

International

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw to Attend World Economic Forum 2025

About News:-

- ❖ On Sunday, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw shared insights on his participation at the World Economic Forum (WEF) 2025.
- ❖ The Union Minister highlighted that there would be a detailed discussion on issues ranging from inclusive growth, investments in social physical, and digital infrastructure to democratising technology.



Key Points:-

- ❖ He pointed out the global interest in India's approach to economic policy, digital transformation, and the Digital India programme.
- ❖ The annual WEF meeting 2025 in Davos takes place from 20 - 24 January. The meeting brings together government, business, and civil society leaders to set the year's agenda for how leaders can make the world a better place for all.
- ❖ Davos 2025 convenes under the theme, 'Collaboration for the Intelligent Age'.
- ❖ The 2025 meeting is being organized under five areas: reimagining growth, industries in the intelligent age, investing in people, safeguarding the planet, and rebuilding trust. More than 350 governmental leaders are expected to participate this year, including 60 heads of state and government.
- ❖ India's participation in WEF 2025 aims to strengthen partnerships, attract investment, and position the country as a global leader in sustainable development and technological innovation.

About World Economic Forum:-

- ❖ Formation:- 24 January 1971
- ❖ Headquarters:- Cologny, Switzerland
- ❖ Executive Chairman:- Klaus Schwab

National

Amit Shah to inaugurate NIDM southern campus in Andhra Pradesh

About News:-

- ❖ Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be the chief guest at the 20th Foundation Day celebrations of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) near Gannavaram in Krishna district on Sunday. On this occasion, he will also inaugurate some projects and lay the foundation stone for some others, collectively worth around 220 crore.



Key Points:-

Key Highlights of Amit Shah's Visit

- ❖ **Inaugurations:**
 - Southern Campus of NIDM, 10th Battalion of NDRF, and Regional Response Centre (RRC) in Supaul.
 - NIDM focuses on training, capacity building, research, and policy formulation.
 - The 10th NDRF Battalion has completed over 800 missions, saving 15,000+ lives and evacuating over 1 lakh people.
- ❖ **Foundation Stone:**
 - New integrated indoor shooting range at the National Police Academy, Hyderabad.
 - Features: 50m long, 10 lanes, all-weather operational, automated, and built at ₹27 crore to meet international standards.
- ❖ **Southern NIDM Campus:**
 - Established in Krishna district to serve southern India.
 - Operational since May 2023, it has conducted 44 training programmes, training over 2,130 stakeholders.

About National Disaster Response Force:-

- ❖ Formed:- 19 January 2006
- ❖ Headquarters:- New Delhi
- ❖ Agency executive:- Shri Piyush Anand, IPS.

State

Uttarakhand Cabinet approves Uniform Civil Code Manual

About News:-

- ❖ A cabinet meeting was held on Monday at the State Secretariat under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, where the cabinet approved the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) manual.
- ❖ The approval follows a thorough scrutiny by the legislative Department, which had already reviewed the manual.



Key Points:-

- ❖ The BJP government introduced the UCC Bill during a special session of the Uttarakhand Legislative Assembly on February 6 this year and it was passed with a comfortable majority a day later on February 7.
- ❖ Following the Uttarakhand Assembly, the UCC Bill was passed in February, and President Droupadi Murmu signed it on March 13, paving the way for Uttarakhand to potentially become the first state in India to enact the UCC.
- ❖ The Uniform Civil Code seeks to establish a set of uniform personal laws that apply to all citizens, regardless of religion, gender, or caste.
- ❖ This would cover aspects such as marriage, divorce, adoption, inheritance, and succession.

About Uttarakhand

- ❖ Capital:- Dehradun
- ❖ Governor:- Gurmit Singh
- ❖ Chief minister:- Pushkar Singh Dhami

Economic

IMF Cuts India's FY25 Growth Forecast to 6.5%

About News:-

- ❖ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Friday retained India's growth forecast for 2024-25 at 6.5% but said that growth in the country has slowed more than predicted, led by a sharper-than-expected deceleration in industrial activity.



Key Points:-

- ❖ The IMF's estimate for this year is similar to the World Bank, which has also forecast GDP growth for India at 6.5% for this year. For next year, the World Bank has estimated growth to be at 6.7%.
- ❖ India will still retain the tag of fastest-growing major economy in the world, against the backdrop of geopolitical tensions and global policy uncertainty.
- ❖ Several multilateral agencies have revised their growth estimates downwards for India after the National Statistics Office's (NSO) projection showed the economy is expected to expand by 6.4% - the lowest in four years in the current financial year, and sharply below the 8.2% recorded in 2023-24.
- ❖ The sharp slowdown in growth has triggered calls for measures to boost consumption, which some experts say have been hit by stubborn inflationary pressures. Pressures have mounted on the Reserve Bank of India to cut rates to boost growth.
- ❖ The budget is expected to unveil measures to step up growth, amid the backdrop of an uncertain global economy. Concerning the projection in Oct, growth in 2025 for China was marginally revised upward by 0.1 percentage points to 4.6%.
- ❖ Global growth has been projected at 3.3% both in 2025 and 2026, below the historical (2000-19) average of 3.7%.
- ❖ The forecast for 2025 is broadly unchanged from that in the Oct 2024 WEO outlook, primarily on account of an upward revision in the US offsetting downward revisions in other major economies, according to the IMF.

About the International Monetary Fund

- ❖ Formation:- 1 July 1944
- ❖ Headquarters:- Washington, D.C
- ❖ Managing Director:- Kristalina Georgieva

Appointment

Justice (Retd) Arun Mishra appointed as BCCI Ombudsman

About News:-



- ❖ Former Supreme Court judge Justice Arun Mishra has been appointed as Ombudsman of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Mishra will also function as the BCCI Ethics Officer.

Key Points:-

- ❖ He served in the apex court from July 7, 2014, to September 2, 2020, before being appointed as the chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on June 2, 2021, a position he held until June 1, 2024.
- ❖ Mishra, born on September 3, 1955, in Gwalior in a family of lawyers, had decided around 97,000 cases as a judge of high courts of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Calcutta.
- ❖ He was appointed as a judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court on October 25, 1999 and was later appointed as the Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court on November 26, 2010.
- ❖ He was later appointed as the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court on December 14, 2012.
- ❖ A legal luminary, Mishra has also contributed immensely to the betterment of legal education in the country.

About BCCI:-

- ❖ Board of Control for Cricket in India
- ❖ Founded:- 1 December 1928
- ❖ Headquarters:- Mumbai
- ❖ President:- Roger Binny

Science & Technology

China successfully launches Pakistani satellite 'PRSC-E01' into space

About News:-



- ❖ China successfully launched a Pakistani satellite into space from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center on Friday.

Key Points:-

- ❖ The satellite, named PRSC-E01, was launched at 12:07 p.m. (Beijing Time) by a Long March-2D carrier rocket and entered its planned orbit successfully, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.
- ❖ The rocket also carried two other satellites - Tianlu-1 and Lantan-1. This launch marked the 556th flight mission involving the Long March carrier rocket series.
- ❖ China has been launching satellites for Pakistan in the last few years broadening their all-weather alliance into the space arena.
- ❖ Last year, China launched a multi-mission communication satellite for Pakistan.
- ❖ In 2018, China sent two Pakistan satellites into orbit. The PRSS-1, Pakistan's first optical remote sensing satellite, and the PakTES-1A, a smaller observation craft.
- ❖ Currently valued at \$5 billion, the earth observation satellite market is among the fastest-growing sectors within the commercial space industry, with Novaspace predicting it to exceed \$8 billion by 2033.
- ❖ Countries including the United States, China, and India have been building their government and private satellite constellations to map the Earth. Indian startup Pixxel this month launched the country's first privately built satellite constellation.

Defence

Advanced Light Helicopters will not participate in Republic Day flypast: defence secretary

About News:-

- ❖ Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh announced on Monday that the Advanced Light Helicopters (ALH), indigenously designed and developed, will not participate in this year's Republic Day flypast following the grounding of the fleet after a recent crash.
- ❖ "The ALH will not be participating in the parade, but 39 other aircraft will feature in the flypast, showcasing 12 different formations," Singh stated during a press conference.

Key Points:-

- ❖ The decision comes after a tragic crash of an ALH belonging to the Coast Guard in Porbandar, Gujarat, on January 5, which claimed the lives of three Coast Guard personnel. Following the incident, the armed forces grounded the entire fleet of approximately 330 ALH choppers as a precautionary measure.
- ❖ Preparations for the grand event are in full swing. Rehearsals at Kartavya Path on Monday featured MI-17 V-5 helicopters, Apache attack helicopters, Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launcher systems, and all-terrain vehicles.
- ❖ Security measures have also been heightened ahead of the Republic Day celebrations on January 26. The CISF has intensified passenger security checks across Metro stations, leading to potential queues, particularly during peak hours. Passengers are advised to plan their commutes with additional time and cooperate with security personnel.



- ❖ Amid these preparations, the Indian Army's Motorcycle Rider Display Team, known as the "Daredevils," achieved a world record at Kartavya Path on January 20. The team, part of the Corps of Signals, formed the highest human pyramid on moving motorcycles, standing an impressive 20.4 feet tall. The formation, comprising 40 men on 7 motorcycles, covered a distance of 2 kilometers from Vijay Chowk to India Gate.

Sport

India clinch inaugural Kho Kho World Cup

About News:-

- ❖ The inaugural Kho Kho World Cup in New Delhi ended on a historic note as India secured both the men's and women's titles in thrilling fashion.
- ❖ In a masterful display of speed, strategy, and skill, the Indian women's kho kho team claimed the 2025 title at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium on Sunday night, defeating Nepal 78-40.
- ❖ Meanwhile, the men's team followed suit with a 54-36 victory over Nepal in their final.

Key Points:-

- ❖ The inaugural Kho Kho World Cup finals witnessed an illustrious gathering of dignitaries, adding prestige to this historic sporting event.
- ❖ Former Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan, Supreme Court Judge Pankaj Mithal, and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju graced the occasion with their presence.



- ❖ Also present were Odisha's Minister of Sports and Youth Services and Higher Education, Suryabanshi Suraj, International Kho Kho Federation (KKFI) President Sudhanshu Mittal, and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Joint General Secretary Krishna Gopal.
- ❖ Their attendance showed the significance of this milestone event in Kho Kho's journey from a traditional Indian sport to a global phenomenon on its way to being an Olympic Sport.
- ❖ The team's journey to the championship was nothing short of remarkable. India showcased their dominance throughout the tournament, beginning with convincing victories over Brazil, Peru, and Bhutan in the group stages. Their momentum continued through the knockout rounds, where they outclassed Bangladesh in the quarterfinals before overcoming a strong South African side in the semifinals.

MATCH AWARDS

- ❖ Best Attacker of the match: Suyash Gargate (Team India)
- ❖ Best Defender of the match: Rohit Burma (Team Nepal)
- ❖ Best Player of the Match: Mehul (Team India).

Obituary

Manchester United and Scotland football legend Denis Law dies aged 84

About News:-



- ❖ Denis Law, the Manchester United and Scotland great, has died. He was 84.
- ❖ The death of Law, the only Scottish player to win the Ballon d'Or, was announced by his family through United on Friday. In 2021 he was diagnosed with dementia.

Key Points:-

- ❖ **Manchester United Legend:** Part of the iconic trio with Bobby Charlton and George Best, leading United to league titles (1965, 1967) and the European Cup (1968).
- ❖ **Achievements:** Won the Ballon d'Or in 1964; scored a club-record 46 goals in the 1963-64 season and 237 goals overall, surpassed only by Charlton and Rooney.
- ❖ **Notable Moments:**
 - Scored against United while playing for Manchester City in 1973-74, in one of his final games.
 - Helped United rebuild after the 1958 Munich disaster, winning the FA Cup (1963) and two league titles.
 - Played for Scotland in the 1974 World Cup at age 34.
- ❖ **Post-Retirement:** Worked as a soccer pundit and was by George Best's side during his final moments in 2005.
- ❖ **Recognition:** Recovered from prostate cancer and was awarded a CBE in 2016 for contributions to soccer and charity.

Important Day

Tripura Manipur and Meghalaya Foundation Day – 21 January



About Day:-

- ❖ India is a country known for its cultural diversity and historical richness. Among the significant dates highlighting India's journey towards unity and development is the 21st of January 1972, when Tripura, Manipur, and Meghalaya became full-fledged states under the North Eastern Areas Reorganisation Act, of 1971.

- ❖ This day is commemorated as Tripura, Manipur, and Meghalaya Foundation Day, which reflects the aspirations and identity of the people of these northeastern states.

Tripura Manipur and Meghalaya Foundation Day Historical Background

- ❖ The journey to statehood for Tripura, Manipur, and Meghalaya is deeply rooted in the reorganisation of India's northeastern region during the early 1970s.
- ❖ The formation of Tripura, Manipur, and Meghalaya as states was a turning point in the reorganization of India's northeastern region. At the time of independence, the northeastern landscape included the Assam plains, hill districts, and princely states like Manipur and Tripura,

- ❖ **Manipur and Tripura:** These princely states merged with India in 1949. Initially granted Union Territory status in 1956, they aspired for full statehood, which was achieved on 21st January 1972.
- ❖ **Meghalaya:** Originally part of Assam, Meghalaya gained autonomy through the Assam Reorganisation (Meghalaya) Act, of 1969. It became a full-fledged state in 1972.
- ❖ The North Eastern Areas Reorganisation Act, of 1971, passed by Parliament to address the region's unique cultural, social, and administrative needs, laid the constitutional framework for this transformation.

