



### **V Narayanan appointed as new ISRO chief**

The Centre has appointed V Narayanan as the new Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Secretary of the Department of Space.

- ❖ Mr Narayanan will assume office on January 14, 2025.
- ❖ He will succeed the current ISRO chairman, S Somanath.
- ❖ Mr Narayanan currently serves as the Director of the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) of the ISRO in Valiamala, Kerala.
- ❖ He is a rocket and spacecraft propulsion expert.
- ❖ He was joined ISRO in 1984.

#### **In 2025, (ISRO) Key Missions:**

- ❖ Gaganyaan-1 (Uncrewed Test Flight), Gaganyaan-2, Gaganyaan-3, Launch of NISAR Satellite and Mars Orbiter Mission 2 (Mangalyaan-2)

### **Appointment of judges to Delhi, Uttarakhand high courts**

President Droupadi Murmu has appointed advocates Ajay Digpaul and Harish Vaidyanathan Shankar as judges of the Delhi High Court, and judicial officer Ashish Naithani as a judge of the Uttarakhand High Court.

### **18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention begins in Odisha**

- ❖ The 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention will take place at Bhubaneswar in Odisha from January 8 to 10, 2025.
- ❖ More than 6,000 Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) from about 75 countries are participating in the convention.
- ❖ The convention began with the Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas event jointly organised by the Odisha government in partnership with the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

- ❖ The event was formally inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ❖ It will include a wide range of activities that highlight the contributions of the Indian diaspora in shaping India's development and its global stature.
- ❖ The Chief Guest is President of Trinidad and Tobago, Christine Carla Kangaloo. She will participate virtually in the event.
- ❖ The theme is 'Diaspora's Contribution on a Viksit Bharat'.
- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu will preside over the valedictory session.
- ❖ The President will also confer the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman.

### India's GDP to Grow at 6.4% in Financial Year 2024-25

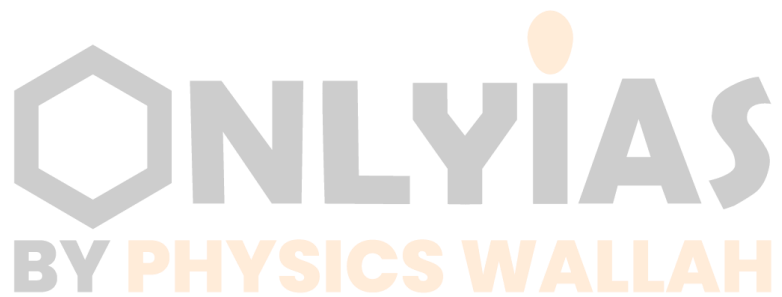
India's GDP is projected to grow at 6.4% in the fiscal year 2024-25, with nominal GDP expected to grow by 9.7%. In the previous fiscal year (2023-24), the provisional GDP growth estimate was 8.2%, and the nominal GDP growth estimate was 9.6% according to the National Statistics Office (NSO).

- ❖ The Real Gross Value Added (GVA) has grown by 6.4 percent over the growth rate of 7.2 percent in FY 2023-24.
- ❖ Nominal GVA has shown a growth rate of 9.3 percent as compared to the growth rate of 8.5 percent in the previous financial year.
- ❖ The real GVA of agriculture and allied sectors is estimated to grow by 3.8 percent, a marked increase from the previous year's 1.4 percent.
- ❖ The construction sector's real GVA is projected to rise by 8.6 percent.
- ❖ The financial, real estate, and professional services sector is expected to grow by 7.3 percent.

### Earthquake in Tibet-Nepal border

According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the earthquake occurred at 6.35 am on 7th January 2025, 93 km northeast of Lobuche, near the Nepal-Tibet border with a magnitude ranging from 6.8 to 7.1.

- ❖ The epicenter was near Tingri County in the Shigatse prefecture.
- ❖ At least 126 people in Tibet were killed in the quake, while 188 others were injured on the Chinese side of the border.



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