

### Bihar Special

#### 55th anniversary of VishwaShanti Stupa

##### Why in the news?

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar attended the 55th anniversary of Vishwa Shanti Stupa at Rajgir.

##### VishwaShanti Stupa

- ❖ "Vishwa Shanti Stupa in Rajgir was constructed in 1969 by Fuyuji Guruji of Japan and was inaugurated on October 25 of that year by the then President VV Giri.
- ❖ Fujii Guru Ji constructed the Vishwa Shanti Stupa to bring peace to the world.
- ❖ He also inaugurated an integrated tourism centre near the ropeway leading to the stupa. It would help domestic and foreign tourists by providing various facilities to make their visit more comfortable.
- ❖ A 50-foot-high statue of Lord Buddha has been installed in Ghora Katora Lake.
  - Ghora Katora Lake is a natural site located near Rajgir. According to Hindu mythology, this lake used to be the horse

stable of King Jarasandha from the Indian epic Mahabharata, hence the name Ghoda Katora.

- ❖ Besides, Buddha Smriti Park and Buddha Stupa have been constructed in Patna,"



### Defence And Security

#### Abhay

##### Why in the news?

'Abhay', the seventh Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC) being built by M/s GRSE for the Indian Navy, was launched on 25 Oct 24 at M/s L&T, Kattupalli.

- ❖ Contract for building eight ASW SWC ships was signed between MoD and Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata.
- ❖ The Arnala-class ships will replace the Abhay-class ASW Corvettes, designed for anti-submarine operations, Low-

Intensity Maritime Operations (LIMO), and Mine Laying.

- ❖ Ships are approximately 77 m long, with a maximum speed of 25 knots & endurance of 1800 NM.
- ❖ **Aatmanirbhar Bharat Initiative** – ships are designed with over 80% indigenous, promoting Indian manufacturing, job creation, and self-reliance in defense shipbuilding.



### Miscellaneous

#### 21st Livestock Census

##### Why in the news?

Recently Union Minister, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh launched the **21st Livestock Census** in New Delhi.

##### Importance of the Census:

- ❖ Critical for policy formulation to support sustainable growth in the livestock sector.
- ❖ Emphasizes the sector's role in the rural economy, nutrition, employment, and income.

#### Innovations and Focus Areas

- ❖ The mobile application for data collection and real-time monitoring through a web-based dashboard, marks a significant step towards modernization of data collection methodologies.
- ❖ Focus on Gender Roles in Livestock Rearing, breed management, animal health, and productivity.
- ❖ **Census Scope and Goals**
- ❖ To cover over 30 crore households across all States and Union Territories, including nomadic communities and pastoralists, ensuring that the diversity of India's livestock practices is captured.



#### Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2024

##### Why in the news?

The Indian Army hosted the second edition of its flagship international seminar, Chanakya Defence Dialogue, in New Delhi.

- ❖ This **two-day** event brought together policymakers, strategic

thinkers, academia, defence personnel, veterans, scientists, and subject matter experts from India and abroad to examine India's strategic directions and developmental priorities.

- ❖ Prominent speakers from India, the United States, Russia, Israel, and Sri Lanka offered a global perspective on how security influences India's developmental trajectory toward Viksit Bharat in 2047.
- ❖ On the second day, the Chairman of ISRO, Dr S. Somanath, emphasised the pivotal role India's space sector plays in strengthening national security.
- ❖ Highlighted challenges in satellite communication, navigation, space science, and earth observation due to growing congestion and competition in space.



### Shrijan

#### Why in the news?

'IndiaAI' and Meta announced the establishment of the Center for

Generative AI, Shrijan (सृजन) at IIT Jodhpur and the launch of the "YuvAI initiative for Skilling and Capacity Building", in partnership with All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

- ❖ This is aimed at propelling the advancement of open source artificial intelligence (AI) in India.

#### Establishment of the Center for Generative AI, Shrijan (सृजन):

- ❖ **Objective** - Empower the next generation of AI innovators and entrepreneurs using open-source AI & exploring possibilities in Large Language Model LLMs.
- ❖ The research under its aegis will be shared with students via AICTE and via direct connect with colleges.
- ❖ Engage young developers to deploy open-source LLMs across India & unearth indigenous use cases through Hackathons.
- ❖ **Training :**
- ❖ Conduct Master Training activation workshops for select colleges, data labs, and ITIs, introducing them to foundations of LLMs to ignite interest.
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### Awards and Honors

#### Sakharov Prize

##### Why in the news?

The 2024 Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought is awarded to **María Corina Machado** and President-elect **Edmundo González Urrutia** for their brave fight to restore freedom and democracy in Venezuela.

- ❖ In Strasbourg, the 2024 Sakharov Prize award ceremony will be held on December 18, during the Parliament's plenary session

##### About Sakharov Prize

- ❖ The Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought, named after Soviet physicist and dissident **Andrei Sakharov**, is the European Union's highest human rights honour.
- ❖ Established in 1988, the prize recognises individuals or organisations championing human

rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

- ❖ The 2023 Sakharov Prize was awarded to **Jina Mahsa Amini** posthumously.



### Sports

#### Rohini Godbole

##### Why in the news?

Professor **Rohini Godbole**, a well-known physicist and Padma Shri recipient, passed away.

- ❖ She was among the prominent voices advocating equal opportunities for women in the field of science.
- ❖ she was honoured with various prestigious awards including the Padma Shri award in 2019.
- ❖ The French government awarded her the National Medal of Merit in 2021.





### News in Short

- ❖ Dr Neena Malhotra was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Sweden.
- ❖ Mahendra Singh Dhoni, former captain of the Indian cricket team, has been appointed as Jharkhand's brand ambassador for the upcoming assembly elections.



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