

AOMSUC-14

The 14th Asia-Oceania Meteorological Satellite Users' Conference (AOMSUC-14) is being held in New Delhi, India.

Key Points

- ❖ **Host:** The conference is hosted by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- ❖ **The conference aims to:** Promote the importance of satellite observations and advance satellite remote sensing science.
- ❖ The **first AOMSUC was held in Beijing, China, in 2010.**
- ❖ Since then, the conference has been hosted annually in various locations across Asia-Oceania.
- ❖ The AOMSUC has become a premier event for meteorologists, earth scientists, satellite operators, and students from across the region and the globe.



- ❖ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) is an **agency of the Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Government of India.**
- ❖ It is the principal agency responsible for meteorological observations, weather forecasting and seismology.
- ❖ **IMD is headquartered in Delhi** and operates hundreds of observation stations across India and Antarctica.
- ❖ **For the convenience of administrative and technical control, there are 6 Regional Meteorological Centres, each under a Deputy Director General with headquarters at Mumbai, Chennai, New Delhi, Calcutta, Nagpur and Guwahati.**

Raja Mahendra Pratap

The nation remembers Raja Mahendra Pratap on his 138th birth anniversary.

Key Points

- ❖ He was born into a royal family in the **Hathras district of Uttar Pradesh on 1st December 1886.**
 - ❖ He was an Indian freedom fighter, journalist, writer, revolutionary, President in the Provisional Government of India, which served as the **Indian Government-in-exile during World War I from Kabul in 1915**, and social reformist of British India.
 - ❖ He was an alumnus of the **Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental Collegiate School** later called **Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).**
 - ❖ He is popularly known as "Aryan Peshwa".
 - ❖ In 1932, he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by N.A. Nielsen.
- ❖ The Prime Minister of India laid the foundation stone for **Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University in Aligarh on 14th September, 2021.**

Bharat National Cyber Exercise (NCX) 2024

Bharat National Cyber Exercise (NCX) 2024 has successfully concluded.

Key Points

- ❖ The **Bharat National Cyber Security Exercise (Bharat NCX 2024)** is a landmark initiative to fortify India's cybersecurity resilience.
- ❖ It was organized by the **National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS)** in collaboration with **Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU).**

- ❖ The exercise is a critical step in preparing India's cybersecurity professionals and leadership to tackle evolving threats with advanced cyber defense, incident response capabilities, and strategic decision-making.
- ❖ The event featured two major milestones: the **launch of the National Cybersecurity Reference Framework** by DG NCIIPC, and the **inauguration of the Bharat National Cyber Range 1.0**, developed indigenously by **Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU)**.

UNCCD-COP16

On 2nd December 2024, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification's 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) began in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Key Points

- ❖ It is **being held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia** from 2nd to 13th December 2024.
- ❖ This is the **first time West Asia** is hosting this crucial environmental conference.
- ❖ The Conference of the Parties (COP) is the **main decision-making body of UNCCD's 197 Parties** (196 countries and the European Union).
- ❖ The theme of the convention is **Our Land. Our Future.**
- ❖ It aims to address critical issues of land degradation, drought resilience, and sustainable land management.



UNCCD

- ❖ The **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)** is the global voice for land and one of the three major UN treaties known as the Rio Conventions, alongside climate and biodiversity.

- ❖ It was **established in 1994** to protect and restore our land and ensure a safer, just, and more sustainable future.
- ❖ The **UNCCD** is the only legally binding framework set up to address desertification and the effects of drought.
- ❖ There are **197 Parties to the Convention, including 196 country Parties and the European Union.**

- ❖ The UN declares **2025–2034 Decade on Combating Sand and Dust Storms.**

Mahakumbh Mela district

Maha Kumbh Mela area in Uttar Pradesh declared a new district.

Key Points

- ❖ Ahead of the Mahakumbh-2025, the Sangam and its surrounding areas have been officially designated as the **'Mahakumbh Mela district'** to streamline preparations for the massive 45-day religious event.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh **will now have 76 districts instead of 75**, as the Mahakumbh Mela area has been made a new district.
- ❖ With the Mahakumbh Mela being declared a new district, now there are five districts in Prayagraj division. Along with Prayagraj, Pratapgarh, Kaushambi, Fatehpur, Mahakumbh Mela district is now included in the division.
- ❖ The new district, which includes Sangam, four surrounding tehsils, and 67 designated areas.

- ❖ MahaKumbh will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 13, 2024.
- ❖ It is set to begin with the traditional bathing festival of Paush Purnima on January 13, 2025, and will conclude on February 26 with Magh Shivaratri.

Person In News- Appointment

Rajesh Kumar Singh

- ❖ He took over as **Defence Secretary** in New Delhi on November 01, 2024.
- ❖ He is a **1989-batch IAS officer from Kerala cadre**, who had assumed the charge of the Officer on Special Duty (Defence Secretary-designate) on August 20, 2024.



Jay Shah

- ❖ He became the **Chairman of the International Cricket Council**. He is the fifth Indian to hold this position.



Person In News- Worldwide

Kash Patel

- ❖ He is an Indian-American, who has been nominated by US President-elect Donald Trump as the next FBI director.



Awards/ Titles

National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

- ❖ President Droupadi Murmu conferred the National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3rd Dec).

- ❖ The "National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities" are being awarded by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment every year since 1969 in recognition of the skills and contribution of persons with disabilities, individuals and institutions engaged in the empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Award Categories

1. National Awards for Individual Excellence
 2. National Awards for Institutions Engaged in Empowering Persons With Disabilities
- ❖ **Amar Jain** received the National Award for Individual Excellence in the category of Sarvshreshth Divyangjan-2024. He is a legal professional with 100 per cent visual impairment.
 - ❖ **Prateek Khandelwal**, who has a 75 per cent locomotor disability, will receive the National Award for Individual Excellence in the category of Sarvshreshth Divyangjan-2024. He is the founder of 'Ramp My City'

Important Days/Dates

December 3

- ❖ **International Day of Persons with Disabilities**



- ❖ The International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) is **observed annually on December 3rd**.
- ❖ The theme for this year is "**Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future**".

- ❖ It was established by the United Nations **General Assembly in 1992** to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities.
- ❖ The day also commemorates the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which was adopted in 2006.

Military Exercises

CINBAX

- ❖ **Between Indian and Cambodian Army**



- ❖ It is a **Joint Table Top Exercise (CINBAX)** between the Indian Army and the Cambodian Army.
- ❖ It is the **first edition of the exercise**.
- ❖ It is **being conducted in Pune** from 1st-8th Dec.
- ❖ The Cambodian Army contingent will comprise 20 personnel and the Indian Army contingent is also comprising 20 personnel from an Infantry Brigade.
- ❖ The exercise aimed to wargame conduct of **joint Counter Terrorism (CT) operations** under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

Important News- Other States

Nagaland

- ❖ 1st December is celebrated as the statehood day of Nagaland.

- ❖ **It was formed on December 1, 1963.**
- ❖ With Kohima as the capital city, the state consists of 16 administrative districts, inhabited by 17 major tribes along with other sub-tribes.
- ❖ The **state has a population of about 19.78 lakh people (2011 Census)**. Nagaland's official language is English while Nagamese, a kind of **pidgin Assamese**, has become the common lingua

Telangana

- ❖ Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy announces the **implementation of the Rythu Bharosa scheme for farmers**.
- ❖ The government will provide Rs 15,000 to farmers and tenant farmers, and Rs 12,000 to farm workers under the Rythu Bharosa guarantee scheme per acre annually.

Miscellaneous

- ❖ The **International Conference on Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) for Sustainability & Climate Change** was inaugurated by the Union Minister of Textiles. The Conference has been organized by the NTTM (National Technical Textiles Mission) and IJIRA (Indian Jute Industries Research Association) under the Ministry of Textiles.

