Railways
 3-1
 - Women's team title: Haryana beat Gujarat
 3-2
 - o Men's Singles Winner: M. Raghu (Karnataka)
 - Women's Singles Winner: Devika Sihag (Harvana)
 - Men's Doubles Winners: Arsh Mohammad (Uttar Pradesh) & Sanskar Saraswat (Rajasthan)

- Women's Doubles Winners: Aarti Sara Sunil (Kerala) & VS Varshini (Tamil Nadu)
- Mixed Doubles Winners: Ayush Agarwal & Shruti Mishra (Uttar Pradesh)

Guwahati Masters (2024):

- Location: Guwahati, Assam
- Men's Singles Winner: Satish Karunakaran (India)
- Women's Singles Winner: Kai Yenyen (China)
- Women's Doubles Winners: Tanisha Crasto and Ashwini Ponnappa (India)

Syed Modi International Badminton (2024):

- Location: Lucknow
- Men's Singles Winner: Lakshya Sen (India)
- Women' s Singles Winner: P. V. Sindhu (India)
- Women's Doubles Winners: Gayatri Gopichand & Trisha Jolly (India)
- Mixed Doubles Winners: Dechapol Puwaranukroh & Supisara Pavsampran (Thailand)
 - Runners-up: Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto (India)

Hockey

India wins Junior Asia Cup Hockey for the fifth

- Location: Muscat, Oman
- Men's (11th) Junior Asia Cup Hockey
 - o Winner: India (beat Pakistan 5-3)
 - India's scores: Arijit Singh Hundal (4 goals),
 Dilraj Singh (1 goal)
 - o Years won first: 2004, 2008, 2015, 2023
 - o 3rd place: Japan

India wins Women's Junior Asian Hockey Championship for the second time

- Location: Muscat, Oman
- Women's (9th) Junior Asian Hockey Championship
 - Winners: India (beat China 3-2 in penalty shootout)
 - India's team: Sakshi Rana, Ishika, Sunelita
 Toppo scored goals in penalty shootout
 - o Goalkeeper: Nidhi saved three goals
 - First-time title: Beating Korea in 2023

Cricket

India - West Indies Women's Cricket Series (2024):

- Matches: 3 T20Is and 3 ODIs
- T20I series result: India won 2-1.
- ODI series result: India made a clean sweep of 3-0



- Player of the Series (T20): Smriti Mandhana
- Player of the Series (ODI): Renuka Singh Thakur
- Deepti Sharma: Most 3 fifers in India's women's ODIs (more than Ekta Bisht, Neetu David, Jhulan Goswami)

Australia - India Women's Team ODI Series (2024):

- Australia made a clean sweep 3-0
- Player of the Series: Annoel Sutherland (Australia)
- India's Leadership: Harmanpreet Kaur
- Australia's seventh consecutive bilateral series win.

Bangladesh won ACC U-19 Asia Cup (2024)

- Events: November 29 December 8, 2024
- Host Country: United Arab Emirates
- Winner: Bangladesh (2nd time)
- Final: Bangladesh beat India by 59 runs
- Player of the Series: Iqbal Hossain Eman (Ban)

India won 1st Under-19 Women's Asia Cup (2024)

- Event from 15-22 December 2024 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Final Match: 1st ODI: India beat Bangladesh by 41 runs
- Player of the Match: Gongadi Trisha
- Player of the Series: Gongadi Trisha (159 runs)

Mumbai won the Syed Mushtag Ali Trophy (2024):

- Final: Bengaluru, at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium
- Winners: Mumbai beat Madhya Pradesh by 5 wickets.
- Player of the Match: Suryansh Shedge
- Player of the Series: Ajinkya Rahane

R Ashwin's retirement from international cricket (2024):

• He is the second highest wicket-taker after Anil Kumble. (Test wickets: 537)

Squash

28th World Squash Team Championship 2024:

- Location: Hong Kong (December 9-15, 2024)
- Final: Egypt beat England 2-0
- 3rd place: Switzerland and France
- India:
 - o India's 5th position. (Beat Hong Kong 2-0)
 - Ranked in the top five in the World Team
 Championship for the first time

Boxing

Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2024:

- Location: Doha, Qatar (December 2024)
- India 's total medals: 33 medals (7 gold, 17 silver, 9 bronze)

- Youth Weightlifting (13-17 years): 21 medals, including 7 gold
- Junior Weightlifting (15-20 years): 12 medals

• Major Medal Winners:

- Jyoshna sabar : Women's Youth 40kg, 135kg (New Asian Record)
- o Payal: Women-45kg (2 gold)
- Koyel Bar: Women's Youth 55kg (1 Gold)
- Sairaj Pardeshi: Men's Youth 81kg (1 Gold)

Miscellaneous

Pavan Kampelli:

- Competition: 2024 Asian E-Sports Games (Bangkok)
- Bronze Medal: E-Football Event
- India's first medal at the Asian E-Sports Games

Kush Maini:

- Won the F-2 Constructors' Race.
- Became the first Indian FIA Constructors' World Championship winner.

Neeraj Chopra:

- T-shirt collection includes: Paris Olympics silver medal-winning T-shirt
- Included in the World Athletics Heritage Collection (December 2024)
- Neeraj 's javelin is kept in the Olympic Museum in Switzerland.

World Para Athletics Championships 2025

- Location: New Delhi, India
- Dates: September 26 October 5, 2025
- fact
 - Event held in India for the first time
 - o 12th Edition
 - Fourth event in Asia

Saudi Arabia to host Men's Football World Cup in 2034

- Host: Saudi Arabia
- Announcement: FIFA to host Saudi Arabia for 2034 World Cup
- 2030 World Cup: Spain, Portugal and Morocco (joint hosts)
 - On the occasion of the 100th anniversary, there will be three matches in Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay

Khelo India Winter Games 2025:

• Events:

- o Ladakh (Ice Events): January 23-27, 2025
- o Jammu & Kashmir (Snow Events): February 22-25, 2025

fact

- o Ice Events in Ladakh, Snow Events in Jammu and Kashmir
- Ladakh to host for second consecutive year
- Last year in 2024, Ladakh hosted ice skating and ice hockey, while Gulmarg hosted skiing and snowboarding



7. Awards & Honours

Donald Trump named Time magazine's 2024 Person of the Year

- Donald Trump named 'Person of the Year' by Time magazine for the year 2024.
- The reason: Trump's greatest influence on global events and activities.
- This is the second time Trump has received this honor.
- Formerly: After an unexpected victory in the presidential election in 2016 to him.
- Previous honor (2023): Taylor Swift was awarded.

Other Awards:

- TIME Athlete of the Year: Caitlin Clark (Women's Basketball Player)
- o CEO of the Year: Lisa Hsu (CEO of AMD)
- Icon of the Year: Elton John (British singersongwriter)

Sahitya Akademi Award (2024):

- Announcement Date: December 18, 2024
- Awards: Masterpieces in 21 languages were awarded.

Works:

- 8 Poetry Collections, 3 Novels, 2 Short Story Collections, 3 Essay Collections, 3 Literary Criticism, 1-1 Plays and Research Works
- For Hindi: Gagan Gill received the award for his poetry collection 'Main Jab Tak Aaye Bahar'.
- Prize Money: ₹1 Lakh, Copperplate, Shawl
- Sahitya Akademi Award 2024 Awardees

• Poetry Collections:

- o Hindi: Gagan Gill Main Jab Tak Aaye Bahar
- Punjabi: Paul Kaur Sun Gunwanta Sun Buddhiwanta: Itihasama Punjab
- o Malayalam: K Jayakumar Pingelkeshini
- Manipuri: Haovam Satyabati Devi Mainu Bora Nungshi Shirol
- o Gujarati: Dilip Jhaveri Bhagwan Ni Wato
- Assamese: Sameer Tanti Faringbora Gator Katha Jaane
- o Rajasthani: Mukut Maniraj Gaav Ar Amma
- Sanskrit: Deepak Kumar Sharma
 Bhaskaracharitam

Novel:

- o English: Eastrin Kire Spirit Nights
- o Kashmiri: Sohan Kaul Psychiatric Ward
- Bodo: Aron Raja Sorane Thakhay

Short Stories:

- o Nepali: Yuva Baral Chhichimira
- o Sindhi: Hundaraj Valwani Purjo

• Essay Collection:

o Konkani: Mukesh Thali - Rangtarang

- Maithili: Mahendra Malangia Management Collection
- o Odia: Vaishnava Charan Samai Bhuti Bhakti Bibhuti

• Drama:

Thali: Maheshwar Soran

Literary criticism:

- o Kannada: K. V. Narayana Nudigala Alivu
- Marathi: Sudhir Rasal Vindyache
 Gadyaroop
- Telugu: Penugonda Lakshminarayana Deepika

• Research Work:

- Tamil: A.R. Venkatachalapathi Tirunelveli Ezhuchiyum VOC Yum 1908
- The Sahitya Akademi Award is given in 24 languages , including English and Rajasthani, in addition to the 22 languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution .

Prime Minister's Child Awards (2025):

 Prize distribution: On 26 December 2024, on Veer Bal Diwas.

• Categories:

 Art & Culture, Environment, Innovation, Science & Technology, Social Service, Sports.

• Award Recipients:

- 17 children in the age group of 5 to 18 years were selected from 14 States/UTs.
- o This includes 7 boys and 10 girls.
- **Exclusive:** 3-year-old Anish Sarkar, who is the youngest chess player in the World Chess Federation rankings in the sports category.

Vyas Samman (2024):

- Suryabala for his novel 'Kaun Des Ko Vasi: Venu ki Diary'.
- History of the Award:
- This honor is given to outstanding works published in Hindi since 1991.
- Previous honours: In 2023, Pushpa Bharti was given for her memoir yaadein, yaadein aur yaadein.

Ayodhya Ram Mandir gets 'Sword of Honour' award

- 'Sword of Honour' by the British Safety Council for the construction safety standards of the Ayodhya Ram temple.
- Construction Company: Larsen & Toubro.
- **Significance:** Global respect for high-level safety standards and global recognition of construction quality.



Jamsetji Tata Award

- Given by Indian Society for Quality.
- **Honour:** Biocon chairperson Kiran Mazumdar Shaw.
 - For exceptional leadership in the biosciences field.

Achievements of Kiran Mazumdar Shaw:

- Padma Shri (1989), Padma Bhushan (2005),
 Order of Australia, French Legion of Honour.
- o The only Indian in the Forbes list of 'World's Self-Made Billionaire Women'.

National Panchayat Awards 2024:

 45 exceptional panchayats were felicitated by President Smt. Droupadi Murmu on 11 December 2024 in New Delhi.

Award Categories:

- Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Panchayat Sustainable Development Award (DDUPSVP):
 - o Awarded to 27 Panchayats.
- Nanaji Deshmukh Best Panchayat
 Sustainable Development Award:
 - o Awarded to 9 Panchayats.

• Gram Urja Swaraj Special Panchayat Award:

 Panchayats of Maharashtra, Odisha and Tripura felicitated for innovation in renewable energy.

Carbon Neutral Special Panchayat Award:

 Panchayats of Maharashtra, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh felicitated.

Panchayat Capacity Building Best Institution Award:

 Institutions from Kerala, Maharashtra and Odisha felicitated.

FIFA Best Awards 2024

Prize Distribution Location: Doha (Qatar), 17
 December 2024.

Male Players:

- Best men's player: Vinicius Junior (Real Madrid, Brazil).
- Best Men's Goalkeeper: Emiliano Martinez (Aston Villa, Argentina).
- Best Men's Coach: Carlo Ancelotti (Real Madrid, Italy).
- FIFA Puskás Award: Alejandro Garnacho (Manchester United, Argentina).

• Sportswoman:

- Best Women's Player: Aitana Bonamatti (Barcelona, Spain) – for the second time in a row.
- Best Women's Goalkeeper: Alyssa Neher (Chicago Redstars, USA).
- o Best Women's Coach: Emma Hayes (Chelsea, USA).

- FIFA Marta Award: Marta (Brazil).
- Fair Play Award: Thiago Maia.

Tennis Players' Year-End WTA & ATP Awards (2024):

• Men's ATP Players' Awards:

- Player of the Year: Janik Sinner (Italy).
- Doubles Team of the Year: Marcelo Arvello (El Salvador) & Mette Pavic (Croatia).
- Most Improved Player: Giovanni Mapeshi Pericard (France).
- New Comer of the Year: Jakub Mencic (Czech Republic).
- Comeback Player of the Year: Matteo Berrettini (Italy).
- o Coach of the Year: Michael Rachel (USA).
- Sportsmanship Award: Grigor Dimitrov (Vulgaria).

ATP Awards for Women Players:

- Player of the Year: Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus).
- DOUBLES TEAM OF THE YEAR: SARA ERRANI
 & Jasmine Paoli (ITALY)
- Most Improved Player: Imma Navarro (USA).
- New Comer of the Year: Lulu Sun (New Zealand).
- Comeback Player of the Year: Paula Badosa (Spain).
- o Coach of the Year: Renzo Furlan (Italy).

Best Athlete of the Year 2024 (World Athletics Awards):

- Men: Letsile Tebogo (Botswana)
- Women: Sifan Hassan (Netherlands)

Best Athletes in the Track, Field and Out of Stadium categories of the year 2024:

Track:

- Men: Letsile Tebogo (Botswana)
- Female: Sydney McLaughlin Leveron (USA)

Field:

- Men: Mondo Duplantis (Sweden)
- o Female: Yaroslava Mahuchikh (Ukraine)

• Out of Stadium:

- o Men: Tamirat Tola (Ethiopia)
- o Women: Sifan Hassan (Netherlands)

• Rising Stars of the Year 2024:

- o Women: Sembo Almayev (Italy)
- Men: Matia Furlani (Ethiopia)

Miss India USA 2024:

- Winner: Caitlin Sandra Neal (Chennai-born, 19)
- Title: Miss India USA 2024
- Venue: New Jersey, December 2024
- Winner of the Year 2023: Rijul Maini crowned

• Other Awards:

- Mrs. India USA: Sanskriti Sharma (Illinois)
- Miss Teen India USA: Arshita Kathpalia (Washington)



Tom Cruise gets US Navy's highest civilian award

- Awards: J.C. Daniels Award (Distinguished Public Service Award)
- Location: Near Longcross Studios, London
- Draw Date: December 17, 2024
- Provided: U.S. Secretary of the Navy Carlos del Toro
- Contribution: Contributions to the Navy and Marine Corps through 'Top Gun' and other films.

S. Jaishankar gets Shri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Award

- Awards: Shri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati National Award for Excellence
- Provided by: South Indian Education Society (SIES)
- Reason: Contribution to India's foreign policy and global leadership.

India to receive ISSA Good Practice Award for Asia-Pacific 2024

- Award: International Social Security Association (ISSA) Good Practice Award
- Awarded to : Dr. Mohammed Ajman, ISSA President
- Eligibility: Contribution in the use of Information and Communication Technology by EPF, Multilingual Call Centre and District Outreach Programme (Fund Near You).

 Recipient: Ashok Kumar Singh, Director General, ESIC

Arun Kapoor gets Bhutan's royal honour

- Honors: 'Dasho' title, Bura Marp (red scarf) and Kite (ceremonial sword)
- Provider: King Jigme Khesar Namgyal of Bhutan
- Draw Date: December 17, 2024
- Venue: Thimphu, Changlimthang Stadium, Bhutan's 117th National Day
- Specialty: The title 'Dasho' is usually given to senior Bhutanese officials, an honour rare for non-residents.
- First Received Honours: Awarded 'Duk Thakse' for the establishment of the Royal Academy School in 2019 and the development of the Bhutan Baccalaureate educational system.

Jesse Daniels Award:

- Winner: Shaji N Karun (Eminent Malayalam filmmaker)
- Reason: Notable contribution to Malayalam cinema
- Award: ₹5 lakh cash, a citation and a statuette
- Provider: Government of Kerala

Scottish Sikh artist Jasleen Kaur wins Turner Prize

- Winner: Jasleen Kaur (Indian-origin artist, born in Glasgow)
- 'Alter Alter' (sculptures with recreated objects, sounds, immersive music).



8. Person in News

Justice V. Ramasubramanian

- Appointed Chairman of National Human Rights Commission.
- Assumed Charge: December 23, 2024
- Former Chairperson: Justice Arun Kumar Mishra (Retired June 1, 2024)
- Acting Chairperson: Justice V.
 Ramasubramanian and Vijaya Bharati Sayani
- Appointment of members of the Commission: Priyank Kanoongo and Dr. Justice Bidyut Ranjan Sanghi
- Priyank Kanungo's former post: Chairman of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
- Appointment Process: The President has approved the appointment of a High Level Committee headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Justice V. Ramasubramanian's Retired Work: Supreme Court Judge (June 29, 2023) and Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court
- 9th Chairman of National Human Rights Commission

New governors in five states

- Date of Appointment: December 24, 2024
- Appointments of New Governors:
 - Manipur: Ajay Kumar Bhalla (Former Governor: Anusuiya Uikey)
 - Mizoram: General VK Singh (Former Governor: Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati)
 - Odisha: Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati (Former Governor: Raghubar Das) Governors Transferred:
 - o Bihar: Arif Mohammad Khan (Former Governor: Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar)
 - Kerala: Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar (Former Governor: Arif Mohammed Khan)

Sanjay Malhotra

- Became Governor of Reserve Bank of India.
- Posted: December 11, 2024
- Governor's Tenure: As 26th Governor
- Previous post: Revenue Secretary in the Ministry of Finance
- Tenure: Three years.
- fact
 - o First Governor: Sir Osborne Smith
 - First Indian Governor: C.D. Narasimha Rao a prominent regional figure
 - o Longest Serving Governor: Sir Benegal Rama Rao
 - Shortest serving Governor: Amitav Ghosh (20 days)

Devendra Fadnavis

- He became the new Chief Minister of Maharashtra.
- Sworn in: December 5, 2024
- Chief Minister's post: Third time
- Pre-Term:
- First time: October 31, 2014
- 2nd time: November 23, 2019 (5 days)
- Deputy Chief Ministers: Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar

Madan B. Lokur

- Became the head of the internal justice system of the United Nations.
- Term of office: November 12, 2028
- Previous Designation: Supreme Court Judge
- He was also a judge of the Supreme Court of Fiji in 2019.

Justice Manmohan

- Appointed Judges to the Supreme Court.
- Previous Position: Chief Justice of Delhi High Court

Justice Guhanathan Narendra

- He became the Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court .
- Sworn in: December 26, 2024
- Previous Posts: Judge of Andhra Pradesh High Court

Justice G.S. Sandhawalia

- He became the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court.
- Previous post: Judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court

Rajeev Mehta

- Became the Secretary General of the Asian Fencing Confederation
- He is a former top official of the Indian Olympic Association.
- He is the first Indian administrator to hold this position

Kamya Karthikeyan scales seven peaks across 7 continents

- Kamya Karthikeyan: A 17-year-old mountaineer from Mumbai.
- Achievement: Conquering 7 peaks of all 7 continents .
- Peaks:



 Antarctica (Mount Vinson), Africa (Mount Kilimanjaro), Europe (Mount Elbrus), Australia (Mount Kosciuszko), South America (Mount Aconcagua), North America (Mount Denali), Asia (Mount Everest).

Francois Byreu

- He became the new Prime Minister of France.
- Posted: December 13, 2024
- Tenure: Until 2027
- Former Prime Ministers: Gabriel Atal (January-September, 2024), Michel Barnier (September-December, 2024)

Mikhail Kavelashvili

- He became the new president of Georgia.
- Posted: December 2024
- Former President: Salome Jorabachili
- Former footballer, played for Manchester City

Netumbo Nandi - Naditwah

- Namibia's first female president
- He received 57% of the vote in the election.
- Current Vice President, member of the SWAP Party
- Contribution to the freedom struggle, 5th President of Namibia

Shammi Silva

- Became the President of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC).
- Replaced Jay Shah of India

Dharam Gokhul

- Became President of Mauritius.
- Assumption of office: December 6, 2024

Gintotas pelucas

- Became Prime Minister of Lithuania.
- Assumption of office: December 12, 2024

Christun Frostedotir

- He became the Prime Minister of Iceland.
- Assumption of office: December 21, 2024

Choi Song - Mok

- Became the acting Prime Minister of South Korea.
- Assumption of office: December 27, 2024

Mikhail Kaveleshvili

- Became President of Georgia.
- Assumption of office: December 29, 2024

Yoon Suk yeol

- South Korea's National Assembly passes impeachment motion against President Yoon Suk yeol.
- Prime Minister Han Dak-so was appointed acting president.

Demises

Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh

- Died: December 26, 2024, at the age of 92
- The central government declared a 7-day national mourning.
- Term of Prime Minister: 22 May 2004 to 26 May 2014
- Awards: Padma Vibhushan (1987), Asia Money Award (1993, 1994)
- Born: September 26, 1932, Gah, Punjab (now Pakistan)

Various Positions:

- Governor of Reserve Bank of India (1982-85)
- Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission (1985-87)
- Minister of Finance, Narasimha Rao Sarkar (1991-96)
- o Rajya Sabha MP (1991–2024)

Filmmaker Shyam Benegal

- Died: December 23, 2024, at the age of 90
- Famous Movies: Ankur, Mandi, Manthan
- Prize:
 - Padma Shri (1976), Padma Bhushan (1991),
 Dadasaheb Phalke Award (2005)
- 18 National Film Awards

Tabla maestro Ustad Zakir Hussain

- Died: December 16, 2024, aged 73, US
- Contribution: Innovation and Blending in Indian Classical Music
- Prize:
 - Padma Shri (1988), Padma Bhushan (2002),
 Padma Vibhushan (2023)
 - First Grammy Award in 2009, 3 Grammy Awards in 2024

M. T. Vasudevan Nair

- He was a famous artist of Malayalam literature and cinema.
- Died: December 25, 2024, Age: 91 years
- Winner of 4 National Film Awards (Screenwriting)
- Directed 7 films, scripted 54 films
- Prize:
 - Jnanpith Award (1995), Padma Bhushan (2005), Kerala Jyothi Award (2022)

Om Prakash Chautala

- Former Chief Minister of Haryana
- Died: December 20, 2024, Age: 89 years
- 5-time Chief Minister of Haryana



MDR Ramachandran

- Former Chief Minister of Puducherry
- Died: December 8, 2024, Age: 90 years
 Twice Chief Minister of Puducherry (1980-1983, 1990-1991)

M.M. Krishna

- Former Chief Minister of Karnataka
- Died: December 10, 2024, Age: 92 years
- Key Positions
 - o Chief Minister of Karnataka (1999-2004)
 - External Affairs Minister of India (2009-2012)
 - o Governor of Maharashtra (2004-2008)



9. Place in News

Masali Village: First Frontier Solar Village Becomes

- Location: Suigam Tehsil, Banaskantha, Gujarat
- 40 km from Pakistan border
- Population of about 800
- Solar rooftops to be installed on 119 houses under 'Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Free Scheme'
- Total power generation of 225.5 kW (more than the requirement of the village)

Ratapani Tiger Reserve declared as 57th Tiger Reserve in the country

• Location: Madhya Pradesh, Ratapani

Important facts:

- 8th Tiger Reserve of Madhya Pradesh
- India's 57th Tiger Reserve
- Area: 1271.4 km² (763.8 km² core area, 507.6 km² buffer area)
- Districts: Bhopal, Raisen, Sehore
- Located near the Vindhya Hills
- Bhimbetka Rock Shelters (UNESCO World Heritage Site) included
- Declared a wildlife sanctuary in the year 1976

Country's First Vertical Lift Sea Bridge

 Location: Mandapam - Pamban Island Rameswaram

Fact:

- Construction at a cost of ₹535 crore
- 2.05 km long
- 100 Span (19.3 m) and Navigational Span of 63 m
- Lifting capacity up to 17 meters by fully automatic electro-mechanical system
- Trains will be able to run at a speed of 80 km/h
- Designed by International Consultant TYPSA

India's first Geoscience Museum

- Location: Gwalior, Victoria Market Building.
- Inauguration: Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav on December 15, 2024.

Attributes:

- Gallery: 'Evolution of Earth' and 'Evolution of Life'.
- Exhibits: Origin of the Earth, Age of Dinosaurs, Geological Phenomena.

Central Intelligence Training Institute

- **Foundation Stone:** 22nd December, 2024 in Agartala, Tripura.
- Fact:
 - Installation on 9.57 acres of land
 - o 6,000+ Personnel to be Trained Every Year
 - Objective: Strengthen security in the North-Eastern Region and neighbouring countries
 - Initiative to set higher standards for personnel of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs)

Madhya Pradesh included in 'Go-to Global Destinations For-2025'

- Venue: Recognition by the Wall Street Journal
- Destination: Bandhavgarh, Khajuraho, Panna
- Special Attractions:
 - Temples of Khajuraho
 - o Sanchi Stupa
 - o Bhimbetka Caves

Inauguration of Indian Army AI Incubation Centre

- Location: Bengaluru
- Important facts:
 - Inauguration: Indian Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi
 - Objective: Enhancing operational capabilities and building an AI ready force
 - Support: Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)

India tags Ganges river dolphin for the first time in Assam

- Initiative: Historic Achievement in Wildlife Conservation.
- Objective: To understand the seasonal, migratory patterns, range, dispersal and habitat use of the Gangetic river dolphin.
- Collaboration: Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Assam Forest Department and Aranyaka.
- Project: Project Dolphin, funded by National CAMPA.

India's Diabetes Biobank set up in Chennai

- Institute: Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Madras Diabetes Research Foundation (MDRF).
- Aim:
 - Promote advanced research on the causes of diabetes.
 - Study of the unique pattern of diabetes and related health conditions in India.

• Work:

- Collection, processing, storage and distribution of biological specimens.
 - Contribution to global health research.



10. Miscellaneous

PM lays foundation stone of Ken-Betwa River Interlinking Project

- On December 25, 2024, it was laid in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh.
- Project Objective: Rejuvenation of Bundelkhand

Key Points:

- First project under National River Interlinking Policy
- 44 lakh people of Madhya Pradesh and 21 lakh people of Uttar Pradesh will get drinking water
- 10 Districts to get irrigation facility
- Benefits 7.18 lakh farmer families
- Cost of Rs.44,605 crore
- 103 MW hydropower and 27 MW solar power generation
- 77 meter high Dodhan dam in 'Panna Tiger Reserve'

BharatGen

- Multimodal multilingual language models.
- Aim: Development of AI models tailored to the linguistic, cultural and socio-economic diversity of the country
- Major Initiatives: 'Bharat Data Sagar'
- Content: Consortium of top AI researchers from premier academic institutions (IIT Bombay, IIIT Hyderabad, IIT Mandi, IIT Kanpur, IIT Hyderabad, IIM Indore, IIT Madras)

Launch of 'Anna Chakra' and 'SCAN' portals

 Objective: To modernize India's Public Distribution System (PDS).

• Anna Chakra Portal:

- PDS Supply Chain Optimization.
- Increasing the efficiency of the PDS logistics network.
- Collaboration: World Food Programme (WFP) and IIT Delhi-based FITT.

Scan Portal:

- Simplifying the subsidy claim process under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013.
- o This portal is designed for the states.

Oxford Word of the Year for the year 2024

- Term: Brain Rot
- Meaning: the term associated with mindless scrolling on social media, which refers to excessive consumption of low-quality online content.

Conferences

First India Maritime Heritage Conference

- Event: December 11-12, 2024 in New Delhi.
- Organizer: Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MOPSW).

• Topic: 'Understanding India's Position in Global Maritime History'.

4th National Conference of Chief Secretaries

- Event: December 13-15, 2024 in New Delhi.
- Chairperson: Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Participants: Chief Secretaries of 28 States and 8 Union Territories.
- Theme: 'Promoting Entrepreneurship, Employment and Skills – Leveraging Demographic Dividend'.

World Ayurveda Congress & Arogya Expo (WAC)

- **Event:** December 12-15, 2024 in Dehradun (Uttarakhand).
- Organizer: World Ayurveda Foundation (WAF).
- Theme: 'Digital Health: A Perspective of Ayurveda'.
- Participants: More than 10,000 delegates.
- Previous WAC: December 2022, Goa.

World Marine Technology Conference (WMTC) 2024

- Event: December 4-6, 2024 in Chennai.
- Organized: World Marine Technology Congress
- Theme: 'Maritime Innovation, Sustainability, AI Integration and Global Trade Connectivity'
- Participating countries: 21 organizations from 17 countries
- The conference is held every three years.

29th CII Partnership Summit 2024

- Event: December 2-3, 2024 in New Delhi.
- Organizer: Confederation of Indian Industry, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- Theme: 'Partnerships for Progress'

59th All India Conference of Directors General/Inspectors General of Police

- Event: 29 November 1 December, 2024 in Bhubaneswar (Odisha)
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the concluding session of the conference.
- **Topics of discussion:** Smart Policing, Anti-Terrorism, Left Wing Extremism, Coastal Security, Economic Security, Immigration, Narco-Trafficking, and other national security issues.

29th Kerala International Film Festival

- Event: December 13-20, 2024 in Thiruvananthapuram.
- Inauguration: Lifetime Achievement Award to Hong Kong filmmaker An Hui.
- A total of 177 films from 68 countries were screened.
- Actress Shabana Azmi was honoured for her 50 years of achievement in cinema.



11. Indexes & Reports

India State of Forest Report 2023

- Issuer: Forest Survey of India (FSI)
- This report provides information on forest cover, tree cover, carbon stocks, forest fire incidents and agroforestry
- 18th edition of ISFR, first edition published in 1987

Key facts of the report

- According to the present assessment, the total forest and tree cover is 8,27,356.95 sq km, which is 25.17 per cent of the geographical area of the country.
 - o In this, the area of total forest cover is about 7,15,342.61 sq km. (21.76 percent).
 - The area of tree cover is 1,12,014.34 sq km. (3.41 percent).

Forest and Tree Cover in India (in sq. km)			
cla	area	% of	
		Geographical	
		Area	
Forest Cover	7,15,342.61	21.76	
Tree Cover	1,12,014.34	3.41	
Total Forest & Tree	8,27,356.95	25.17	
Cover			
Shrubs	43,622.64	1.33	
Non-forest	24,16,489.29	73.50	
Total geographical	32,87, 468.88	100.00	
area of the country			

- Increase: As compared to 2021, the country's forest and tree cover has increased by 1445.81 sq km.
 - o Increase in forest cover: 156.41 sq km.
 - o Tree cover growth: 1289 sq. km.

Top four states showing maximum increase in forest and tree cover:

- 1. Chhattisgarh (683.62 sq. km.),
- 2. Uttar Pradesh (559.19 sq. km.),
- 3. Odisha (558.57 sq. km.)
- 4. Rajasthan (394.46 sq. km.)

States showing the highest decrease in forest and tree cover

- 1. Madhya Pradesh (612.41 sq. km)
- 2. Karnataka (459.36 sq. km.)
- 3. Ladakh (159.26 km)

Top three states showing maximum increase in forest cover:

- 1. Mizoram (242 sq. km.)
- 2. Gujarat (180 sq. km.)
- 3. Odisha (152 sq. km.)

Top three states with the highest forest and tree cover (in terms of area):

- 1. Madhya Pradesh (85,724 sq. km.)
- 2. Arunachal Pradesh (67,083 sq km.
- 3. Maharashtra (65,383 sq. km)

Top 3 States with Highest Forest Cover (in terms of Area)

- 1. Madhya Pradesh (77,073 sq. km.)
- 2. Arunachal Pradesh (65,882 sq km2)
- 3. Chhattisgarh (55,812 sq. km.)

States with the Highest Tree Cover:

- 1. Maharashtra (14,524.88 sq. km.)
- 2. Rajasthan (10,841.12 sq. km.)
- 3. Uttar Pradesh (8,950.92 sq. km.)

Highest percentage of forest cover in total geographical area of the state

- 1. Lakshadweep (91.33 percent)
- 2. Mizoram (85.34 percent)
- 3. Andaman & Nicobar Islands (81.62 per cent)

Mangroove Vegetation:

- Total mangrove cover: 4,991.68 sq km
- 0.15% of the country's total geographical area

Bamboo Bearing Area:

- Total Expansion: 1,54,670 Sq Km
- An increase of 5,227 sq km over 2021

Recorded Forest Area (RFA):

Major Tree Species:

- Year (Shorea robusta): 11.43%
- Teak/Teak: 4.46%
- Pine: 4.43%
- ToF (Trees Outside Forests):

Major Species:

- Mango: 13.25%
- Neem: 7.00%
- Mahuwa: 4.37%

India Skills Report 2025:

- Issuer: Wheebox, CII, AICTE, AIU
- Objective: To assess the potential of employable youth in India and qualifications at the international level.

Key Points:

- o Percentage of employable graduates globally: 55% (in 2025), 51.2% (in 2024)
- Global employment potential of management graduates: 78%
- o Global employability of engineering students: 71.5%



- o Global employability of MCA students: 71%
- Global employment potential of science graduates: 58%

Top States:

o Maharashtra: 84% employability

Delhi: 78%Karnataka: 75%

- Main Cities: Pune, Bengaluru, Mumbai (Availability of skilled workforce)
- Employment rate (male): 53.5% (in 2025)
- Employment rate (women): 47.5% (in 2025)

Three Indians in Forbes' Most Powerful List

- List Name: List of Most Powerful Women in the World (2024)
- Top 3 Women:
 - Ursula von der Leyen (President of the European Commission)
 - Christine Lagarde (President of the European Central Bank)
 - o Giorgia Meloni (Prime Minister of Italy)

Indian Women:

- Nirmala Sitharaman (Finance Minister) –
 28th position
- Roshni Nadar Malhotra (Chairperson, HCL Technologies) - 81st position
- Kiran Mazumdar Shaw (Founder of Biocon)82nd position

Three Indians in BBC's 100 most influential women list

List Name: BBC 100 Women 2024

- Indian Women:
 - Vinesh Phogat (Olympian)
 - Aruna Roy (Social Activist)
 - o Pooja Sharma (Social Activist)

UNCCD Drought Report

- Report Title: 'Global Threat of Drying Land: Regional and Global Arid Trends and Future Projections'
- Released Date: December 9, 2024
- Venue: Saudi Arabia, Riyadh
- Key Points: Global trend of land aridity and desertification

Important Days

- Nagaland's Foundation Day: 1 December
- World AIDS Day: 1 December
 - o The theme for the year 2024: 'Take the Right Path: My Health, My Right!"
- International Day for the Abolition of Slavery: 2 December
- World Computer Literacy Day: 2 December
 - o Theme of the year 2024: 'The Big Three Computing Advances'
- National Pollution Control Day: 2 December
 - o The theme for the year 2024: 'Clean Air, Green Earth: A Step towards Sustainable Life'
- International Day of Persons with Disabilities: 3 December
 - Theme of the year 2024: 'Promoting Leadership of Persons with Disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future'
- Indian Navy Day: 4 December
 - o Theme of the year 2024: 'Power and Affordability through Innovation and Indigenization'
- International Cheetah Day: 4 December
- International Volunteer Day: 5 December
- World Soil Day: 5 December
 - Theme for 2024: 'Soil Care: Measuring, Monitoring, Managing'
- Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Mahaparinirvan Diwas: December 6
- Armed Forces Flag Day: 7 December
- International Civil Aviation Day: 7 December
 - o Theme of the year 2024: 'Safe Skies. Sustainable Future: Together for the next 80 years'
- International Day for the Prevention of Genocide and the Commemoration of the Victims: 9 December
- International Anti-Corruption Day: 9 December
 - o Theme of the year 2024: 'Uniting with Youth Against Corruption: Shaping the Integrity of Tomorrow'
- Human Rights Day: 10 December
 - o Theme for 2024: 'Our Rights, Our Future, Now'
- Swaahid Diwas: 10 December
 - o It is celebrated to pay tribute to Khadgeshwar Talukdar, the first martyr of the Assam Movement.
- 78th UNICEF Foundation Day: 11 December



- International Mountain Day: 11 December
 - Theme of the year 2024: 'Mountain Solutions for a Sustainable Future Innovation, Adaptation and Youth'
- International Day of Neutrality: 12 December
- International Universal Health Coverage Day: 12 December
- National Energy Conservation Day: 14 December
 - Theme for 2024: 'Promoting Sustainability: Every Watt Counts'
- Victory Day: 16 December
- International Migrants Day: 18 December
 - o Theme of the year 2024: 'Honouring the contributions of migrants and respecting their rights'
- Minorities Rights Day: 18 December
- Goa Liberation Day: 19 December
- International Human Solidarity Day: 20 December
- World Meditation Day: 21 December
 - On December 6, 2024, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution to celebrate December 21 as World Meditation Day.
 - The first World Meditation Day was observed on December 21, 2024.
- World Basketball Day: 21 December
- National Mathematics Day: 22 December
 - o Every year on 22 December, it is celebrated in memory of mathematician Srinivasa Iyengar Ramanujan.
- National Farmers Day: 23 December
 - o Theme of 2024: 'Empowering Annadata for a Prosperous Nation'
 - o It is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Chaudhary Charan Singh.
- National Consumer Day: 23 December
 - o Theme of 2024: 'Digital Access to Virtual Hearings and Consumer Justice'
- Good Governance Day: 25 December
 - o It is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- Mahamana Madan Mohan Malaviya's Birthday: 25 December
- Veer Children's Day: 26 December
 - Commemoration of the martyrdom of Sahibzada Baba Zorawar Singh and Baba Fateh Singh, sons of Sri Guru Gobind Singh.
- International Day for Epidemic Preparedness: 27 December

National Good Governance Week 2024: December 19-24

- Objective: Redress public grievances and improve service delivery.
- Campaign: 'Administration towards the village', organized in 700 districts across India .
- Coordination: By the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances.

Samvak **An Institute For Civil Services**

क्लास 12" के बाद ग्रेजुएशन

के साथ ३ वर्षीय कोर्स

क्लास 12th के बाद ग्रेजुएशन के साथ 3 वर्षीय कोर्स

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RAS-2021 RESULT

राजस्थान में पहली बार TOP 10 ਸੇਂ 9 TOPPERS









TOTAL





शुभम शर्मा





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राजस्थान में पहली बार IAS/RAS की तैयारी के लिए पूर्ण सुरक्षित माहौल में गुणवत्तापूर्ण शिक्षा के साथ आवासीय कोचिंग

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विषय विशेषज्ञों द्वारा मार्गदर्शन



गुणवत्तापूर्ण पौष्टिक भौजन



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