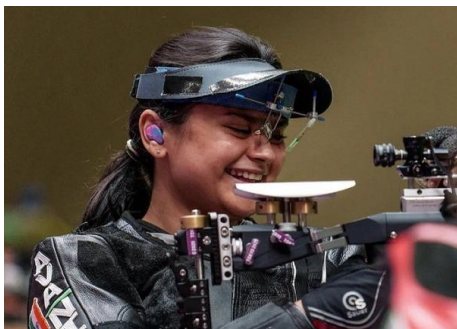


2nd September 2024

India Wins Four Medals At Paris Paralympics 2024

At Paralympic Games in Paris, India clinched four medals today including a Gold, a silver and two bronze.



Key Point

- ❖ India's Avani Lekhara and Mona Agarwal won the gold and bronze respectively in the women's 10m Air Rifle competition.
- ❖ Avani bettered her previous record set in the Tokyo Games to finish at the top. She finished with a total of 249.7 to achieve the new Paralympic record in the category. Her previous best was 249.6 in the Tokyo Paralympics.
- ❖ Mona won the first medal for the country in the Paris Paralympics on her debut in the Games.
- ❖ Manish Narwal clinched a silver medal in the men's 10-meter Air Pistol with a score of 234.9.
- ❖ Preeti Pal bagged bronze in the women's 100-meter sprint as she achieved her personal best timing of 14.21 seconds to finish third in the final.

Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd (SECI) attains Navratna Status

Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd (SECI), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has been granted the Navratna status on 30th August 2024 by the Ministry of Finance.



Key Point

- ❖ SECI is a leading CPSE dedicated to the development and expansion of Renewable Energy (RE) capacity in India with a cumulative generation awarded capacity of 69.25 GW and an annual power trading volume upwards of 42 Billion Units.
- ❖ NHPC Limited has been accorded with the prestigious status of 'Navratna' company by the Government of India.
- ❖ Navratna status
 - To qualify for Navratna status, a company must first attain the Miniratna Category-I designation and be included in Schedule A of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs).

- For a company to achieve Navratna status, it must report a net profit of more than Rs 5,000 crore for three consecutive years, and maintain an average annual turnover of Rs 25,000 crore for three years, or have an annual average net worth of over Rs 15,000 crore for three years.
- CPSEs must have achieved an 'excellent' or 'very good' rating in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for three out of the last five years.
- Also, eligible CPSEs must attain a composite score of 60 or above in six selected performance indicators.

Maharatna CPSEs

1. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
2. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
3. Coal India Limited
4. GAIL India Limited
5. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited
6. Indian Oil Corporation Limited
7. NTPC Limited
8. Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited,

9. Power Finance Corporation
10. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited
11. Steel Authority of India Limited
12. Rural Electrification Corporation Limited
13. Oil India Ltd

PROJECT NAMAN

The Indian Army launched the first phase of Project NAMAN, in presence of General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Army Staff along with Mrs Sunita Dwivedi, President Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA).



Key Point

- ❖ A project designed to provide dedicated support and services to Defence Pensioners, Veterans and their families. Project NAMAN is centred around the implementation of the SPARSH (System for Pension Administration Raksha), digital pension system which streamlines pension related processes for Defence Pensioners, addressing the

critical need for accessible facilitation points for Veterans and Next of Kin (NOK) across the country.

- ❖ In the first phase of Project NAMAN, 14 CSCs have been established at key locations across India, including New Delhi, Jalandhar, Leh, Dehradun, Lucknow, Jodhpur, Bengdubi, Gorakhpur, Jhansi, Secunderabad, Saugor, Guntur, Ahmedabad and Bangalore.
- ❖ The project is set to expand significantly, with plans to establish approximately 200 centres nationwide over the next 2-3 years. The banking partner, HDFC Bank, has provided the necessary IT infrastructure for operationalising the CSCs, while local military stations have contributed essential physical infrastructure and facilities.

Vadhavan Port

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid foundation stone of Vadhvan Port project worth around ₹76,000 crore in Palghar, Maharashtra.



Key points

- ❖ **Aim:** To be among the top 10 ports globally.
- ❖ **Capacity:** It will have a handling capacity of 23.2 million Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEUs).
- ❖ **Design:** A world-class maritime gateway to boost India's trade and economic growth.
- ❖ **Salient Features:**
 - Capable of catering to large container vessels and ultra-large cargo ships.
 - Offers deeper drafts and direct connectivity to international shipping routes reducing transit times and costs
 - Equipped with state-of-the-art technology and infrastructure, the port will feature deep berths, efficient cargo handling facilities and modern port management systems.
 - Incorporates sustainable development practices, adhering to stringent ecological standards.

Facts about Major Sea Ports in India

Factors	Name of the Port
Largest Port in India	Mumbai Port, Maharashtra
Oldest Port in India	Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Trust, Kolkata

Newest Port in India	Vadhavan Port, Maharashtra
Deepest Port in India	Visakhapatnam Port (natural depth > 16.5 meters)
Busiest Port in India	Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) / Nhava Sheva Port, Maharashtra
Private Major Port in India	Mundra Port (operated by Adani Ports and SEZ Limited – APSEZ), Gujarat
Port with Transshipment Facility	Kochi International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) / Vallarpadam Terminal of Cochin Port

Long-Sought Global Electric Field on Earth

An international team of scientists has successfully measured a global electric field for the first time using data from a NASA suborbital rocket.



Key point

- ❖ A rocket team reports the first successful detection of Earth's ambipolar electric field: a weak, planet-wide electric field as fundamental as Earth's gravity and magnetic fields.
- ❖ First hypothesized more than 60 years ago, the ambipolar electric field is a key driver of the "polar wind," a steady outflow of charged particles into space that occurs above Earth's poles.
- ❖ This electric field lifts charged particles in our upper atmosphere to greater heights than they would otherwise reach and may have shaped our planet's evolution in ways yet to be explored.

Short News

- ❖ India, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Maldives Sign Charter And MoU For Establishment Of Colombo Security Conclave Secretariat.
- ❖ T.V. Somanathan has assumed the role of the new Cabinet Secretary in the Government of India, following the retirement of Shri Rajiv Gauba.
- ❖ In response to requests from Access Providers for more time, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has granted a one-month extension to comply with its directive issued on August 20, 2024, concerning the whitelisting of URLs/APKS/OTT links.

- ❖ The Prime Minister will inaugurate three Vande Bharat trains on August 31st. These trains are set to enhance connectivity in Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka.
- ❖ Nepal Tourism Board has received the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award in Sustainable Tourism for Livelihood Recovery Project (STLRP).
- ❖ Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari has launched the first comic book in the series of heroes of the Indian Air Force
- ❖ Nine projects worth ₹265 crore were approved in the 56th Executive Committee meeting of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Union Women and Child Development Minister Annapurna Devi launched the seventh edition of nationwide “Rashtriya Poshan Mah” at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar.
- ❖ Surpassing the world’s leading digital payment platforms, India’s Unified Payments Interface (UPI) processed nearly 81 lakh crore rupees transactions in the April-July period this year, which is a staggering 37 per cent increase.

Important Daily Current Affairs Question

Q1. In which state is the Vadhvan Port, whose foundation was recently laid by the Prime Minister, situated?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer - A

Q2. In which of the following sports did Avani Lekhara win a gold medal at the Paris Paralympics?

- (a) Fencing
- (b) Table tennis
- (c) Archery
- (d) Shooting

Answer - D

