

### Bihar Special

#### Two newly appointed judges took oath in the High Court

##### Why in the news?

Chief Justice of Patna High Court K. Vinod Chandran administered the oath of office and secrecy to two newly appointed judges Shashi Bhushan Prasad Singh and Ashok Kumar Pandey from judicial quota.

- ❖ The oath-taking ceremony was held at the Shatabdi Bhawan of the High Court.

##### Shashi Bhushan Prasad Singh:

- ❖ Justice Shashi Bhushan Prasad Singh was working as Registrar (Vigilance) in Patna High Court.

##### Ashok Kumar Pandey:

- ❖ Justice Ashok Kumar Pandey was working as Director of Bihar Judicial Academy, Patna.



### International Relations

#### SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting

##### Why in the news?

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will travel to Pakistan to attend a conclave of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in mid-October.

- ❖ It will be the first time in nearly nine years that India's external affairs minister will travel to Pakistan even as the ties between the two neighbours remain frosty over the Kashmir issue and cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan.
- ❖ Pakistan is hosting the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting on October 15 and 16. The last Indian external affairs minister to visit Pakistan was Sushma Swaraj. She had travelled to Islamabad in December 2015 to attend a conference on Afghanistan.

##### Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):

- ❖ Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is a permanent intergovernmental international organization, founded in 2001, comprising 9 Member States namely the Republic of India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People's Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan.

- ❖ The next meeting of the Council of Heads of SCO Member State will be held in 2025 in the People's Republic of China.
- ❖ India chaired the 23rd Summit of the SCO Council of Heads of State on 4 July 2023, in a virtual format, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ❖ The theme of the Summit is 'Towards a SECURE SCO', with SECURE standing for:
  - Security
  - Economy and Trade
  - Connectivity
  - Unity
  - Respect for Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity
  - Environment



## Schemes In News

### PM Internship Scheme

#### Why in the news?

The government launched the Prime Minister's Internship Scheme on October 3, offering 1.25 lakh internships in top companies for the financial year 2024-25.

- ❖ **Ministry:** Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- ❖ **Objective:** Providing internship opportunities to one crore youth in the top 500 companies over 5 years.
- ❖ **Duration of internship:** 12 months.
- ❖ **Stipend:** ₹5,000 per month for one year.

#### Eligibility Criteria:

- ❖ Eligible candidates for the PM Internship Scheme must be aged between 21-24, with a High School or Higher Secondary Certificate, ITI diploma, or graduate degrees like BA, BSc, BCom, BCA, or BBA.



### Miscellaneous

#### Adani and Google

##### Why in the news?

The Adani Group and Google announced a partnership aimed at enhancing their sustainability efforts and contributing to the growth of clean energy in India.



- ❖ A new solar-wind hybrid energy project is being developed at Khavda in Gujarat.
- ❖ Expected to begin operations after mid-2025.
- ❖ **Objective-** To contribute clean energy to India's power grid.

#### Department of Posts and Amazon Sign Landmark MoU

##### Why in the news?

Recently Amazon India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Posts (DoP) to increase Amazon's reach to customers including in more remote locations.

- ❖ Amazon and the Department of Posts have been working together since 2013, utilizing DoP's network for parcel transmission.

##### Key Highlights of the MoU:

- ❖ **Objective:** To jointly explore opportunities in logistics and business expansion, enabling Amazon to increase the use of DoP's extensive postal network for parcel delivery across India.
- ❖ **Increased Collaboration:** The MoU outlines key areas of cooperation, including synchronization of logistics operations, knowledge-sharing, and capacity-sharing opportunities.
- ❖ **Regular Review Mechanisms:** Both parties will conduct quarterly reviews to monitor the progress of their collaboration and explore new avenues for strengthening their partnership.

#### National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds)

##### Why in the news?

The Union Cabinet has approved the National Mission on Edible Oil-Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds) to increase oilseeds production and reduce India's dependence on imports.



- ❖ Implemented from- 2024-25 to 2030-31 with a financial outlay of Rs 10,103 crore.
- ❖ key primary oilseed: Rapeseed-Mustard, Groundnut, Soybean, Sunflower, and Sesamum, as well as increasing collection and extraction efficiency from secondary sources like Cottonseed, Rice Bran, and Tree Borne Oils.

### Production Targets-

- ❖ To increase primary oilseed production from 39 million tonnes (2022-23) to 69.7 million tonnes by 2030-31.
- ❖ Target to increase total domestic edible oil production to 25.45 million tonnes by 2030-31, meeting 72% of projected domestic demand.
- ❖ The mission aims to increase oilseed cultivation by an additional 40 lakh hectares.

### Additional Information

- ❖ To ensure the timely availability of quality seeds, the Mission will introduce an Online 5-year rolling seed plan through the 'Seed Authentication, Traceability & Holistic Inventory (SATHI)' Portal.



- ❖ Additionally, over 600 Value Chain Clusters will be developed across 347 unique districts, covering more than 10 lakh hectares annually.
- ❖ The country is heavily reliant on imports which account for 57% of its domestic demand for edible oils.
- ❖ A National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) was also launched with an outlay of Rs 11,040 crore to boost oil palm cultivation in the country in 2021.

### Sports

#### ISSF Junior World Championship

#### Why in the news?

The Indian team of Mukesh Nelavalli, Raajwardan Patil, and Harsimar Singh Rattha won the men's 25-meter rapid-fire pistol team event at the ISSF Junior World Championship in Peru.

- ❖ This Victory marks the 11th gold medal for India in the championship.
- ❖ India leads the medal tally with a total of 16 medals, which included one silver and four bronze.
- ❖ China is in second place with three golds and one silver.



### Important Days/ Dates

#### World Space Week

#### Why in the news?

World Space Week celebrations are organised every year from October 4 to 10.

- ❖ The theme is "Space & Climate Change"



### News in Short

- ❖ Indian Army has completed the acquisition of 100 Akashteer Air Defence Systems.
- ❖ India has become the fourth country in the world after China, Switzerland and Japan to have foreign exchange (forex) reserves of more than \$700 billion.



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