

International

2nd Meeting of Joint Russian- Indian Commission on the Cooperation in the Field of Emergency Management held in Moscow, Russia



About Day:-

- ❖ The Second Meeting of the Joint Russian-Indian Commission on the Cooperation in the Field of Emergency Management was held today, 28th August 2024 in Moscow, Russia.
- ❖ Shri Nityanand Rai, Minister of State for Home Affairs, India is leading the Indian delegation.
- ❖ The first meeting of the Indo-Russian Joint Commission on the Cooperation in the Field of Emergency Management was held in New Delhi in 2016.

Key Points:-

- ❖ Both countries agreed to implement this Plan during 2025-2026 and also decided to continue the exchange of the best practices and lessons learned in the Disaster Management field. This meeting is significant for drawing a strategy for executing the previous agreements between India and Russia, such as the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for cooperation in the field of Emergency Management in December 2010 and the Regulation to establish the Indo-Russian Joint Commission for Cooperation (2013) in prevention and elimination of consequences of emergencies.
- ❖ Within the overall framework of cooperation, three specific issues were deliberated in the meeting:
 - a. Use of space monitoring technologies for risk forecasting and emergency response.

- b. Exchange of experiences of responding to large-scale disasters.
 - c. Cooperation in the field of training of fire and rescue specialists.
- ❖ Based on the results of the meeting, the Indian and Russian delegations expressed their intentions:
 - (i) To intensify joint efforts to develop further cooperation in the field of emergency management.
 - (ii) To exchange best practices in emergency management, including disaster monitoring and forecasting, and training of rescue specialists and firefighters.
 - (iii) To extend cooperation between the eminent educational and research institutions, training of specialists in the field of emergency management in both countries.
 - (iv) To conduct the next meeting of the Indo-Russian Joint Commission on the Cooperation in the Field of Emergency Management in India in 2026.

About Russia:-

- ❖ Capital of Russia: Moscow
- ❖ Currency: Ruble
- ❖ President: Vladimir Putin

National

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approves 12 new project proposals under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme

Push for infra, new jobs

12 industrial smart cities under National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP)

<p>₹28,602 crore Estimated investment</p> <p>1 million Employment potential</p> <p>₹1.5 lakh crore Investment potential</p>	<p>Spanning several states and major corridors: Khurpia (Uttarakhand), Rajpura (Punjab), Dighi (Maharashtra), Palakkad (Kerala), Agra and Prayagraj (UP), Gaya (Bihar), Zaherabad (Telangana), Orvakal and Koppurthy (Andhra Pradesh) and Jodhpur-Pali (Rajasthan)</p>
<p>2 new railway lines, one multi-tracking</p> <p>The projects with an estimated cost of ₹6,456 crore will cover seven districts across Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Chhattisgarh</p>	<p>Private FM Radio in 234 cities</p> <p>Conduct of e-auctions for 730 channels in 234 new cities with estimated reserve price of ₹784.87 cr under Private FM Radio Phase III Policy.</p>

About News:-

- ❖ In a meeting presided over by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 28, 2024, in New Delhi, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) authorized the development

of twelve new projects in the nation's six main Industrial Corridors. Along the industrial corridors, these projects involved the creation of smart cities and industrial clusters.

- ❖ 44 projects are now approved to be implemented as part of the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP).

Recently Accepted Projects:-

- ❖ With an estimated investment of Rs 28,602 crore, the 12 recently authorized projects will be established in 10 states along the six key Industrial Corridors.
- ❖ Two in Andhra Pradesh (Orvakal and Koppaerthy) and two in Uttar Pradesh (Agra and Prayagraj) are the recently approved projects.
- ❖ One each in Rajasthan (Jodhpur-Pali), Kerala (Palakkad), Bihar (Gaya), Telangana (Zaheerabad), Maharashtra (Dighi), Uttarakhand (Khurpia), Punjab (Rajpura-Patiala), and Maharashtra (Dighi).

Concerning the NICDP (National Industrial Corridor Development Programme):

- ❖ To expand the nation's industrial infrastructure, the Indian government has started the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP).
- ❖ Eleven Industrial Corridors, comprising forty-four industrial nodes, districts, and smart cities, are being created in four stages as part of the massive National Infrastructure Pipeline.
- ❖ The state and federal governments are working together to establish the Industrial Corridors.

The National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) has the following goals:

- ❖ Create sustainable infrastructure for greenfield industrial regions, areas, and nodes, and make plug-and-play infrastructure available at the plot level.
- ❖ To strengthen India's manufacturing industry, draw in both foreign and indigenous investment in these sectors.

- ❖ Reach the target of USD 2 trillion in exports by the year 2030.
- ❖ Smart city development along the industrial corridor.
- ❖ the creation of employment opportunities.
- ❖ to establish India as a powerhouse for global manufacturing with top-notch facilities.
- ❖ to become a developed nation by 2047.

India's Industrial Corridors:

- ❖ The nation's first industrial corridor under development is the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC), which was sanctioned in 2007. Japan is helping with its development.
- ❖ Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC);
- ❖ Chennai Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC);
- ❖ Amritsar Kolkata Industrial Corridor (AKIC);
- ❖ East Coast Industrial Corridor (ECIC) with Vizag Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC)
- ❖ Bengaluru Mumbai Industrial Corridor (BMIC);
- ❖ Extension of CBIC to Kochi via Coimbatore;
- ❖ Hyderabad Nagpur Industrial Corridor (HNIC);
- ❖ Hyderabad Warangal Industrial Corridor (HWIC);
- ❖ Hyderabad Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (HBIC);
- ❖ Odisha Economic Corridor (OEC) and
- ❖ Delhi Nagpur Industrial Corridor (DNIC).

Pipeline for National Infrastructure:

- ❖ The National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) was introduced by the Indian government in 2019. It seeks to draw in Rs 111 lakh crore in infrastructure investment between FY20 and FY25 to construct top-notch infrastructure throughout the nation.

Economic

NPCI Launches Bharat Bill Pay For Business and UPI Circle for Delegated Payments



About News:-

- ❖ The Bharat BillPay System (BBPS) for Business and the Unified Payments Interface

(UPI) Circle, which facilitates user payments, are two new revolutionary digital payment technologies that the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has said will be launched on August 28, 2024.

- ❖ The goals of these two payment options are to improve the digital payment ecosystem in India's efficiency, security, and inclusion.
- ❖ At the Global FinTech Festival (GFF) 2024 in Mumbai, Maharashtra, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das announced these payment options.

About Business BBPS:

- ❖ NPCI developed this platform, which is interoperable. It is intended to change business-to-business (B2B) exchanges between various accounting and enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems.
- ❖ regardless of the size of the company, to automate, simplify, and streamline a variety of invoice payment processes for everyday business operations.
- ❖ Among its many special built-in features are business onboarding, search and add business, purchase order (PO) creation, invoice management, financing, and dashboards for accounts payable and receivable (AP) and accounts receivable (AR).
- ❖ By digitalizing the current manual procedures, the platform will provide businesses with a comprehensive and interoperable digital invoicing and payment solution for managing their day-to-day operations through the integration of AR and AP dashboards.
- ❖ Enkash, a Fintech firm based in Mumbai, Maharashtra, and OPEN, a Neobanking platform, have teamed up with NPCI to enable B2B transactions on the BBPS for business platform.

Concerning UPI Circle:

- ❖ With the help of this delegated payment function, a primary UPI user can establish a connection with reliable secondary users by giving them full or partial access to their account so they can make payments.

- ❖ There are two forms of delegation available through UPI Circle: partial and full delegation.
- ❖ Complete Delegation: The principal user gives the secondary user permission to initiate and finish transactions up to predetermined expenditure limitations without needing to get further permission.
- ❖ Partial Delegation: The primary user's UPI Personal Identification Number (PIN) must be used to authorize and complete payments; the secondary user can initiate transactions.
- ❖ Members must guarantee a maximum monthly limit of Rs 15,000 per delegation and a maximum transaction limit of Rs 5,000 to enable complete delegation.

Appointment

Senior IPS officer B Srinivasan appointed as NSG Director General



About News:-

- ❖ The appointment of B Srinivasan as the Director General (DG) of the National Security Guard (NSG) has been approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), which is presided over by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The appointment will take effect from the date Srinivasan takes up his position until his superannuation on August 31, 2027, or until further orders.
- ❖ Currently serving as the Director of the Bihar Police Academy at Rajgir, Bihar, is B Srinivasan, a 1992 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Bihar cadre.
- ❖ His successor will be Anish Dayal Singh, who has served as the NSG's DG (additional charge) from August 15, 2024.
- ❖ The NSG, popularly referred to as "black cats," is India's counterterrorism and counter-hijack unit, operating under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) administrative jurisdiction.

Key Points:-

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh (AP) cadre IPS officer Nalin Prabhat, class of 1992, was named as the DG of NSG in April 2024, serving in that capacity until August 31, 2028, when he announced his retirement. The government ordered his deputation from the AP cadre to the AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territory) cadre on August 15, 2024, hence shortening his tenure as the DG of the NSG.
- ❖ After that, Anish Dayal Singh, the General Director of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), was appointed the Director General of the NSG.
- ❖ Nalin Prabhat was named Special Director General of Police (SDGP) of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) on August 27, 2024, and his appointment would remain in effect until September 30, 2024.
- ❖ On September 30, 2024, RR Swain, the current DGP of J&K, will retire. Prabhat will assume the position.

Science & Technology

India signs another deal for 73,000 assault rifles from the US



About News:-

- ❖ The Government of India (GoI) through the Ministry of Defence (MoD) has announced that it has placed an order worth Rs 837 crore with SIG Sauer Inc., a small-arms manufacturer based in the United States of America (USA), for the import of an additional 73,000 SIG-716 7.62x51 millimeter (mm) semi-automatic assault rifles for the Indian Army (IA).
- ❖ The assault rifles will be delivered during the first eighteen months of the contract, which was signed in June 2024. In the last five years, India has placed two orders with Sig Sauer.
- ❖ The overall number of assault rifles in the IA would rise to almost 1.45 lakh with this latest order of 73,000 weapons.
- ❖ These rifles are now stationed near the borders with China and Pakistan and are intended for use by infantry units.

Context:

- ❖ With the procurement and introduction of the first batch of 72,400 SIG-716 rifles valued at Rs 700 crore under the GoI's 'Buy (Global)' category through the Fast-Track Procedure (FTP), India has been utilizing Sig Sauer firearms since 2019.
- ❖ Out of the total 72,400 rifles, 66,400 were assigned to the Indian Air Force (IAF), 2,000 to the Indian Navy (IN), and 4,000 to the IA.
- ❖ The Ministry of Defence's Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Union Minister Rajnath Singh, approved the purchase of an additional 73,000 SIG-716 rifles in December 2023.
- ❖ The primary motivation behind acquiring these weapons is to offer a substitute for the indigenously manufactured Indian Small Arms System (INSAS) and Avtomat Kalashnikova rifles (AK-47).

About the Assault Rifle SIG-716:-

- ❖ It is an improved ArmaLite Rifle (AR) platform rifle with a 7.62 NATO caliber.
- ❖ It has a 6-position telescopic stock, an M-LOIC handguard, and a 16-inch barrel.
- ❖ With the magazine removed, its weight is approximately 3.82 kg, and its effective killing range is 600 meters (m).
- ❖ In comparison to the INSAS rifle (5.56x51mm) or the AK-47 rifle (7.62x39 mm), the rifle is more lethal, has a longer range, and has more recoil. Its caliber is 7.62x51mm.

Award

Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare Organises 7th Anubhav Awards Ceremony



About News:-

- ❖ At the 7th Anubhav Awards ceremony, which took place in the Plenary Hall of Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi (Delhi), on August 28, 2024, V. Srinivas, Secretary, Department of

Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW), under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (MoPPG&P), presented five Anubhav Awards and ten Jury Certificates to staff members from nine different ministries.

- ❖ A citation booklet detailing the Awardees' accomplishments and a short film highlighting their diligence were unveiled at the occasion.

Key Points:-

- ❖ On the orders of the Prime Minister of India (PMO), DoPPW, an online platform called "Anubhav" was created in March 2015.
- ❖ Retiring and retired government personnel can offer their insightful insights and recommendations from their time in service via the online portal.
- ❖ In 2023, Anubhav's Jury Certificates were given out for the first time. Nine Jury Certificates and fifty-four Anubhav prizes have been granted thus far.

2024 Anubhav Awards:

- ❖ The winners of the jury certificates and Anubhav awardees for 2024 have turned in written submissions in the following categories: administrative work, good governance, research, accounts, simplification of procedures, fieldwork contribution, and constructive criticism or suggestions to advance the field of work.
- ❖ Of the 15 recipients, 5 (33%) are female, the greatest percentage of any awardee since the 'Anubhav' awards were established in 2015. This demonstrates their growing influence and involvement in governance.
- ❖ The Anubhav Award winners were given a medal, a certificate, and a Rs. 10,000 incentive.
- ❖ In contrast, medals and certificates were given to Anubhav Jury Certificate winners.

Sport

West Indies fast bowler Shannon Gabriel & England batter Dawid Malan announces retirement from international cricket

About News:-

England's Dawid Malan and the West Indies' Shannon Gabriel have both announced their

retirements from international cricket. Nonetheless, both players will participate in international T20 franchise leagues and domestic cricket.

Shannon Gabriel

- ❖ Tall West Indian fast bowler Shannon Gabriel made his debut for the West Indies in 2012 and went on to play in two Twenty20 internationals, 25 One Day Internationals (ODIs), and 59 Tests. In these international matches, he claimed 202 wickets in all.
- ❖ In 2017, Gabriel established himself as a regular member of the West Indies team as he had greater success in test matches.
- ❖ He was barred from four One-Day Internationals (ODIs) in 2019 for making a homophobic comment about English cricketer Joe Root.
- ❖ In a test match against India in July 2023, he last appeared for the West Indies.
- ❖ When playing cricket at home, Shannon Gabriel is a domestic cricket player representing Trinidad & Tobago.



Dawid Malan Retirement :-

- ❖ England batsman Dawid Malan, 37, has declared his retirement from international competition. Malan and Jos Butler are the only two English batsmen to record hundreds in all three international cricket formats: Tests, ODIs, and T20Is.
- ❖ During his international career, Dawid Malan represented England in 22 Tests, 30 ODIs, and 62 T20s.
- ❖ Dawid Malan's final appearance for England came at the England-hosted 2023 ODI World Cup. Following his exclusion from the England squad for the forthcoming Australia ODI series, he declared his retirement.
- ❖ In the T20I, Dawid Malan was more well-liked and productive. He competed for England in the 2019 T20 World Cup.
- ❖ In September 2020, Dawid Malan held the top batsman status in the ICC T-20 rankings.

He broke the record for the quickest player to score 1000 runs in the T-20 format in March 2023. In the T-20 format, it took him just 24 games to reach 1000 international runs.

- ❖ In the Indian Premier League (IPL), he participated in just one game for the Punjab Kings.

Defence

India's 2nd nuclear missile submarine to be commissioned by Rajnath Singh



About News:-

- ❖ 29th August 2024, marks an important moment for India's naval capabilities with the commissioning of the INS Arighat, the country's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN).
- ❖ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will preside over the ceremony, which will also be attended by Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh Tripathi, Indian Strategic Command Head Vice Admiral Suraj Berry, and top DRDO officials. This event highlights India's growing strategic prowess and its commitment to enhancing maritime security.

What is an SSBN?

- ❖ INS Arighat is an upgraded version of INS Arihant and represents the second submarine of the Arihant class, following its predecessor, INS Arihant, which entered service in 2009. The submarine has been under construction since 2017 at the Ship Building Centre (SBC) in Visakhapatnam. INS Arighat is equipped to support and augment the capabilities of INS Arihant, contributing significantly to India's underwater strategic deterrent.

Specifications and Features of INS Arighat

The INS Arighat boasts impressive specifications, combining stealth, firepower, and advanced technology to serve as a critical

component of India's underwater strategic deterrent. Key features include:

- ❖ Displacement and Dimensions: INS Arighat displaces 6,000 tonnes and is 112 meters long.
- ❖ Speed: It can achieve a maximum speed of 12–15 knots (22–28 km/h) on the surface and up to 24 knots (44 km/h) when submerged.
- ❖ Armament: The submarine is armed with up to four K-4 SLBMs (Submarine Launched Ballistic Missiles) with a range exceeding 3,500 kilometers or twelve K-15 SLBMs with a range of around 750 kilometers. The K-15 missiles can be fitted with strategic nuclear warheads. Additionally, INS Arighat is equipped with torpedoes.
- ❖ Power: Powered by 83 MW pressurised water reactors, the submarine can remain submerged for extended periods, enhancing its stealth and operational flexibility.
- ❖ Stealth Capabilities: The INS Arighat features advanced sonar systems, quiet propulsion, and state-of-the-art stealth technology, making it less detectable and more effective in carrying out its missions.

Strategic Significance of INS Arighat :-

- ❖ INS Arighat enhances India's strategic posture in the Indo-Pacific region. The addition of this SSBN to the Indian Navy's fleet provides a substantial boost to the country's second-strike capability, forming a critical component of its nuclear triad. The submarine's ability to carry a significant number of nuclear-capable missiles allows India to maintain a credible deterrent against potential adversaries.

Future Plans and Development of INS Arighat

- ❖ India's submarine program is ambitious, with plans to develop five Arihant-class SSBNs alongside six nuclear attack submarines in three blocks. The third SSBN, INS Aridaman (S4), is scheduled for commissioning next year, followed by a fourth SSBN, codenamed S-4*. These developments will ensure India maintains a robust and versatile underwater deterrent.

Impact of INS Arighat on Regional Security of India

- ❖ With INS Arighat joining INS Arihant, India now has two operational SSBNs, greatly enhancing its maritime strategic capabilities. The presence of these submarines in the Indo-Pacific region acts as a significant deterrent to other naval powers, particularly as China expands its military presence and maritime influence. INS Arighat not only bolsters India's strategic deterrent but also contributes to regional stability and security by enhancing India's ability to conduct a wide range of naval operations.
- ❖ In conclusion, the commissioning of INS Arighat represents a major milestone in India's naval history, reinforcing its strategic capabilities and ensuring a stronger presence in the Indo-Pacific region. With advanced technology and formidable armament, INS Arighat is set to play a crucial role in safeguarding India's maritime interests and maintaining peace and security in the region

Miscellaneous

Challa Sreenivasulu Setty Takes Over As SBI Chairman



About News:-

- ❖ On August 28, 2024, Challa Sreenivasulu Setty, also known as CS Setty, was appointed as the 27th Chairman of the State Bank of India (SBI), the country's biggest commercial bank. He took over for Dinesh Khara, who retired on August 28, 2024, following the end of business hours.
- ❖ Following the Imperial Bank of India's nationalisation in 1955 under the State Bank of India Act of 1955, John Matthai became the first chairman of the State Bank of India. The State Bank of India replaced the Imperial Bank of India as well.
- ❖ Dinesh Khara was named chairman of the SBI in October 2020 for a three-year term, which

the government later extended by one year, amid the COVID-19 epidemic. Khara retired at reaching the age of sixty-three, the highest age allowed for an SBI chairman. SBI has developed into one of India's top-performing banks under Khara's leadership.

The Chairman of SBI is appointed

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is consulted by the Indian government before appointing the Chairman of State Bank of India (SBI), as per the State Bank of India Act 1955. In actuality, though, the Union Ministry of Finance's Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB) examines candidates for the chairmanship and submits its recommendations to the Indian government.
- ❖ The name suggested by the FSIB is often approved by the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet, which is the highest decision-making body in this case. The government, however, has the option to reject the FSIB's recommendations if it so chooses.

Chairman of SBI's tenure

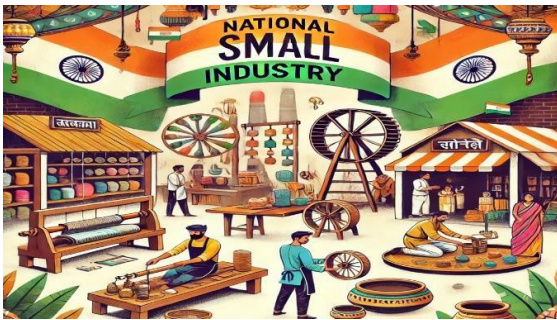
- ❖ The State Bank of India Act of 1955 specifies that the chairman may serve for a maximum of five years. The retirement age of the chairman has also been set by the Indian government at 63 years old. The tenure of the chairman may be specified by the Indian government.
- ❖ CS Setty's appointment is effective August 28, 2024, and it is for three years.

Concerning CS Setty

- ❖ In 1988, CS Setty began working with the SBI as a probationary officer. Setty has over thirty years of experience in a variety of banking sectors, including retail, digital, corporate credit, and international banking.
- ❖ During his tenure with SBI, he held key administrative positions such as VP & Head (Syndications) in the SBI New York Branch, Deputy General Manager in the Commercial Branch, Indore, and Chief General Manager and General Manager in the Corporate Accounts Group.
- ❖ Before being named the bank's chairman, Setty oversaw Global Markets & Technology as the SBI Managing Director.

Important Day

National Small Industry Day - 30 August



About News:-

- ❖ India observes National Small Industry Day on August 30 every year to recognize and celebrate the significant contribution that small businesses make to the country's economic development. The central and state governments can use this occasion to emphasize their shared commitment to supporting and growing these core companies, which are the backbone of India's economy. These small businesses not only support economic expansion but also play a major role in creating jobs for a large portion of the populace.
- ❖ The official theme for MSME Day 2024 is "Leveraging Power and Resilience of Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) to Accelerate Sustainable Development and Eradicate Poverty in Times of Multiple Crises".

History:-

- ❖ The Ministry of Small Scale Industries (SSI) unveiled a comprehensive policy package to boost small enterprises in 2000, which is when National Small Industry Day first came into being. The purpose of this package was to provide these businesses with the tools they needed to expand.
- ❖ The accomplishment of this project encouraged the expansion of small businesses throughout India. In 2001, the Indian government proclaimed August 30 to be National Small Industry Day as a way to honor this accomplishment.
- ❖ Since then, the important role that small industries play in India's economy has been recognized annually on National Small

Industry Day. It provides a forum for drawing attention to the difficulties these companies face and for requesting vital government assistance.

National Small Industry Day's significance:-

The significance of National Small Industry Day is noteworthy for the country's up-and-coming business owners. In the end, it strengthens the country's economic well-being by fostering the growth of an independent ecosystem. The rise of small and medium-sized businesses has changed the landscape, affecting both the urban and rural areas. Embracing National Small Industry Day's Essence

National Small Industry Day's core goals include the following:

- ❖ Recognizing Small Industries' Economic Role: Bringing attention to the crucial role small industries play in the Indian economy.
- ❖ Honoring their Contribution: Acknowledging the vital role small businesses play in determining the direction of the nation's economic progress.
- ❖ Overcoming Obstacles and Seeking Assistance: Outlining the difficulties faced by small enterprises and promoting official assistance.
- ❖ Encouraging small businesses to adopt an innovative and entrepreneurial mindset is known as "promoting entrepreneurship and innovation."
- ❖ Increasing public knowledge of the importance of small industries to the country's economy is one way to improve public awareness.

