



Manipur. The Home Ministry's notification mentioned the "volatile" situation and "active participation of insurgent groups in heinous acts of violence" as the reasons.

- ❖ AFSPA, which traces its roots to a colonial statute introduced in response to the Quit India Movement in 1942, was retained in independent India. The law was first brought as an ordinance, and then notified as an Act in 1958.
- ❖ Over the years, AFSPA has been imposed in the Northeast, Jammu and Kashmir, and Punjab (during the years of militancy). It remains in force in parts of Nagaland, Assam, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh, and the entirety of J&K.
- ❖ AFSPA gives sweeping powers to the armed forces by providing military personnel blanket immunity for a range of actions.
- ❖ It allows the military to open fire — and even cause death — against any person breaking the law or carrying arms and ammunition. It also gives them the power to arrest individuals and search premises without warrants on the basis of "reasonable suspicion".
- ❖ There can be no legal proceedings against armed forces personnel for these actions without prior approval from the Centre. AFSPA can be imposed by the Centre or the Governor of a state, on the entire state or parts of it, after these areas are declared "disturbed" under Section 3 of the Act.

### Miss Universe 2024 crown goes to Denmark

#### Key Points:

- ❖ The 73rd edition of Miss Universe concluded on November 17, with 21-year-old Victoria Kjaer Theilvig of Denmark winning the crown.

- ❖ This is the first time a Danish contestant has become Miss Universe. India's Rhea Singha could not make it to the top 12.
- ❖ The last time an Indian won Miss Universe was in 2021, when Harnaaz Sandhu clinched the crown.



ମେକ୍ସିକୋର ଆରେନା ଦିଟିଏମଏବ୍, ମେକ୍ସିକୋ ଦିଟିଏମଏବ୍ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠିତ ହୋଇଥିବା ମିସ୍ ୟୁନିଭର୍ସ ୨୦୨୪ ବିଜୁତି କଣ୍ଠେଷ୍ଟର ୨୩ତମ ସଂସ୍କରଣର ପଦାଧିକାରୀ ହୋଇଛନ୍ତି।

- ❖ ଏହି ଘୋଷଣା ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ମିସ୍ ୟୁନିଭର୍ସ-୨୦୨୪ର ବିଜେତା ତେନମାର୍କର ଇଲୋରିଆ କଜେର ଥେଲଭିଗ ହୋଇଛନ୍ତି। ଇଲୋରିଆ କଜେରଙ୍କୁ ଗତ ବର୍ଷର ମିସ୍ ୟୁନିଭର୍ସ ବିଜେତା ନିକାରାଗୁଆର ଶେନିସ ପାଲାସିଓସ ମୁକୁତ ପିନ୍ଧାଇଥିଲେ।  
ଏହି ମୁକୁତର ନାମ 'ଲୁମିଏରେ ଦେ ଇନଫିନି' । ଯାହାର ଅର୍ଥ ଆଲୋକର ଅସୀମତା । ଏହି ମିସ୍ ୟୁନିଭର୍ସ ମୁକୁତ ମହିଳା ସଶକ୍ତିକରଣର ପ୍ରତୀକଧାରୀ କରେ ଏବଂ ଏହା ହୀରା ସହିତ ୨୩ ଟି ସୁବର୍ଣ୍ଣ ମୋତିରେ ସୁସଜ୍ଜିତ।  
ଏହି ସୁବର୍ଣ୍ଣ ମୋତି ଦକ୍ଷିଣ ସାଗରରୁ ସଂଗ୍ରହ କରାଯାଇଥିବା ବେଳେ ଏହାକୁ ପାରମ୍ପାରିକ କୌଶଳ ବ୍ୟବହାର କରି ୨ ବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ପିଲିପାଇନ୍ସୁ କାରିଗରମାନେ ପ୍ରସ୍ତୁତ କରିଛନ୍ତି।

- ❖ ତେବେ ଏହି ମୁକୁତର ବିଜୟିନୀ ହୋଇଥିବା ତେନମାର୍କର ଇଲୋରିଆ କଜେର ଥେଲଭିଗଙ୍କୁ ମିସ୍ ୟୁନିଭର୍ସ ୨୦୨୪ ବିଜୁତି କଣ୍ଠେଷ୍ଟର ୨୩ତମ ସଂସ୍କରଣର ମଞ୍ଚ ଉପରେ ଅନେକ ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ପତରା ଯାଇଥିଲା।

- ❖ ବିଜେତାଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ଶେଷ ପ୍ରଶ୍ନ ଥିଲା, 'ମିସ୍ ୟୁନିଭର୍ସ ମହିଳାଙ୍କ ପିତୃତ୍ୱ ପ୍ରେରିତ କରିଛି। ସେହି ଭାବନାରେ ପାଇଁ ଆପଣଙ୍କ ବାଣ୍ଟ ବାର୍ଦ୍ଧ ରହିବ। ଯେଉଁମାନେ ଆପଣଙ୍କୁ ଦେଖୁଛନ୍ତି?'  
ମିସ୍ ତେନମାର୍କ ଏହି ପ୍ରଶ୍ନ ଶୁଣିବା ପରେ ଆତ୍ମୀ ଭାବ କହି ନଥିଲେ। ସ୍ପଷ୍ଟ ଭାବେ ଜଣାଇ ଦେଲେ, 'କହିଥିଲେ, 'ମୋର ଏହି ବାର୍ଦ୍ଧ ବିଶ୍ୱର ସମସ୍ତ ଭାବକ' ପାଇଁ ଯେଉଁମାନେ ମୋତେ ଦେଖୁଛନ୍ତି । ଏହା ପ୍ରଭାବ ପକାଏ ନାହିଁ କି ଆପଣ କେଉଁ ଠାରୁ ଆସିଛନ୍ତି କି ଆପଣଙ୍କ ଅତିଥି କଣ? ମୋର ଆପଣମାନଙ୍କୁ ଗୋଟିଏ ବାର୍ଦ୍ଧ କି ଆପଣସବୁଙ୍କୁ ନିଜର ଦୁର୍ବଳତାକୁ ନିଜର ଶକ୍ତି କରିବାକୁ ବିକଳ ଭାବେ ବାଣ୍ଟି ନିଅନ୍ତୁ। ଆପଣଙ୍କ ଅତିଥି କେତେ ଭିର କହିବ ନାହିଁ କି ଆପଣ କିଏ? ଆପଣଙ୍କୁ ପ୍ରତି ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠତର ସଂପର୍କ କରିବାକୁ ହେବ।'  
ଆଜି ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ସଂପର୍କ ବିନା ବାହାକୁ ବି ସପତନା ମିଳିନାହିଁ। ମୁଁ ଆଜି ଏଠାରେ ଏଥିପାଇଁ ଛିଡ଼ା ହୋଇଛି କାହିଁକି ନା ମୁଁ ବିଜି ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ଚାହୁଁଛି। ସବୁବେଳେ ନିଜ ଉପରେ ଓ ନିଜ ଗୁପ୍ତ ଉପରେ ବିଶ୍ୱାସ ରଖନ୍ତୁ।'

### History of Suez Canal, its economic importance

#### Key Points:

- ❖ The world would never be the same after the Suez Canal officially opened to ships on November 17, 1869.
- ❖ The 193-km artificial waterway that connects the Red Sea to the Mediterranean through the Isthmus of Suez cut down the sea route from Asia to Europe by up to 7,000 km by negating the need for ships to travel around the southern tip of Africa to traverse between the Indian and Atlantic Oceans.
- ❖ Today it is one of the world's busiest waterways, handling roughly 12 per cent of global commerce.

- ❖ A trade route through Suez connecting Europe and Asia can be traced to antiquity. There is some evidence of a canal being constructed in the region during the reign of Pharaoh Senusert III, who ruled in the second millennium BCE.
- ❖ But the idea for the modern-day canal can be traced to the eighteenth century, during the peak of European colonial expansion.



- ❖ In the speech, [Nasser] denounced British imperialism in Egypt and British control over the canal company's profits, and upheld that the Egyptian people had a right to sovereignty over the waterway, especially since "120,000 Egyptians had died (sic)" building it.
- ❖ It was French diplomat and engineer Ferdinand de Lesseps, whose efforts to win over the support of the Egyptian viceroy Saï'id Pasha for support for the canal's construction that eventually bore fruit.
- ❖ In 1858, the Universal Suez Ship Canal Company was tasked to construct and operate the canal for 99 years, after which rights would be handed to the Egyptian government.
- ❖ After more than ten years of construction, which claimed thousands of lives — Egypt's future leader Gamal Abdel Nasser claimed that there were 12 lakh worker fatalities — and was faced with many obstacles including crippling financial difficulties, the canal was opened for international navigation in 1869.
- ❖ French and British investors held most of the shares in the canal company. The canal was used by European powers to maintain their maritime and colonial interests in Asia and eastern Africa.
- ❖ The British, after a 1936 treaty, maintained a massive defensive force along the Suez Canal Zone. But as a curtain drew upon European empires, the Suez Canal became a major flashpoint.
- ❖ In 1954, facing pressure from Egyptian nationalists, Britain signed a treaty that would see the withdrawal of British troops from Suez in the next seven years. This was, however, never going to be enough.
- ❖ In 1956, then Egypt President Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal. He declared that the revenue from the busy trade route would pay for the construction of the Aswan dam on River Nile, which would generate electricity for his country and prevent the river from flooding each year. This triggered the Suez Crisis, which saw the UK, France, and Israel mounting an attack on Egypt.
- ❖ The alliance was successful militarily, politically the war ended up as an undeniable victory for Nasser and his Egyptian nationalists.
- ❖ In 1967, Nasser ordered the UN forces to exit Sinai, leading to another conflict between the two countries. In response to Nasser's order, the Israelis occupied Sinai, in response to which Egypt closed the canal to all shipping for the next eight years.
- ❖ This was not the first instance of the canal being shut. It would also not be the last. In March 2021, container ship christened MV Ever Given, en route from China to the Netherlands, got stuck in one of the canal's narrower stretches.
- ❖ The blockage lasted for the next six days, leading to hundreds of ships getting stranded and disrupting global commerce.
- ❖ Upon its construction, the Suez Canal became the lifeline for all trade between the East and the West. Today, roughly 12 per cent of global trade, 7 per cent of the



world's oil, and 30 per cent of daily container traffic passes through the canal. More than 20,000 ships pass through the canal daily.

### Sarai Kale Khan Chowk Renamed to Bhagwan Birsa Munda Chowk

#### Key Points:

- ❖ The Sarai Kale Khan Chowk has been renamed to Bhagwan Birsa Munda Chowk by Union Home Minister Amit Shah to honor the tribal freedom fighter on his 150th birth anniversary. The renaming of Sarai Kale Khan Chowk to Bhagwan Birsa Munda Chowk has sparked controversy between the Delhi government and the Union government.



- ❖ Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a statue of the tribal icon, Bhagwan Birsa Munda, on the occasion of his 150th birth anniversary and announced the renaming. However, the Delhi government questioned the legitimacy of this move, citing the lack of an active State Naming Authority and the absence of due process for renaming locations.

### Uttarakhand CM Inaugurates Jauljibi Mela 2024 in Pithoragarh

#### Key Points:

Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhama inaugurated the Jauljibi Mela in Pithoragarh, calling it an "invaluable heritage" that fosters economic and cultural ties between India, Nepal, and Tibet. Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhama inaugurated the Jauljibi Mela 2024

in Pithoragarh, calling it an "invaluable heritage" of the state.



- ❖ The mela, historically significant for promoting harmony between India, Tibet, Nepal, and neighboring regions, plays a vital role in strengthening both economic and cultural ties. During the event, Dhama also launched 18 development projects worth ₹64.47 crores, with significant investments in rural and agricultural sectors. The CM emphasized that the event provides a platform for small traders, farmers, and artisans, fostering economic growth, especially in border areas.

### 'Why Bharat Matters' EAM Jaishankar's New Book Launched in Dubai

#### Key Points:

- ❖ External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar launched his new book, Why Bharat Matters, at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Library in Dubai, UAE. The event, held on 14th November, allowed Dr. Jaishankar to provide insights into the themes of his book. External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar launched his new book, Why Bharat Matters, at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Library in Dubai, UAE.
- ❖ The event, held on 14th November, allowed Dr. Jaishankar to provide insights into the themes of his book, focusing on India's evolving role in a shifting global landscape. The book touches upon global transformations, India's internal progress,

and the importance of self-reliance in assessing global challenges.



### Book Title: "Why Bharat Matters"

- ❖ Dr. Jaishankar explained his choice of the title "Bharat" instead of "India," to reflect the spirit and authenticity of a changing society. The term "Bharat" symbolizes the true voice of India's dynamic and evolving identity, a shift from colonial narratives

### Self-Reliance and Global Narratives

- ❖ A core theme of Why Bharat Matters is the importance of self-reliance in assessing global challenges and opportunities.
- ❖ Dr. Jaishankar cautioned against accepting global narratives that might come with biases or serve specific agendas.
- ❖ He emphasized that globalization and a "global culture" should not be uniformly adopted, as practices from one society may not be suitable for all nations.

### Hyderabad Airport Earns Global Recognition for Digital Innovations

#### Key Points:

- ❖ GMR Hyderabad International Airport (GHIAL) was honored at the 'Airport Excellence Awards' during the Saudi Airport Exhibition 2024 for its digital innovations.
- ❖ The airport's 'Digital Twin' technology won awards in Innovation and Technology, and Facility Management. GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL) has received global recognition at the prestigious 'Airport Excellence Awards' during the Saudi Airport Exhibition 2024, held on November 12 at the Riyadh

International Convention and Exhibition Center.

- ❖ This marks a significant milestone in the airport's journey toward leveraging advanced technology to enhance airport operations and passenger experiences.

### Nvidia and SoftBank Unveil First-Ever AI and 5G Telecom Network

- ❖ Nvidia and SoftBank have launched the world's first AI and 5G-integrated telecom network, 5G AI-RAN, capable of running both AI and 5G workloads concurrently. This innovation transforms traditional base stations into revenue-generating AI computing hubs. Nvidia and SoftBank Corp have jointly announced the launch of the world's first AI and 5G-integrated telecom network.
- ❖ This pioneering network, known as 5G AI-RAN, can simultaneously manage AI and 5G operations, transforming conventional base stations into AI-driven computing hubs. The project highlights a significant milestone in telecom advancements, initiated through the AIRAN Alliance founded at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona.

### National Press Day Observed Every Year On November 16

#### Key Points:

- ❖ National Press Day is observed every year on November 16 to commemorate the establishment of the Press Council of India (PCI) in 1966. This day serves as a reminder of the indispensable role of a free press in a vibrant democracy like India and highlights the importance of ethical journalism. National Press Day is observed every year on November 16 to commemorate the establishment of the Press Council of India (PCI) in 1966.

### The Establishment of the Press Council of India (PCI)

- ❖ The Press Council of India was formed in 1966 as a statutory and quasi-judicial body to protect the freedom of the press and regulate its ethical standards. The PCI was reestablished under the Press Council Act, 1978, with the goal of maintaining selfregulation within the press while upholding its independence. The PCI serves as a watchdog of press freedom, ensuring that the media remains unbiased and truthful in its reporting. It monitors journalistic practices to prevent violations of ethical standards and provides a platform for resolving disputes between the press and the public.

### Harbhajan & Sania Mirza appointed Dubai Sports Council brand ambassador

#### Key Points:

- ❖ The Dubai Sports Council has appointed ex-Indian cricket player Harbhajan Singh and women's Tennis player Sania Mirza as the Sports Ambassador. They join Russian Khabib Nurmagomedov and French football player Patrice Evra as the four sporting icons appointed by the Dubai Sports Council.

- ❖ The Dubai Sports Council announced the names of the four sports ambassadors in the presence of Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum is the Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council of Dubai Sports Council.
- ❖ As sports ambassadors, these four former players will play a vital role in enhancing Dubai's status as a premier global sports destination.
- ❖ They will help strengthen Dubai's sports ecosystem by attracting prestigious international events, nurturing local talent, and promoting sports tourism.

