

Health Dynamics of India (Infrastructure and Human Resources) 2022-23

Health Ministry Releases "Health Dynamics of India (Infrastructure and Human Resources) 2022-23"

Key Points

- ❖ **Released by:** The Union Health Secretary has released "Health Dynamics of India (Infrastructure and Human Resources) 2022-23".
- ❖ It is an annual publication formerly known as "Rural Health Statistics".
- ❖ **Published since:** The document has been published since **1992**.
- ❖ It is a **valuable document furnishing much needed information** on manpower and infrastructure within NHM, helpful in policy making, improving processes and problem solving.
- ❖ Since 1992, the publication has provided detailed annual data on health infrastructure and human resources, with updates as of March 31 each year. This data is crucial for stakeholders in the health sector, as it supports effective planning, monitoring, and management of health infrastructure across the country.

I4C Foundation Day

On 10th September 2024, the union home minister addressed the first Foundation Day celebration of the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) in New Delhi.

Key Points

- ❖ The **CFMC was established at the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre in New Delhi**.

- ❖ It has representatives from major banks, financial intermediaries, payment aggregators, telecom service providers, IT intermediaries, and law enforcement agencies from states and union territories (UTs).
- ❖ The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre **was established in October 2018** under the Central Sector Scheme within the Cyber and Information Security Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- ❖ **Samanvaya- Web based Module:** The web-based module Samanvaya has also been launched. It is a platform for cybercrime data repository, sharing, mapping, and analytics, as well as a coordination tool for law enforcement agencies.
- ❖ **'Cyber Commandos' program:** The 'Cyber Commandos' program has also been inaugurated, establishing a wing of trained specialists in states/UTs and central police organizations to enhance cybersecurity.
- ❖ **Suspect Registry:** Suspect Registry has also been unveiled. It is a new initiative to strengthen fraud risk management by creating a registry of identifiers based on the National Cybercrime Reporting Portal in collaboration with banks and financial intermediaries.

5th India-Philippines JDCC meeting

Defence Secretary to co-chair 5th India-Philippines Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting in Manila.

Key Points

- ❖ Defence Secretary to co-chair the fifth meeting of India-Philippines Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) on September 11, 2024 in Manila.
- ❖ The meeting will be co-chaired by Senior Under Secretary from the Ministry of National Defence of Philippines Mr Irineo Cruz Espino.
- ❖ **JDCC establishment:** The JDCC construct has been established under the ambit of the Memorandum of Understanding on defence cooperation signed between the two countries in 2006.
- ❖ **Earlier edition:** The fourth edition of the JDCC meeting was held in March 2023 in New Delhi at the Joint Secretary-level.
 - The fifth edition marks the elevation of the co-chair to Secretary-level.

This visit is significant as **India and Philippines celebrate 75 years of diplomatic relations and 10 years of India's Act East Policy.**

Both the countries have a vigorous and multifaceted relationship which have expanded into several strategic areas, including defence and security.

They are committed to support each other towards achieving the goal of self-reliance in defence production.

54th GST Council Meeting

On 9th September 2024, the 54th Goods and Services Tax Council meeting concluded in New Delhi.

Key Points

- ❖ The meeting was chaired by the **Finance Minister of India.**
- ❖ The **primary goal of the meeting** was to ensure that collection efficiency could be improved and the process could be further streamlined for citizens.

Important Agenda:

Following important decisions were taken up by the panel for consideration:

- ❖ **GoM- On medical health insurance:** The FM announced that the council has decided to form a new Group of Ministers (GoM) on GST rate reduction on medical health insurance. It will be headed by the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar but with newer members added for this limited purpose. It will submit its report by October-end.
- ❖ **GST on Cancer drugs:** The reduction in GST on cancer drugs from 12 per cent to 5 percent has been done. It is aimed at further reducing the overall cost of cancer treatment. This step is crucial as it is aimed to help citizens.



- ❖ **Group of Ministers on Cess:** During the meeting, it was stated that primarily the total cess collection projected until March 2026 stands at Rs 8.66 lakh crore. Further, after settling the loan payments, a projected surplus of around Rs 40,000 crore is expected.

- ❖ Select snacks are set to get cheaper: The GST council has decided to slash tax on selected snacks from 18 per cent to 12 per cent. This has been done to benefit the common citizens.
- ❖ **Exemption for Govt Universities and research centers:** Universities and research centers established by central or state government laws, or those granted income tax exemptions, will now be exempt from paying Goods and Services Tax (GST) on research funding. The government also clarified that these institutions can receive research funds from both public and private sources without being liable for GST. This is a very important step that is aimed at boosting the research capabilities of the country.
- ❖ **On Integrated Goods and Services tax:** The GST panel decided to set up a committee headed by the Additional Secretary of Revenue, who will address the negative IGST balance, focusing on retrieving excess IGST disbursed to states.
- ❖ **B2C GST Invoicing:** The GST panel decided to introduce Business-to-Customer (B2C) GST invoicing. This system for GST invoice management will take effect from October 1.
- ❖ **Some other crucial decisions:** It was also announced to surge GST on car seats from 18 per cent to 28 per cent in the meeting. Further, the panel also clarified that Roof Mounted Package Unit (RMPU) Air Conditioning Machines for Railways would be classified under HSN 8415 attracting a GST rate of 28 per cent. Further, helicopter services for religious purposes like Kedarnath, and Badrinath have been reduced to 5 percent from 18 percent, more clarity and details of this decision are awaited.

Parliamentary Committee on Official Language

Amit Shah Re-Elected as Chairperson of Parliamentary Committee on Official Language.

Key Points

- ❖ Home Minister Amit Shah has been unanimously re-elected as the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language. He has served as the Chairperson of the committee from 2019 to 2024.
- ❖ **Constituted in:** The Parliamentary Committee on Official Language was constituted under the provisions of Section 4 of the Official Languages Act, 1963, in 1976.
- ❖ **Members:** The committee comprises **30 members of Parliament, out of which 20 are from the Lok Sabha and 10 from the Rajya Sabha.**

Short News – Uttar Pradesh

- ❖ Recently, the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister has inaugurated the **73rd All India Police Wrestling Cluster tournament in Lucknow**. Thirty-four police force teams from Central, State, and Union Territories across the country are participating in this competition.



- ❖ The Supreme Court today stayed the Allahabad High Court order asking the Uttar Pradesh government to prepare a revised list of **69,000 assistant teachers selected through the Assistant Teachers Recruitment Examination (ATRE) in 2019.**

- A bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra also issued notices to the state government and others including the secretary of the UP Basic Education Board on a plea filed by Ravi Kumar Saxena and 51 others.

Military Exercises

YUDH ABHYAS-2024

India-US Joint Military Exercise

- ❖ The 20th edition of India-US Joint Military Exercise YUDH ABHYAS-2024 is taking place in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan.
- ❖ The exercise is scheduled to be conducted from 9th to 22nd September 2024.
- ❖ It has been held annually since 2004, alternating between India and the USA.
- ❖ This edition marks a significant increase in the scope and complexity of the joint exercise in terms of troop strength and equipment.
- ❖ Exercise YUDH ABHYAS will enable both sides to share best practices in tactics, techniques and procedures of conducting joint operations. It will facilitate developing inter-operability, bonhomie and camaraderie between the two armies.

The joint exercise will also enhance defence cooperation, further augmenting bilateral relations between the two friendly nations.

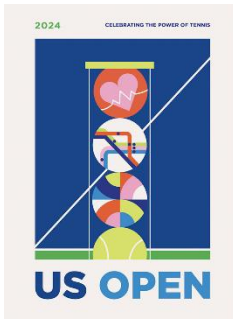
Sports

US Open Tennis 2024

- ❖ The 2024 US Open was the **144th edition of tennis' US Open and the fourth and final Grand Slam event of the year.**
- ❖ It was held on outdoor hard courts at the **USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York City.**
- ❖ To celebrate the 144th edition of the event, the US Open selected artist and graphic designer Chelsey Farris to create the 2024 poster based on this year's art theme, **The Power of Tennis.**

Winners list:

- ❖ **US Open 2024 Men's singles champion:** Jannik Sinner made history by becoming the first Italian man to win the U.S. Open, defeating American Taylor Fritz in straight sets.
- ❖ **US Open 2024 Women's singles champion:** Aryna Sabalenka (She became the first Belarusian to get her hands on the US Open and the fifth woman to win the Australian Open and US Open in the same year, besides legendary players like Steffi Graf, Monica Seles, Angelique Kerber and Martina Hingis.)



- ❖ **US Open 2024 Men's doubles champions:** Max Purcell and Jordan Thompson
- ❖ **US Open 2024 Women's doubles champions:** Jelena Ostapenko and Lyudmyla Kichenok
- ❖ **US Open 2024 Mixed doubles champions:** Sara Errani and Andrea Vavassori

Important News- Other States

Madhya Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh government has constituted a **delimitation commission for fresh demarcation of Divisions, Districts and Tehsils in the state**. Retired Additional Chief Secretary Manoj Shrivastava has been made the chairman of the commission. Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav said that citizens will be able to give suggestions to this commission.

Maharashtra

Maharashtra to establish **Tribal University in Nashik** with 80% reservation for tribal students.

New Delhi

India is hosting the **2nd Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation** from September 11 to 12 in New Delhi.

The Delhi government has imposed a **complete ban on the production, storage, sale, and use of firecrackers** to control pollution in the national capital. This ban will remain in effect until January 1 of next year.

Uttarakhand

The National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) commenced the 33rd Capacity Building Programme (CBP) for Civil Servants of Maldives in Mussoorie. The two-week program, being organized from 9th to 20th September 2024, is being conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). This is the first program under the second phase for civil servants of Maldives following the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to train 1,000 Maldivian civil servants.

Miscellaneous

- ❖ As per the data released by the **Ministry of Labour and Employment**, the **All-India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) for July 2024 increased by 1.3 points and stood at 142.7**.
 - The Labour Bureau, an attached office of the Ministry of Labour and Employment, has been compiling the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers every month based on retail prices collected from 317 markets spread over 88 industrially important centres in the country.

