

2nd edition of 'Sagar Kavach' exercise 2024 held by Indian Coast Guard



Key Points:

- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard successfully conducted its 2nd edition of the coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' of the year on 16-17 October 2024 across Gujarat and the Union Territory of Daman & Diu coasts.
- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard held its first 'Sagar Kavach' exercise of 2024 on 11 and 12 July 2024 along the coast of Andhra Pradesh.

2nd edition of Sagar Kavach exercise of 2024

- ❖ The 2nd edition of the 'Sagar Kavach' coastal security exercise was coordinated by the Indian Coast Guard's North West Regional Headquarters in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ❖ All the agencies responsible for the coastal security of India- State Police, Indian Navy, Marine Police, Border Security Force (BSF), National Security Guard (NSG), Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB), Intelligence Bureau (IB), and the Port authorities, participated in the exercise.
- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard provided extensive aerial surveillance of the coastal area by both the Indian Navy and the Coast Guard.

Defence Minister inaugurates Purna Sthal at Burdang in Sikkim

- ❖ Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh virtually inaugurated the Purna Sthal at Burdang in Sikkim recently. The Purna Sthal has been built in memory of 22 soldiers who lost their lives due to a massive flood caused by a lake outburst in October 2023.

- ❖ Last year in the first week of October due to heavy rains the glacial South Lhonak Lake overflowed which led to release of excess water in the Teesta river.
- ❖ The authorities released the excess water from the Chungthang dam built on the Teesta River, which caused flash floods.
- ❖ The Army vehicles which were parked at Bardang near Singtam in the downstream area were swept away by the flood waters, resulting in the death of 22 soldiers.
- ❖ Purna Sthal memorial has been jointly constructed by the Governor of Sikkim and the Indian Army.

22 Tiger Reserves Areas Tribal Art Exhibition starts in New Delhi



Key Points:

- ❖ A unique tribal art exhibition is being held in New Delhi from 17-20 October 2024. The exhibition displays the art of 49 tribal artists living in the 22 National Tiger reserves across the 10 states of India.
- ❖ The exhibition, titled Silent Conversation: From Margins to the Centre, is being held for the second time and was inaugurated by the Minister for External Affairs, Dr S Jaishankar, in New Delhi on 17 October 2024.

Organiser of the Art Exhibition

- ❖ The National Tiger Conservation Authority is organising the second "Silent Conversation: From Margins to the Centre" exhibition in collaboration with the International Big Cat Alliance, Sankala Foundation and the National Human Rights Commission.

Participants of the Tribal Art Exhibition

- ❖ The Tribal art exhibition Silent Conversation: From Margins to the Centre is being organised to highlight the crucial role the tribal communities play in the conservation and preservation of the country's environment and forest
- ❖ Over 200 paintings and 100 art pieces made by the 49 tribal artists from 22 tiger reserves in 10 states are being displayed.
- ❖ Out of the 49 artists, 10 belong from areas within the tiger reserves of Madhya Pradesh, and the rest are from the tiger reserves of Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, and Mizoram.
- ❖ The exhibition displays tribal art forms, such as Warli, Gond, Sohra, Pata Chitra and Bhil, made using sustainable materials

About the National Tiger Conservation Authority

- ❖ The National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body set up in 2005 under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- ❖ It comes under the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- ❖ The National Tiger Conservation Authority is the apex body for implementing Project Tiger and Project Cheetah in the country.
- ❖ According to the latest census, around 75 % of the world's tiger population is in India. There were 3,682 tigers in the 55 tiger reserves of India.

International Big Cat Alliance

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the International Big Cat Alliance on 9 April 2023 in Mysuru, Karnataka, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Project Tiger.
- ❖ The International Big Cat Alliance aims to work to conserve seven big cats: tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, cheetah, jaguar, and puma.

- ❖ The headquarters of the International Big Cat Alliance is in India.
- ❖ The alliance aims to include 96 big cat range countries and non-range countries interested in big cat conservation.

2nd National Lighthouse Festival held across Nation's 75 Lighthouse



Key Points:

- ❖ The 2nd National Lighthouse Festival will be observed across the country's 75 historic Lighthouses on 19 and 20 October 2024.
- ❖ To mark the start of the Festival, a Lighthouse Tourism Conclave 2024 was held in Puri, Odisha, on 19 October 2024. The first National Lighthouse Festival was held from September 23 to 25, 2023, at 75 historic lighthouses across the country.

Who inaugurated the Lighthouse Tourism Conclave 2024?

- ❖ The Lighthouse Tourism Conclave 2024 was inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Shantanu Thakur, on 19 October 2024.
- ❖ During the inaugural session, the Minister of State for Petroleum, Natural Gas & Tourism, Suresh Gopi, and Odisha Deputy Chief Minister, Mrs Pravati Parida, were also present.

Who organises the National Lighthouse Festival?

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways organise the 'National Lighthouse Festival'.

What is the aim of the National Lighthouse Festival?

- ❖ The main aim of the National Lighthouse Festival is to:
- ❖ To transform 75 historic lighthouses in the country into a tourist site with modern amenities such as museums, amphitheatres, children's parks, etc.
- ❖ Promote the conservation and preservation of these historic maritime Lighthouses.
- ❖ Generation of local employment and boosting the local economy.
- ❖ According to the Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships, around Rs 65 crore has been invested in 75 iconic lighthouses in 9 coastal states and 1 Union Territory.

About Lighthouse

- ❖ Lighthouses are permanent structures built on sea shore, rocks, or on the seabed.
- ❖ The Lighthouse has a beacon on the top of its structure.
- ❖ The beacon emits a focussed light, which is used to warn ships approaching the dangerous areas of the sea.
- ❖ Many of the lighthouses are also equipped with fog horns that sound high pitch warnings to passing ships in dangerous areas of the sea in dense fog.
- ❖ Lighthouses are also used to navigate the ships in or out of the harbours safely

PM Modi to Launch National Learning Week Initiative



Key Points:

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the 'Karmayogi Saptah' National Learning Week (NLW) aimed at enhancing the individual and organizational capacity of civil servants.

- ❖ This initiative, part of the broader 'Mission Karmayogi' launched in September 2020, seeks to foster a future-ready civil service that embodies Indian values while maintaining a global outlook.

NHRC Concludes National Conference, Advocates for Older Persons' Rights



Key Points:

- ❖ On its 31st Foundation Day, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) organized a day-long national conference on the "Rights of Older Persons" at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- ❖ During the keynote address, Acting Chairperson Smt. Vijaya Bharathi Sayani emphasized the invaluable role of elders as the architects of the nation's history, keepers of cultural heritage, and foundational pillars of families.

India and Germany Set to Sign Labor Mobility Pact



Key Points:

- ❖ India and Germany are set to sign a pact next week to facilitate the movement of workers and recognize skills between the two countries.
- ❖ Through the agreement, skilled professionals here can be easily absorbed by German industry, sources familiar with the development.

Jio Payments Bank Secures Mutual Funds Distribution License from AMFI



Key Points:

- ❖ Jio Payments Bank, a subsidiary of Jio Financial Services, has successfully obtained a mutual fund distribution license from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).
- ❖ This Category 1 Execution-only Platform (EOP) license enables Jio Payments Bank to distribute the direct plans of various mutual fund schemes, marking a significant step in its expansion within the financial services sector.

2024 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)



Key Points:

- ❖ The 2024 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) report highlights the alarming interconnections between violent conflict and multidimensional poverty across various nations.
- ❖ According to the report, approximately 1.1 billion people live in acute multidimensional poverty, with 455 million residing in conflict-affected regions.
- ❖ The analysis emphasizes that these areas see higher poverty rates and slower progress in poverty reduction.
- ❖ The report was jointly published by the United Nations Development Programme

(UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) and includes updated data from 112 countries and over 1,359 subnational regions.

Rajkumar Hirani Honoured with National Kishore Kumar Award 2023



Key Points:

- ❖ In a heartwarming tribute to the legacy of legendary singer and actor Kishore Kumar, the renowned filmmaker Rajkumar Hirani was conferred with the prestigious National Kishore Kumar Award for the year 2023.
- ❖ The award ceremony took place in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh, the birthplace of Kishore Kumar, on the occasion of the 37th death anniversary of the iconic singer.
- ❖ This award, instituted by the Madhya Pradesh Government's Department of Culture, celebrates artists who have significantly contributed to Indian cinema in various fields, much like Kishore Kumar himself.

Mohanji Receives Prestigious 2024 Humanitarian Award



Key Points:

- ❖ On September 19, 2024, in Johannesburg, South Africa, Mohanji, a global humanitarian leader, received a special recognition for his worldwide contributions at the 9th Conscious Companies Awards event.

- ❖ This prestigious annual event honors ethical and visionary leaders whose work fosters conscious leadership, aligns people, profit, and purpose, and promotes a better, more sustainable world.

Arjun Erigaisi Wins WR Chess Masters, Nears 2800 Elo Rating



Key Points:

- ❖ Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi showcased brilliant form to secure the WR Chess Masters title after defeating France's Maxime Vachier-Lagrave in an Armageddon game, following two draws in Classical chess.

- ❖ With this win, Arjun edges closer to the 2800 Elo rating mark, finishing with a live rating of 2796. The 21-year-old earned a prize of 20,000 Euros, defeating friend R. Praggnanandhaa in the semifinals, and plans to chase the 2800 milestone at the European Cup starting October 20.

