

1st January 2025

Hamмам

Allahabad High Court has directed Uttar Pradesh police to deploy force to protect 17th century Agra 'Hamмам'.

Key Points

- ❖ The bench of Justice Salil Kumar Rai and Justice Samit Gopal passed this order while dealing with the PIL plea filed by one Chandrapal Singh Rana seeking protection of heritage structure from "illegal and unauthorised persons."
- ❖ PIL alleged that certain individuals had laid claim to the site as private property and had begun demolishing parts of the structure.
- ❖ The **Hamмам is a Turkish-style building constructed during the reign of Mughal Emperor Jahangir in 1620 by Ali Vardi Khan.**
- ❖ Under the 1958 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, the authorities are responsible for protecting the 400-year-old hammam from demolition.




Sevdalinka

UNESCO has added Sevdalinka to Intangible Cultural Heritage List

Key Points

- ❖ Sevdalinka is the **traditional urban folk song of Bosnia and Herzegovina**. It is often referred to as the Balkan Blues. It is a melancholic urban love song dating back to the 16th century. It is a **mix of South Slavic oral poetry and the music of the Ottoman Empire**.

- ❖ It has been officially inscribed on **UNESCO's list of Intangible Cultural Heritage**.  Bosnia and Herzegovina now has six cultural assets on UNESCO's heritage list, including: Lipizzaner horse breeding, Konjic woodcarving, the harvesting of Iva grass on Ozren, the mowing competition in Kupres, and Zmijanje embroidery.
- ❖ Additionally, the Nevesinje Olympics, a traditional sports event, has been nominated for inclusion on the prestigious list.

Report on Trend and Progress of Banking in India 2023-24

In compliance with the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the Reserve Bank of India released the Report on Trend and Progress of Banking in India 2023-24.

Key Points

- ❖ This Report presents the performance of the **banking sector, including commercial banks, co-operative banks and non-banking financial institutions**, during 2023-24 and 2024-25 so far.
- ❖ The Capital-to-Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) stood at 16.8% as of September 2024, meeting regulatory requirements.
- ❖ Scheduled Commercial Banks recorded improved **profitability for the sixth consecutive year**.
- ❖ **Gross non-performing assets (GNPA) declined to a 13-year low at 2.5% in September 2024.**
- ❖ Banks' profitability rose for the sixth consecutive year in 2023-24.

- ❖ The combined balance sheet of urban co-operative banks (UCBs) expanded in 2023-24, with asset quality improving for the third consecutive year while capital buffers and profitability were strengthened.

World's Largest Electoral Dataset

The Election Commission of India has released a comprehensive set of 42 statistical reports for the Lok Sabha elections 2024.

More on News

- ❖ This suo moto initiative, is to enhance the public trust that constitutes the underpinning of India's electoral system.
- ❖ The release of extensive data sets is also in furtherance of the Commission's policy of maximum disclosure, greater transparency and accessibility of election-related data for all stakeholders including academia, research and the general public.
- ❖ Some **highlights** from the **Lok Sabha General Election 2024** are listed below:

Electors

- ❖ For Lok Sabha: 97,97,51,847 Electors in 2024 as compared to 91,19,50,734 in 2019. Increase (%) in Total electors in 2024 over 2019 was 7.43%.
- ❖ 64.64 crore votes polled in 2024, compared to 61.4 crore in 2019
- ❖ EVM Votes: 64,21,39,275
- ❖ Male: 32,93,61,948
- ❖ Female: 31,27,64,269
- ❖ Third Gender: 13,058
- ❖ PC with the highest turnout: 92.3% Dhubri (Assam)
- ❖ PC with the lowest turnout: 38.7% Srinagar (J&K), compared to 14.4% in 2019.
- ❖ 27.09% voter turnout of transgender voters (third gender)

Polling Stations

- ❖ 10,52,664 polling stations in 2024, compared to 10,37,848 in 2019.
- ❖ Repoll only in 40 Polling Stations [0.0038% of Total Polling Stations] compared to 540 in 2019
- ❖ Average number of Electors/Polling Station: 931
- ❖ State with the highest number of PS: Uttar Pradesh (1,62,069 PS)
- ❖ State/UT with the lowest number of PS: Lakshadweep (55 PS)

Nominations

- ❖ 12,459 nominations filed in 2024, compared to 11692 in 2019.
- ❖ PC with the highest number of nominations: 114 in PC- Malkajgiri (Telangana)
- ❖ PC with the lowest number of nominations (except Surat): 3 in PC – Dibrugarh (Assam)

Women Power

- ❖ 47,63,11,240 Women electors out of 97,97,51,847, in 2024, compared to 43,85,37,911 in 2019.
- ❖ 48.62% Female Electors in 2024 compared to 48.09% in 2019.
- ❖ State with the highest percentage share of Female electors in 2024: Puducherry (53.03%) followed by Kerala (51.56%).
- ❖ State with the highest number of Female Contesting candidates: Maharashtra [111] followed by Uttar Pradesh [80] and Tamil Nadu [77].

Inclusive Elections

- ❖ 48,272 registered Third Gender Elector in 2024, compared to 39,075 in 2019. An increase of 23.5% over the five-year period.
- ❖ State with the highest No. of registered Third Gender Elector: Tamil Nadu (8,467).

Results

- ❖ 6 National Parties participated in the Lok Sabha Elections- 2024. Total vote share of these 6 parties was 63.35% of Total Valid Votes.
- ❖ 7190 candidates forfeited the deposits, compared to 6923 in 2019.
- ❖ One PC -Surat (Gujarat) was uncontested.
- ❖ There were 279 Independent Female candidates.

WAVES SUMMIT

India will host the World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES) for the first time in 2025.

Key Points

- ❖ It is scheduled to take place from **February 5-9 in Delhi in 2025.**
- ❖ It aims to **not only highlight India's advancements in various entertainment sectors** but also to bring attention to the country's rich cultural and cinematic legacy.
- ❖ It will draw industry experts from Bollywood, regional cinema, animation, gaming, and entertainment technology, underscoring India's position as a rising powerhouse in content creation.

Person In News- Sports

Pramveer Singh

- ❖ **He became the youngest Indian Super League (ISL) starter.** He is from the team Punjab FC.
- ❖ The Indian Super League is a professional football league in India which is the top level of the Indian football league system.



Places In News

Pangong Tso

- ❖ The Indian Army recently unveiled a **statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at Pangong Tso in Ladakh, near the IndiaChina border at an altitude of 14,300 feet.**
- ❖ The statue was installed by the **Fire and Fury Corps** of the Indian Army.
- ❖ The installation highlights India's focus on enhancing its military presence and infrastructure in the Ladakh region. Pangong Lake is also called the Pangong Tso. It is an **endorheic (landlocked) lake** that means it retains the water without any outflow to the outside of it.
- ❖ This lake covers **Ladakh and West Tibet.** Approximately 50 per cent of this lake is in Ladakh, and 40 per cent is in West Tibet. The rest 10 per cent is controversial but controlled by China.
- ❖ The water of this lake contains a large amount of dissolved salt which results in complete freezing of the water during the winter season.



Sports

Senior National Men's Handball Championship

- ❖ The championship was held in Kerala,
- ❖ The host **Kerala clinches** Senior National Men's Handball Championship title by **defeating Chandigarh 34-31.**
- ❖ Kerala's Devender and Rahul were adjudged the best player and best goalkeeper of the championship respectively.

Important News- Other States**Gujarat**

- ❖ Gujarat Chief Minister has launched a **new citizen-centric initiative called the SWAR (Speech and Written Analysis Resource) platform**. This innovative platform leverages technology to overcome language barriers.

Important News- Worldwide**Nepal**

- ❖ The **18th Elephant and Tourism Festival started in Sauraha, Chitwan, Nepal**. It is held to celebrate the English New Year and promote regional tourism.

Pakistan

- ❖ The **Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority (PNRA)** has granted the licence for the **Chashma Nuclear Power Plant Unit 5 (C-5)**, a facility with a capacity of 1,200 megawatts electric (MWe), making it the largest nuclear electricity generation plant in the country.



UPPSC
WALLAH

