

Bihar Special

AIIMS, Darbhanga

Why in the news?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) in Darbhanga on 13th November, 2024.

- ❖ It is the second AIIMS facility in Bihar after Patna AIIMS.
 - Under Pradhan Mantri Swasthaya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), till date, 22 All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) have been approved.
 - Out of these 2 AIIMS have been approved in the State of Bihar: one in Patna and the other in Darbhanga.

About AIIMS Darbhanga:

- ❖ It is being established at a cost of Rs. 1264 Crore on 187 acre land located at Ekmi-Shobhan bypass in Darbhanga.
- ❖ It will have a 750-bed super-speciality Hospital/AYUSH BLOCK, a Medical College with 125 seats, a Nursing College with 60 seats, a Night shelter for patients and their attendants, Residential facilities for doctors, students and staff etc.

- ❖ It will be built at an estimated cost of ₹1,264 crore on 187 acres of land.



Economy

43rd India International Trade Fair

Why in the news?

The 43rd India International Trade Fair (IITF) began at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on 14th November 2024.

- ❖ It was inaugurated by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.
- ❖ The theme of this year's fair is - Viksit Bharat in 2047.
- ❖ The focus state this year is Jharkhand, while Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are the partner states.
- ❖ This year, 11 countries including China, Egypt, Iran, South Korea, Thailand, Turkey, and UAE are participating in the international fair.



Defence And Security

Pantsir Air Defence system

Why in the news?

Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Russia's state-owned arms exporter, Rosoboronexport (ROE).

- ❖ It was signed at the 5th India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission (IRIGC) Subgroup meeting in Goa.
- ❖ **Objective of the MoU:** To facilitate cooperation for variants of the advanced Pantsir air defence missile-gun system.
- ❖ **Significance:**
 - It underscores the continued defence collaboration between India and Russia, focusing on enhancing India's air defence capabilities amid evolving regional security challenges.

PANTSIR AIR DEFENCE SYSTEM

- ❖ It is a highly versatile and mobile platform designed to protect military installations and critical infrastructure from aerial threats, including aircraft, drones, and precision-guided munitions.
- ❖ The system combines short- to medium-range surface-to-air missiles with dual 30mm automatic cannons, creating a multi-layered defence.
- ❖ It is equipped with advanced radar and tracking systems which helps to detect and engage targets up to 36 kilometres away and at altitudes of up to 15 kilometres, providing a rapid reaction time for intercepting fast-moving threats.



35th Tri-services Commanders' Conference

Why in the news?

The 35th Triservices Commanders' Conference (TSTCC) was held at Southern Naval Command, Kochi on 13 November 2024.

- ❖ It was chaired by the Chief of Defence Staff, Gen Anil Chauhan.
- ❖ It was attended by Commanders of all three services, Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (IDS) and Officers from various formations across the services.

About the Conference:



- ❖ It is conducted annually by the "Training Commands" of all three Services in rotation.
- ❖ **Objective:** To enhance collaboration and training effectiveness while exchanging best practices in training.

Miscellaneous

STARC-25

Why in the news?

The 25th Meeting of the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC-25) was held in New Delhi.

- ❖ It was hosted by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in collaboration with the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT).

- ❖ The theme of the event: "Accelerating Telecommunication and ICT Development for Growth and Inclusiveness".
 - It promotes digital transformation for economic and social prosperity in the region.

About the STARC:

- ❖ SATRC is an initiative under the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) that promotes regional cooperation and harmonized regulatory practices across South Asia's telecommunications sector.
- ❖ With members including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, it is dedicated to creating a digitally inclusive society by supporting regulatory innovation, policy alignment, and cooperative efforts to bridge digital divides in the region.
- ❖ The SATRC-25 meeting featured a comprehensive agenda designed to address key issues in the telecommunications and ICT sectors.



Sharjah International Book Fair 2024

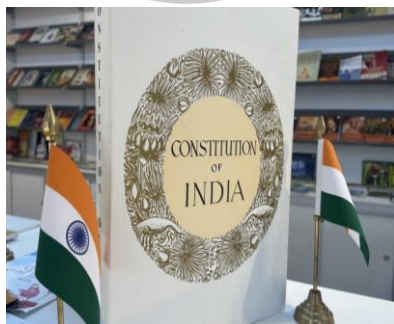
Why in the news?

The National Book Trust (NBT) of India showcased a prestigious replica of the original handwritten Indian Constitution manuscript at the 43rd Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF).

- ❖ This A3-sized copy of the Constitution of India is certified by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and features superior quality and clarity in the presentation of Acts and Stanzas.

About the SIBF:

- ❖ 43rd edition brought together an impressive array of literary figures, including 49 international speakers from 14 nations among a distinguished assembly of 134 guests.
- ❖ Guest of Honour: Morocco.
- ❖ Theme 2024: "It Starts with a Book."



Awards and Honors

2024 Booker Prize

Why in the news?

British author Samantha Harvey has won the 2024 Booker Prize for her novel *Orbital*.

- ❖ She is the first female Booker winner since 2019.
- ❖ She is one of five women on this year's shortlist, the largest number in the prize's 55-year history.

About the Novel "Orbital":

- ❖ It is a 136-page novel which unfolds over 24 hours as the astronauts experience 16 sunrises and sunsets, observing Earth's vast beauty—from glaciers and deserts to mountains and oceans.
 - It is the first space-set book to claim the Booker Prize.
- ❖ Its brevity makes it the second-shortest Booker-winning novel, surpassed only by Penelope Fitzgerald's *Offshore* (132 pages) in 1979.
- ❖ It explores Earth from a celestial perspective, following six astronauts aboard the International Space Station (ISS) as they navigate a single transformative day.



News in Short

- ❖ The Indian Navy will conduct the fourth edition of the 'Pan-India' Coastal Defence Exercise 'Sea Vigil-24' on 20 & 21 Nov 24.
 - It was conceptualized in 2018.
- ❖ Nvidia and SoftBank Corp, the telecommunications arm of SoftBank Group, have piloted the world's first artificial intelligence (AI) and 5G telecoms network.

- ❖ India has exported the Akash Air Defence Missile system to Armenia.
 - It is the second (First: BrahMos to Philippines) missile system exported by India to a foreign country.



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