

Bihar Special

Bihar's Achievement in Clean Water and Sanitation

Why in the news?

The Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal scheme by the Bihar state government has shown significant results.

- ❖ **National Ranking:** Bihar ranks third in India for clean water and sanitation, according to the fourth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) report by Niti Aayog.
- ❖ **Top States:** Goa and Himachal Pradesh are the only states ahead of Bihar in this category.

Scores:

- ❖ **Goa & Himachal Pradesh:** 100 out of 100.
- ❖ **Bihar:** 98%, higher than the national average of 89%.
- ❖ **Recognition:** Last year, Bihar received the third prize in the category of best state at the fourth National Water Award by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

पड़ोसी राज्यों से तुलना	
राज्य	स्कोर
बिहार	98%
झारखंड	86%
यूपी	92%
प बंगाल	86%

IRISE Recognition Award (IRA) Program

Why in the news?

13 teachers of the state will be honored with Innovation Champion under IRISE Recognition Award (I-RA) program.

- ❖ **Fields:** The honored teachers specialize in Science and Mathematics.
- ❖ **Selection:** Teachers selected by the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune for their continuous innovative work.
- ❖ **Impact:** These teachers have been fostering innovation among students in their schools for several years.

Additional Honors: 238 other teachers from Bihar will also be honored for excellence in teaching.

Award Date: All honorees will be recognized on September 3, 2024.

Selected Teachers:

- ❖ Mridula Kumari Sinha (Aurangabad)
- ❖ Kundan Kumar Naveen (Begusarai)
- ❖ Jitendra Kumar (Darbhanga)
- ❖ Shobha Kumari (Jamui)
- ❖ Pawan Kumar Singh (Madhubani)
- ❖ Nishi Kumari Khusrupur (Patna)
- ❖ Manish Chand Prasad (Samastipur)
- ❖ Urmila Kumari (Samastipur)
- ❖ Sujit Kumar Singh (Siwan)
- ❖ Mamta Kumari (Vaishali)
- ❖ Mukesh Kumar Rai (West Champaran)
- ❖ Kavita Rani (Gaya)
- ❖ Anuradha Kumari (Vaishali)

International Relations

India-US Defence Cooperation

Why in the news?

India and the US agreed to advance co-production projects, including:

- ❖ GE F-414 Engines: To power TEJAS MK-2 aircrafts.
- ❖ Stryker Armored Infantry Combat Vehicles, unmanned platforms, and munitions.

Meeting: Agreement reached during a meeting between Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and US Secretary of Defence Lloyd J. Austin at the Pentagon.

Further Cooperation:

- ❖ Expanded discussions on undersea and space domains.
- ❖ Implementation of the India-U.S. Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X), with the third summit in Silicon Valley scheduled for September, 2024.

Strategic Impact: The proposed co-productions will strengthen US-India strategic relations, as stated by the US Department of Defence and Defence Security Cooperation Agency.

GE-HAL Agreement: A commercial agreement between General Electric (GE) Aerospace and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to manufacture GE-F414 turbofan jet engines in India, with GE retaining the IPR.

Stryker Co-production: Details to be worked out for co-producing Stryker vehicles in India.

Pending Issues:

- ❖ Rajnath Singh is expected to address delays in the supply of GE-F404 engines needed for TEJAS MK-1A aircraft.
- ❖ Finalization of the acquisition of 31 MQ-9B Predator drones for India's armed forces.



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Economy

Cabinet approves Unified Pension Scheme

Why in the news?

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS).

- ❖ The Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) will take effect from April 1, 2025.

- ❖ Maharashtra became the first state to adopt the Unified Pension Scheme.

The salient features of the UPS are:

- ❖ Assured pension: 50% of the average basic pay drawn over the last 12 months before superannuation for a minimum qualifying service of 25 years. This pay is to be proportionate for a lesser service period up to a minimum of 10 years of service.
- ❖ Assured family pension: @60% of the pension of the employee immediately before her/his demise.
- ❖ Assured minimum pension: @10,000 per month on superannuation after a minimum 10 years of service.
- ❖ Inflation indexation: on assured pension, on assured family pension and assured minimum pension Dearness Relief based on the All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (AICPI-IW) as in the case of service employees
- ❖ Lump sum payment at superannuation in addition to gratuity 1/10th of monthly emoluments (pay + DA) as on the date of superannuation for every completed six months of service this payment will not reduce the quantum of assured pension

Science and Technology

Tanager-1

Why in the news?

Recently, Tanager-1 satellite has been launched.

About Tanager-1

- ❖ Carbon Mapper, a nonprofit focused on mitigating greenhouse gas emissions.
- ❖ Satellite Development: The first satellite was developed by Planet Labs PBC.
- ❖ Mission: The satellite aims to support timely action in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- ❖ Aim: Detecting and Mapping high priority areas for methane and carbon dioxide with high resolution.
 - Methane is over 80 times more powerful at retaining heat in the atmosphere than CO₂, contributing to about 30 Percent of global temperature rise to date.

Instruments: uses imaging spectrometer technology developed at Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NASA

Miscellaneous

Creation of New Districts in Ladakh

Why in the news?

The Centre announced the creation of five new districts in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

- ❖ **New Districts:** Zaskar, Drass, Sham, Nubra, and Changthang.
- ❖ **Current Districts:** Ladakh currently has two districts, Leh and Kargil, each governed by its autonomous district council.
- ❖ **Total Districts:** The total number of districts in Ladakh will increase to seven.
- ❖ **Background:** Before 2019, Ladakh was part of the former state of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ **Significant Change:** In August 2019, the Government of India revoked Jammu and Kashmir's special status and split it into two union territories: Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

- ❖ The Brussels Diamond League Final will be his final event of the season.

About Diamond League:

The Diamond League is an annual series of track and field athletic competitions organised by World Athletics (formerly known as the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)).

- ❖ The inaugural season was held in 2010.
- ❖ 2024 Diamond League is the 15th season of the annual outdoor track and field meet.
- ❖ The Lausanne Diamond League 2024 is the 11th event of the 2024 season.

Sports

Lausanne Diamond League 2024

Why in the news?

Paris Olympics silver medallist Neeraj Chopra finished second in the men's javelin throw event at Switzerland's Lausanne Diamond League 2024 competition.

- ❖ **Neeraj Chopra's Performance:** Finished second with a season-best throw of 89.49 metres.
- ❖ **Winner:** Anderson Peters from Grenada with a throw of 90.61 metres in his final attempt.
- ❖ **Competition Context:** This was Neeraj Chopra's fifth competition of the 2024 season.

NEERAJ CHOPRA FINISHES SECOND IN THE LAUSANNE DIAMOND LEAGUE



Badminton Asia U-17 & U-15 Junior Championships 2024

Why in the news?

India's 13-year-old talented badminton player Tanvi Patri won the Badminton Asia Under-17 and Under-15 Junior Championships held in Chengdu, China.

- ❖ **Category:** Under-15 Girls Singles.
- ❖ **Final Match:** Defeated Vietnam's Thi Thu Huyen Nguyen, the second seed, in straight games.
- ❖ **Score:** Patri won 22-20, 21-11 in a 34-minute match.
- ❖ **Achievement:** Tanvi Patri joins previous Indian winners Samiya Imad Farooqui (2017) and Tasnim Mir (2019) in the U-15 girls singles category.



Silesia Diamond League 2024

Why in the news?

Mondo Duplantis cleared 6.26 metres, breaking his pole vault world record.

- ❖ **Previous Record:** 6.25 metres, set during the Paris Olympics earlier this month.
- ❖ **Milestone:** This marks the 10th time Duplantis has broken the world record, and the third time this year.

- ❖ **Performance:** He had previously brought the crowd to their feet at the Paris Olympics by clearing 6.25 metres.
- ❖ **Current Achievement:** Cleared 6.15 metres to win in Lausanne before setting the new record at the Silesia Stadium in Chorzow.



Asian Surfing Championship 2024

Why in the news?

India secured a silver medal at the Maruhaba Cup, a prestigious team event at the Asian Surfing Championships 2024, held in Thulusdhoo, Maldives.

- ❖ **Indian Team:** Kamali P, Ajeesh Ali, Srikanth D, and Sanjay Selvamani.

Final Results:

- ❖ **Gold:** Japan with a score of 58.40.
- ❖ **Silver:** India with a score of 24.13.
- ❖ **Bronze:** Taipei with a score of 23.93.
- ❖ **Fourth Place:** China with 22.10 points.

Semi-final Performance: India won Heat 2 with a score of 32.16, ahead of Taipei (29.70) and the Republic of Korea (27.74).

Historic Achievement: India secured its first-ever quota in surfing for the Asian Games 2026.

Upcoming Event: Indian men's and women's teams to compete in the Asian Games 2026 in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.

Individual Milestone: Harish Muthu became the first Indian surfer to qualify for the quarter-finals of the Asian Surfing Championships.



Important Days/ Dates

Mother Teresa's 114th Birth Anniversary

Why in the news?

On August 26, India celebrates the birth anniversary of Mother Teresa (August 26, 1910 – September 5, 1997).

Summary of Mother Teresa's Legacy

- ❖ **Symbol of Compassion:** Mother Teresa is renowned for her

unwavering dedication to improving society and serving as an inspiration globally.

- ❖ **Commemoration:** Her birth anniversary on August 26 is an occasion to honor her extraordinary life and lasting impact.
- ❖ **Legacy:** Her journey to sainthood reflects her unshakable dedication and selfless service to humanity.

News in Short

- ❖ Olympic wrestler Vinesh Phogat, who was disqualified from the 50-kg final match in the Paris Games 2024, was honoured with a gold medal by the Sarvkhap Panchayat.
- ❖ Maharashtra became the first state to adopt the Unified Pension Scheme.
- ❖ Veteran Congress leader and recently elected Member of Parliament representing Nanded constituency, Vasant Rao Chavan, passed away.
- ❖ Union Minister Chirag Paswan was re-elected as the national president of Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) for the next five years.

- ❖ The country's largest zoo will be built at Raniganj in Araria district (Bihar) for Rs 100 crore.
- ❖ Indian cricketer Shikhar Dhawan announced his retirement from both domestic and international cricket

- ❖ Daniela Larreal Chirinos, a five-time Olympic cyclist who competed for Venezuela for a decade, has died.
- ❖ Five-time former Lebanese Prime Minister Salim Hoss died.
- ❖ Indian-American entrepreneur Arun Agarwal was named chairman of the Texas economic body.



BPSC WALLAH



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