

Bihar Special

Aspirational District Ranking

Why in the news?

Niti Aayog has released the Aspirational District ranking from April to November, 2024.

- ❖ Muzaffarpur got the first position in the whole country in the field of health, nutrition and agriculture.
 - The delta score of Muzaffarpur district in health and nutrition has been 8.400
 - Kandhamal district of Odisha is at the second position.
- ❖ Begusarai has topped in the field of education.
 - In the ranking of the month of August, Begusarai district's performance in the field of education was excellent.
 - ✓ It secured the first position in this sector.
 - ✓ Begusarai's score in the field of education was 67.5 in July, which increased to 71.5 in August.
 - The district got 15th rank in health and nutrition. The score was 71.7 in July, which increased to 73.5 in August.

Aspirational Districts of Bihar (13 districts)

- ❖ Nawada, Araria, Aurangabad, Banka, Begusarai, Gaya, Jamui, Katihar, Khagaria, Muzaffarpur, Purnia, Sheikhpura, Sitamarhi have been identified by NITI Aayog as Aspirational Districts in the state of Bihar.

Economy

Anna Chakra

Why in the news?

Food and Public Distribution Minister Pralhad Joshi launched the "Anna Chakra" platform on 5th December, 2024.

About the platform:

- ❖ It is a landmark initiative to enhance the efficiency of the PDS logistics network across the country.
 - The initiative covers 4.37 lakh Fair Price Shops and 6,700 warehouses, targeting the country's food security programme serving 81 crore beneficiaries.



- ❖ It has been developed in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP) and Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT), IIT-Delhi.
- ❖ **Objective:** The project leverages advanced algorithms to identify optimal routes and ensure seamless movement of food grains across supply chain nodes.

SCAN (Subsidy Claim Application for NFSA) PORTAL

- ❖ It will provide for a single window submission of subsidy claims by states, claim scrutiny and approval by DFPD facilitating expeditious settlement process.
- ❖ The portal will ensure end-to-end workflow automation of all the processes for release and settlement of food subsidy using rule-based processing.

Science And Technology

Copernicus Sentinel-1C satellite

Why in the news?



The third Copernicus Sentinel-1 satellite was launched aboard a Vega-C rocket from Europe's Spaceport in French Guiana.

- ❖ It marks the return of the Italian-built Vega-C launcher, two years after a failure during its debut commercial mission.

About the satellite:

- ❖ Sentinel-1C builds on the success of its predecessors, delivering high-resolution radar images to monitor Earth's changing environment.
- ❖ It supports various applications, advances scientific research, and adds new capabilities for tracking maritime traffic.
- ❖ With 12 Sentinel satellite families, Copernicus is the world's largest Earth observation system and boasts the largest repository of radar data, according to its developers.

Miscellaneous

Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav

Why in the news?

ASHTALAKSHMI MAHOTSAV
6th to 8th December 2024

Key Highlights of the Event:

- **State Pavilion**
To showcase exquisite crafts of North Eastern States
- **GI Pavilion**
GI Textiles & Crafts of North East India
- **Muga Silk Pavilion**
Explore the Golden Silk of Assam
- **Eri Silk Pavilion**
World's One & Only Vegan Silk

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on 6th December, 2024.

About the Mahotsav:

- ❖ The three-day festival will showcase the culture, vibrant textile industry, artisanal crafts, tourism opportunities and unique products of all the eight North Eastern states.
- ❖ What is Ashtalakshmi?
 - The festival draws inspiration from the eight Northeastern states, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura—collectively known as the Ashtalakshmi.
- ❖ **Significance:** It will catalyze economic development, creating new opportunities for artisans, weavers, and entrepreneurs from the North East region.

Persons In News

Three Indians on BBC's 100 most inspiring women list

Why in the news?



Three women from India have featured in a list of 100 inspiring and influential women from around the world for 2024, released by BBC.

- ❖ Aruna Roy, Pooja Sharma, and Vinesh Phogat from India have made to the list.
- ❖ Apart from three Indians on the list, two are Indian-American, including NASA astronaut Sunita Williams and AI expert Sneha Revanur.

Aruna Roy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Social activist and former civil servant Aruna Roy engages with rural communities, volunteering for their rights. ❖ She is the co-founder of Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS), an organisation that played a key role in the enactment of the Right to Information Act in 2005. ❖ She served as an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer from 1968 to 1975 and then resigned to work with rural people in Rajasthan. ❖ Her memoir, <i>The 'Personal is Political'</i>, was published this year.
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Pooja Sharma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Pooja Sharma has performed the last rites for unclaimed dead bodies in Delhi for the last three years. ❖ She has performed last rites for over 4,000 people across various religions and faiths. ❖ She has also shared her work on social media, advocating the right to give everybody the dignity they deserve in death.
Vinesh Phogat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ She is a wrestler who has won many accolades, including Championships, Commonwealth, and Asian Games. ❖ In 2024, Phogat became the first Indian female wrestler to reach the Olympic final. ❖ In the Haryana Assembly Election this year, she won from the Julana constituency as an Indian National Congress (INC) candidate.

Index and Report

2024 AirHelp Score report

Why in the news?

IndiGo has been ranked among the "world's worst airlines" in the 2024 AirHelp Score report, securing 103rd place out of 109 with a score of 4.80.

- ❖ Air India, the only other Indian airline ranked, placed 61st with a score of 6.15.

About the report:

- ❖ It was conducted by AirHelp, an EU-based claim processing agency.
 - The survey evaluates airlines globally on punctuality, quality of service, and handling of compensation claims.
 - These criteria, weighed equally, form the overall score.

- The analysis covers data from January to October, incorporating on-time performance, customer claims processing, and feedback from passengers across 54 countries on food, comfort, and service.
- ❖ Brussels Airlines topped the list with a score of 8.12, followed by Qatar Airways (8.11) and United Airlines (8.04).
- ❖ Tunisair ranked last at the 109th rank.

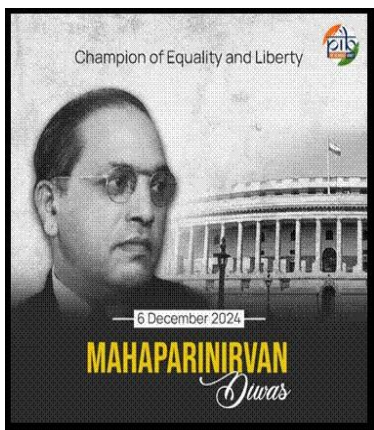


Important Days/ Dates

Mahaparinirvan Diwas

Why in the news?

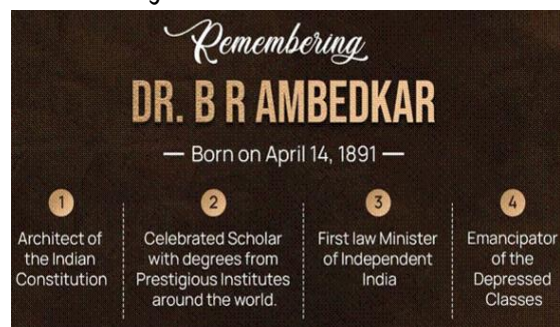
Mahaparinirvan Diwas is observed annually on December 6 to commemorate the death anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar.



- ❖ The Mahaparinirvan Diwas 2024 marks the 69th death anniversary of Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.
- ❖ It was observed by the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation (DAF) on behalf of the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment at Prerna Sthal, Parliament House Complex, on December 6, 2024.
- ❖ It holds profound significance as a tribute to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's transformative legacy.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

- ❖ He was born on April 14, 1891, in Mhow, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ As a social reformer, he launched the newspaper Mooknayaka (Leader of the Silent) to amplify the voices of the downtrodden.
- ❖ He established the Bahishkrit Hitkarini Sabha (Outcastes Welfare Association) in 1923 to spread education, improve economic conditions, and address societal inequalities.
- ❖ His leadership in historic movements such as the Mahad March (1927) for access to public water and the temple entry movement at Kalaram Temple (1930) challenged caste hierarchies and priestly dominance.
- ❖ He also played a pivotal role in the Poona Pact of 1932, which replaced separate electorates with reserved seats for Dalits, marked a turning point in India's fight for social justice.



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