

12<sup>th</sup> November 2024

### Indian Road Congress

The annual session of the Indian Road Congress concluded in Raipur on 11th November 2024.

#### Key Points

- ❖ The Indian Roads Congress (IRC) is the **Apex Body of Highway Engineers in the country.**
- ❖ The IRC was set up in December, 1934 on the recommendations of the Indian Road Development Committee best known as Jayakar Committee set up by the Govt. of India with the objective of Road Development in India.



- ❖ The Central Government is identifying **'black corridors'** and **'white corridors'** across the country based on road accident data from the past three years. Roads with no reported accidents are labelled **'white corridors,'** where preventive measures are being implemented to maintain safety. On the other hand, accident-prone areas are classified as **'black spots,'** where both short- and long-term safety interventions are underway to mitigate future risks.

### Special Campaign 4.0

Government has earned a ₹2K-cr revenue with Special Campaign 4.0.

#### Key points

- ❖ It is a **central government initiative aimed at institutionalizing cleanliness and addressing pendency in government offices.**

- ❖ It was India's largest campaign for Institutionalizing Swachhata and Reducing Pendency in Government offices and has witnessed many best practices and milestones.
- ❖ It has **concluded recently** and it has generated ₹2,364 crore in critical revenue over the past three years of its implementation.
- ❖ In its latest phase, between **October 2 and 31, the month-long campaign earned over ₹650 crore from disposal of scrap.**
- ❖ The Special Campaign 4.0 has seen Swachhata campaigns being undertaken in more than 5.97 lakh sites and has resulted in freeing 190 lakh square feet of space for effective office use.

### Shree Swaminarayan Mandir

On 11th November 2024, the 200th anniversary of Shree Swaminarayan Mandir in Vadtal, Gujarat was celebrated.

#### Key Points

- ❖ The temple has served as the spiritual capital of the Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaya, which has spread across the world today.
- ❖ This temple was built on the **command of Bhagwan Shree Swaminarayan by Sadguru Shree Brahmanand Swami and Sadguru Shree Aksharanand Swami.**
- ❖ The temple is built in a **lotus shape**, symbolizing the spirit of harmony among all religions. It includes depictions of past avatars of gods and goddesses.
- ❖ The **nine domes** on the temple adorn the elevation of the temple.
- ❖ The pillars of the temple bear colorful stone carvings. The construction work was completed within 15 months.
- ❖ The walls of the temple are decorated with colorful representations from the Ramayana.

## Kartarpur Sahib Corridor

On 9th November 2024, the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor between India and Pakistan completed five years.

### Key Points

- ❖ The corridor leads to the **Gurdwara Sri Kartarpur Sahib** in the **Narowal** district of **Pakistan**, where the **First Sikh Guru, Guru Nanak Dev Ji**, spent the last 18 years of his life.
- ❖ The corridor was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 9, 2019, at Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur, **on the occasion of the 550th Prakash Purb of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji**.
- ❖ India and Pakistan renewed their agreement in October this year (2024) to operate the Kartarpur Corridor and facilitate pilgrims from India to visit the Kartarpur Sahib Gurdwara for another five years.



### Gururanak Dev

- ❖ **Born:** 1469 in Nanakana Sahib, Punjab, Pakistan.
- ❖ **Died:** In Kartarpur, Pakistan.

**Teachings and Beliefs:** Founder of Sikhism and the First of the Ten Sikh Gurus.

- ❖ **Bhakti Saint:** Advocated the 'Nirguna' form of Bhakti (devotion to a formless God).
- ❖ **Message of 'Ek Omkar':** Belief in One God, present everywhere. ("God is one").
- ❖ **Rejection of Rituals:** Disapproved of sacrifices, ritual baths, image worship, and austerities. Rejected the religious scriptures of both Hindus and Muslims.

- ❖ **Equality:** Promoted equality for all, regardless of caste, religion, or gender.
- ❖ **Caste System:** Strongly opposed the caste system and social hierarchies.

## Person In News- Appointments

### Justice Sanjiv Khanna

- ❖ He took oath as the **51st Chief Justice of India**.
- ❖ His oath was administered by the President of India.
- ❖ Justice Sanjiv Khanna succeeds Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, who demitted office on 10th Nov 2024.
- ❖ **Justice Khanna born on May 14, 1960**, will serve as the CJI for a little over six months and **demit office on May 13, 2025, on attaining the age of 65 years**.



## Person In News- Worldwide

### Shigeru Ishiba

- ❖ He is the leader of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), **he has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of Japan**.
- ❖ He became the 103rd PM of the country.
- ❖ The Japanese Parliament, known as the Diet.



### Chris Evans

- ❖ He has been appointed as the first **Australian anti-slavery commissioner** for a five-year term commencing in December.



### Person In News- Obituary

#### Thiru Delhi Ganesh

- ❖ He was a **famous film personality**. He **passed away recently**.
- ❖ He has also served as a former **Air Force officer** before he started his career in the film industry.
- ❖ He has received the **Tamil Nadu State Film Award Special Prize** for his performance in **Pasi** (1979) and was honoured with the prestigious **Kalaimamani** award in 1994 by then Chief Minister J Jayalithaa.



#### Pandit Ram Narayan

- ❖ He was one of the iconic **Sarang** **maestros**. He passed away recently at the age of 96.
- ❖ He was a distinguished Hindustani musician and was honoured with several prestigious awards, including the **Padma Vibhushan** and the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Award**.



### Harinder Singh Sodhi

- ❖ He was a renowned former Indian **polo player**, who passed away at the age of 86 due to age-related illnesses. He was a recipient of the **Arjuna Award**.

### Important Days/Dates

#### November 9

**National Legal Services Day**



- ❖ India celebrates **National Legal Services Day on November 9 every year**.
- ❖ This date was made to honour the passage of the **Legal Services Authorities Act of 1987**, which came into force on **November 9, 1995**.
- ❖ The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) was established on December 5, 1995. Since then, National Legal Services Day is observed every year.

#### November 11

**National Education Day**



- ❖ National Education Day is celebrated on November 11 every year in honor of **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad**, the first Education Minister of independent India and a prominent educationist.
- ❖ This day highlights the importance of education in shaping India's future.
- ❖ **In 2008, the Government of India declared November 11 as National Education Day.**
- ❖ The first celebrations were launched by President Pratibha Patil on November 11, 2008.

## Sports

- ❖ **World Paragliding Competition in Bir-Billing.** 
- ❖ On 9th November 2024, the **World Paragliding Competition in Bir-Billing** concluded in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ It was an **eight-day competition**, in which **Austin Cox from the United States secured first place in the overall category.** Ranjit Singh of India secured the second and Dominik Kapica from Poland secured the third place.
- ❖ In the women's category, Joanna Kokot of Poland secured first place, Daria Altekova of Germany secured second place and Marina Oleksina of Brazil secured third place.

## Important News- Other States

### Goa

- ❖ The **International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2024** has announced the **launch of IFFIESTA.** 
- ❖ It is a vibrant entertainment extravaganza designed to bring communities together through the magic of films, food, art, and interactive experiences.
- ❖ IFFIESTA will be **hosted at the Kala Academy, located on the picturesque waterfront of Panjim, Goa, from 21st to 28th November.**

### Kerala

- ❖ **Kerala's first seaplane successfully completes an official trial run.**
- ❖ The seaplane took off from Kochi's Bolgatty Marina and landed smoothly at the Mattupetty Dam in Idukki.
- ❖ The **test flight of the 17-seater aircraft is part of an initiative by the Ministry of Civil Aviation** to explore the possibilities of inland transport.

## Miscellaneous

- ❖ Prominent Indian musicians **Ricky Kej and Anoushka Shankar have earned Grammy nominations for the 67th Grammy Awards.**
  - Ricky Kej, a three-time Grammy winner, received his fourth Grammy nomination for his album Break of Dawn in the Best New Age, Ambient, or Chant Album category. Anoushka Shankar, the renowned sitarist and composer, was also nominated in the same category for her album Chapter II: How Dark It Is Before Dawn, a reflection of her distinctive fusion of traditional and contemporary sounds.
- ❖ Grammy Awards are awards presented by the **Recording Academy of the United States** to recognize outstanding achievements in the music industry.
- ❖ The **2025 Grammy Awards are scheduled to take place on February 2,** next year (2025), at the Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles.

