

### Economy

#### Shankh Air: India's newest airline

##### Why in the news?

Shankh Air, India's newest airline, has got approval from the Union Civil Aviation Ministry to start operations.

- ❖ It is owned by Shankh Aviation Private Limited.
  - Entrepreneur and chairman Sharvan Kumar Vishwakarma spearhead Shankh Aviation.
- ❖ It will be the first scheduled airline to launch from Uttar Pradesh.
  - It will set up its hub in Lucknow and Noida to facilitate connections to all major cities.
- ❖ It will launch its flight services with a new-generation Boeing 737-800NG narrow-body aircraft fleet.



### Defence And Security

#### GOA MARITIME SYMPOSIUM - 24

##### Why in the news?

The fifth edition of Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS) 2024 was hosted by the Indian Navy from 23-24 September 2024 under the aegis of Naval War College, Goa.

- ❖ Theme: Common Maritime Security Challenges in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) – Progressing Lines of Effort to Mitigate Dynamic Threats such as IUU Fishing and Other Illegal Maritime Activities'.

##### Participating countries:

- ❖ Delegations from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Kenya and Tanzania participated in this edition of the Symposium.
- ❖ Deliberations during the Goa Maritime Symposium will act as a feeder for the Goa Maritime Conclave scheduled in 2025.



### 41st Indian Coast Guard Commanders' Conference

#### Why in the news?

The 41st edition of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) Commanders' Conference in New Delhi was inaugurated by India's defence minister, Rajnath Singh.

- ❖ **Objective of the conference:**
  - It serves as a vital forum for ICG Commanders to engage in meaningful discussions on strategic, operational & administrative matters in the backdrop of the evolving geopolitical landscapes and complexities of maritime security.

#### Indian Coast Guards

- ❖ **History:** It came into being on 01st Feb 1977. With a fleet strength of just seven ships for surveillance in the Indian waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone.
  - It was formally inaugurated by the then Prime Minister Morarji Desai on 19th Aug 1978
- ❖ **Motto:** "VAYAM RAKSHAMAH" - WE PROTECT

#### Miscellaneous

### India's First Comprehensive Cancer Multi-Omics Data Portal

#### Why in the news?

Indian Cancer Genome Atlas has launched India's First Comprehensive Cancer Multi-Omics Data Portal.

- ❖ It provides open access to clinically correlated data from Indian cancer patients, aimed at transforming cancer research and treatment for Indian populations.
- ❖ **Significance:** It is the first in India to offer data that includes **DNA, RNA, and protein profiles** of breast cancer patients, integrated with clinical outcomes.

### About Indian Cancer Genome Atlas (ICGA):

- ❖ It is a national initiative focused on mapping the genomic, transcriptomic, and proteomic landscapes of cancers across India.

### 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Application

#### Why in the news?

The 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' app is a unique platform where users can plant and dedicate a tree in honour of their mothers

- ❖ It was launched by Union Minister for Communications and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia.

#### Key features of application:

- ❖ It not only allows users to contribute towards environmental sustainability but also provides a special way to celebrate their bond with their mother.
- ❖ With its user-friendly interface, people can easily upload pictures of the trees they are planting as a tribute to their mothers.
- ❖ **Significance:** It combines environmental responsibility with a personal touch, allowing individuals to contribute towards a greener planet in honour of their mothers.

### Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Campaign

- ❖ It was launched by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi on the occasion of World Environment Day, 2024.

### Sports

### Hangzhou Open. 2024

#### Why in the news?

India's Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and his partner Vijay Sundar Prashanth clinched their maiden ATP title together, winning the Hangzhou Open men's doubles event.

- ❖ **Runner-up:** They defeated the German team of Constantin Frantzen and Hendrik Jebens.

#### About the Hangzhou Open:

- ❖ It is an ATP 250 event which is typically played on outdoor hard courts and is held in Hangzhou, a city in China.



## Persons In News

### Harini Amarasuriya

#### Why in the news?

Harini Amarasuriya has been sworn in as Sri Lanka's new prime minister.

- ❖ She is the 16th PM of the island nation and the third woman (after Sirimavo Bandaranaike and Chandrika Kumaratunga, respectively) to hold the post.
  - She belongs to the National People's Power coalition.
  - She is also the first academician-turned-politician to become the prime minister of Sri Lanka.
  - She is an alumna of Hindu College, New Delhi.
- ❖ Recently, Anura Kumara Dissanayake took oath as Sri Lanka's ninth Executive President.



## Index and Report

### Asia Power Index 2024

#### Why in the news?

India has surpassed Russia and Japan to become the third most powerful country in Asia after the US and China.

- ❖ India's score surged by 2.8 points to 39.1 in 2024.

#### About the index:

- ❖ It was launched by the Lowy Institute in 2018 and is an annual measure of power dynamics in the Asia-Pacific region.
- ❖ It evaluates 27 countries across the Asia-Pacific, examining their ability to shape and respond to the external environment.
- ❖ Timor-Leste has been included for the first time, reflecting its growing importance in Southeast Asia.

### India Overtakes Japan, 3rd in Asia Power Index

India's score surged by 2.8 points in 2024

Country	Power score 2024	Change from 2023
U.S.	81.7	1.0
China	72.7	0.2
India	39.1	2.8
Japan	38.9	1.7
Australia	31.9	1.0
Russia	31.1	-0.5
South Korea	31.0	1.5
Singapore	26.4	1.3
Indonesia	22.3	2.9
Thailand	19.8	1.1

Source: Lowy Institute's Asia Power Index 2024  
Graphic: Samrat Sharma, Jaipal Sharma



### News in Short

- ❖ The 16th Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institution (ASOSAI) Assembly, was organized by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, in New Delhi.
- ❖ Bihar is the 2nd state (1st state is Uttar Pradesh) to have two All India Institute of Medical Sciences institutes (First in Patna and Second will be developed in Darbhanga).

- ❖ Marhaura Railway Engine Factory: It is located in Saran district of Bihar.
- ❖ Engines manufactured from this factory will soon be seen running on the tracks of Africa.
- ❖ This joint venture of Indian Railways and Webtech Locomotive Pvt. Ltd. is manufacturing engines for an international market for the first time.



PW Web/App: <https://smart.link/7wwosivoicgd4>

For more such content, subscribe to our Telegram Channel [https://t.me/pw\\_upsc](https://t.me/pw_upsc)