

### Veergatha Project 4.0

Uttar Pradesh has claimed the nation's top spot in the Veergatha Project 4.0, demonstrating exceptional achievement with over 45 lakh student nominations.

#### Key Points

- ❖ The Veergatha Project is a joint initiative of the **Defence Ministry and the Union Education Ministry**, launched in **2021** under the **Gallantry Awards Portal (GAP)**.
- ❖ Its primary aim is to connect students with the inspiring stories of brave soldiers from the armed forces.
- ❖ UP has surpassed last year's nomination of **39 lakh in the Veergatha Project 3.0, marking an increase of 6,24,559 this year**. The data for this year indicates that every district has contributed to this increase in participation, making this success possible.

#### UP's Performance

- ❖ In the **Veergatha Project 4.0**, Delhi secured the second position with **18,08,556** nominations, and Bihar the third position with **13,91,187** nominations.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh achieved this accomplishment with **27,16,003 more nominations than Delhi and 31,33,372 more nominations than Bihar**.
- ❖ The data indicates that this year's enrollment is the highest ever, with all 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh recording more enrolments compared to the previous year.
- ❖ According to the latest data, **18 districts of UP have secured positions among the 50 districts with the highest participation in the country**. The leading districts in Uttar Pradesh include Pilibhit (2,92,756), Bulandshahr (2,68,852), Sant Kabir Nagar (2,35,934), Lakhimpur Kheri (1,32,414), Siddharthnagar (1,24,950), Hardoi (1,22,973) and Lucknow (1,19,908).

### Jal Utsav

On 6th November 2024, the NITI Aayog launched Jal Utsav.

#### Key Points

- ❖ It is a **15-day campaign (6th Nov- 24th Nov)** to create awareness and sensitivity towards water management, conservation and sustainability.
- ❖ The campaign follows the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi who mooted the idea of 'Jal Utsav' on the lines of 'Nadi Utsav' during the 3rd Chief Secretaries Conference held in December last year.
- ❖ It is being implemented in **20 Aspirational Districts and Blocks**.
- ❖ It is in partnership with **National Jal Jeevan Mission, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti**.
- ❖ It was launched with '**Jal Bandhan**' – the **symbolic tying of sacred thread on water assets** by eminent personalities and local leaders. "Fact Sheet on Jal Sampada" will also be launched in blocks and districts.

### Asmi

In a major boost to the country's self-reliance initiative, the Indian Army has inducted 550 'Asmi' machine pistols into its Northern Command.

#### Key Points

- ❖ The weapon has been developed by **Colonel Prasad Bansod of the Indian Army in partnership with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** and is being manufactured by an Indian company in Hyderabad.

- ❖ This Made-in-India weapon underscores the Army's commitment towards Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.
- ❖ The 'Asmi' machine pistol is specifically designed for close-quarter combat and specialized operations.
- ❖ This induction marks a significant step towards the country's defense manufacturing sector, reinforcing the Indian Army's resolve to achieve self-sufficiency and drive Indigenous innovation.

### PM-Vidya Laxmi scheme

The Government has approved the PM-Vidyalaxmi scheme to provide financial support to meritorious students.

#### Key Points

- ❖ It is a new **Central Sector scheme** that seeks to **provide financial support to meritorious students** so that financial constraints do not prevent anyone from pursuing higher studies.
- ❖ It is another key initiative **stemming from the National Education Policy, 2020**, which had recommended that financial assistance should be made available to meritorious students through various measures in both public and private HEIs.
- ❖ Under the PM Vidyalaxmi scheme, any student who gets admission in a quality Higher Education Institution (QHEIs) **will be eligible to get collateral free, guarantor free loan from banks and financial institutions to cover full amount of tuition fees and other expenses related to the course.**



- ❖ The scheme will be administered through a simple, transparent and student-friendly system that will be inter-operable and entirely digital.

**Key benefits of the PM-Vidyalaxmi scheme include:**

- ❖ **Collateral-Free Loans:** Students can apply for loans covering the entire cost of tuition and related expenses without needing collateral or guarantors.
- ❖ **Credit Guarantee:** For loans up to ₹7.5 lakh, the government will offer a 75% credit guarantee, encouraging banks to extend loans to more students.
- ❖ **Interest Subvention:** Students from families with annual incomes up to ₹8 lakh can receive a 3% interest subvention on loans up to ₹10 lakh during the moratorium period. Priority will be given to students in government institutions pursuing technical or professional courses.
- ❖ With an allocation of **₹3,600 crore for the period 2024-2031**, the scheme is expected to benefit seven lakh new students annually.
- ❖ The Department of Higher Education will streamline applications via a unified **"PM-Vidyalaxmi" portal.**

### SHORT NEWS- UTTAR PRADESH

- ❖ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath **has introduced a Rs 5.86 crore scholarship scheme specifically for Sanskrit students across the state**, aiming to make this ancient language accessible to all.

- It was launched at Varanasi's Sampurnanand Sanskrit University, the initiative expands scholarships for 69,195 Sanskrit students, with funds directly transferred to their bank accounts.

### Reports/Indexes

#### Global Tuberculosis Report 2024

- ❖ It is released by the World Health Organization.
- ❖ The report revealed that approximately **8.2 million people were newly diagnosed with TB in 2023 – the highest number recorded since WHO began global TB monitoring in 1995.**
- ❖ With the disease disproportionately affecting people in 30 high-burden countries, India (26%), Indonesia (10%), China (6.8%), the Philippines (6.8%) and Pakistan (6.3%) together accounted for 56% of the global TB burden.
- ❖ As per the report, between **2015-2023 there has been a noteworthy 17.7 percent decline in TB incidence. The rate is twice the global average decline of 8.3 percent.**
- ❖ India, as a signatory to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals had pledged to achieve the **“End TB” targets by 2025**, five years ahead of the SDG deadline of 2030. The achievement highlights the impact of India's National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme.

### Person In News- Worldwide

#### Donald Trump



- ❖ Donald Trump of the Republican party has won the US presidential elections. He **became the 47th President of the US.**



### Person In News- Obituary

#### Sharda Sinha

- ❖ She was a popular **Folk Singer**, she recently passed away. She is known as Bihar Swar Kokila.
- ❖ She was known for her **Bhojpuri and Maithili Folks Songs**, Sharda Sinha was **honoured with Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards.**



### Important Days/Dates

#### November 6

- ❖ **International Day for Preventing Exploitation of Environment in war and armed conflict**



- ❖ The **International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict** is observed on November 6th each year.

- ❖ It was declared by the UN General Assembly in **2001** to raise awareness about the impact of war and armed conflict on the environment.

### Important News- Other States

<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	Tamil Nadu has declared the <b>heatwave as a state-specific disaster.</b>
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### Important News- Worldwide

<b>Japan</b>	Japan launched the <b>world's first wooden satellite 'LignoSat'</b> . It aims to prove that wood is a space-grade material. The satellite LignoSat is scheduled to orbit the Earth for six months.
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### Sports

- ❖ India's professional boxer **Mandeep Jangra** clinched the **World Boxing Federation's super featherweight world** title after defeating Britain's Conor McIntosh in the Cayman Islands.

### Miscellaneous

- ❖ India will launch the **European Space Agency mission named PROBA-3** December month from the Sriharikota Space Station. The mission will study the Sun's faint corona closer to the solar rim.
- ❖ The third edition of the **MAHASAGAR was conducted by the Indian Navy on 05 Nov 24.**
  - MAHASAGAR which stands for vast ocean in Hindi, is the **Indian Navy's flagship outreach for high-level virtual interaction between Maritime Heads for Active Security And Growth for All in the Region.** The initiative, started by the Indian Navy, is conducted bi-annually and has garnered wide acceptance among the participating nations ever since its inception in 2023.
- ❖ IDFC FIRST Bank becomes first Indian bank to offer real-time tracking for cross-border payments through Swift GPI

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