

24th January 2025

Livestock Conclave in Shillong

On 23rd January 2025, the Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh inaugurated the Livestock Conclave in Shillong.

Key Points

- ❖ **The theme of the conclave is:** "Dialogue For Holistic Development of the Livestock Sector in North East India".
- ❖ **Place:** It is taking place in **Shillong, Meghalaya on 23rd - 24th January, 2025.**
- ❖ The Union Minister, **Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh**, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying (FAHD) and Panchayati Raj inaugurated the conclave as Chief Guest.
- ❖ **Objective:** The objective of the Livestock Conclave is to bring together the key stakeholders to discuss strategies for the holistic development of the livestock and poultry sector in the NER states.
- ❖ The Conclave also aims to assess the present status and challenges, explore opportunities for growth and development through value chain strengthening, technological interventions and policy support.

Scramjet Engine Ground Test

DRDO has recently conducted Scramjet Engine Ground Test.

Key Points

- ❖ Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), a Hyderabad-based laboratory of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has taken the initiative in developing a long-duration Supersonic Combustion Ramjet or Scramjet powered Hypersonic technology.

- ❖ **First time:** DRDL recently developed these technologies and demonstrated a cutting-edge **Active Cooled Scramjet Combustor ground test for 120 seconds** for the first time in India.
- ❖ **Milestone:** The successful ground test marks a crucial milestone in developing next-generation hypersonic missiles.
 - The ground test of scramjet combustor showcased several notable achievements, demonstrating its potential for operational use in Hypersonic vehicles, like successful ignition and stable combustion.
- ❖ **TBC:** Another key achievement is the development of state-of-art Thermal Barrier Coating (TBC) which is designed to withstand extreme temperatures encountered during hypersonic flight.

What is Ignition in a Scramjet engine?

- ❖ Ignition in a scramjet engine is like 'keeping a candle lit in a hurricane'.
- ❖ **Scramjet combustor incorporates an innovative flame stabilisation technique** that holds continuous flame inside the combustor with air speed in excess of 1.5 km/s.
- ❖ The indigenous development of endothermic scramjet fuel, the first time in India, jointly by DRDL and Industry is central to this breakthrough.

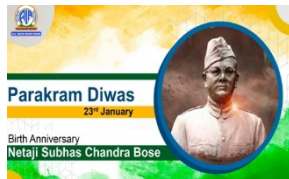
What are Hypersonic missiles?

- ❖ Hypersonic missiles are a class of advanced weaponry that travel at speeds greater than **Mach 5 i.e., five times the speed of sound or more than 5,400 km/hour.**
- ❖ These advanced weapons have the potential to **bypass existing Air Defence Systems and deliver rapid and high-impact strikes.**

- ❖ Several nations including the USA, Russia, India and China are actively pursuing Hypersonic technology.
- ❖ The key to hypersonic vehicles is Scramjets, which are air breathing engines capable of sustaining combustion at supersonic speeds without using any moving parts.

Parakram Diwas 2025

On January 23, 2025, India celebrated the 128th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.



Key Points

- ❖ This special day is commonly referred to as **Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti** or **Parakram Diwas**, meaning **Day of Valour**.
- ❖ This day pays tribute to his incredible contributions and leadership during the fight for India's independence, highlighting his unyielding spirit and bravery during key moments in the nation's history.
- ❖ In 2021, the Indian government named **January 23** as '**Parakram Diwas**' to remember Netaji's heroic efforts in the freedom struggle.

About Subash Chandra Bose

- ❖ Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was born on **January 23, 1897, in Cuttack, Odisha**.
- ❖ In **1921** he resigned from the **Indian Civil Service** and returned to India.
- ❖ In **1923**, **Netaji** was elected the **President of All India Youth Congress Committee** and the Secretary of Bengal State Congress. Subhash Chandra Bose briefly served as the mayor of Calcutta in 1930.

- ❖ He took on the **presidency of the Congress in 1938**.
- ❖ He was a charismatic influencer of the youth and earned the epithet '**Netaji**' by establishing and leading the **Indian National Army (INA)** during India's struggle for independence.
- ❖ He died on Aug 18, 1945.

Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana

More than 4 crore (as of November 2024) Sukanya Samriddhi accounts have been opened, with a total deposit of Rs. 2.6 lakh crore, ensuring a secure future for girls.



Key Points

- ❖ The 22nd January 2025, marks the **10 years of Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana** encouraging families to invest in the bright futures of their daughters, fostering a culture of inclusion and progress.
- ❖ **Launched on:** It was launched on 22nd January 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as part of the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Campaign.
- ❖ **Requirements:** The guardian can open the account immediately **after the birth of the girl child till she attains the age of 10 years**. Any girl child who is a **resident Indian from the time** of opening the account till the time of maturity/closure is eligible for the scheme.
- ❖ **Only one account is allowed per child.** Parents can open a maximum of two accounts for each of their children. However, there is an exception allowed for more accounts in case of twins or triplets. The account can be transferred to anywhere in India.

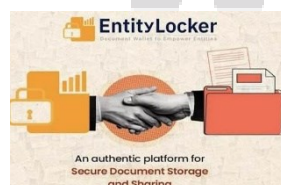
- ❖ **Minimum and Maximum deposits:** This scheme allows parents to open a Sukanya Samriddhi account for girls at any post office or designated commercial bank branch, starting with a **minimum initial deposit of ₹250**, and subsequent deposits can be made in multiples of ₹50, provided that at least ₹250 is deposited in a financial year.
- ❖ The total annual deposit limit is **capped at ₹1,50,000**; any excess amount will not earn interest and will be returned. Deposits can be made for a period of up to fifteen years from the account opening date.

Entity Locker

The National eGovernance Division (NeGD), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has developed Entity Locker.

Key Points

- ❖ What is it? Entity Locker is a **secure, cloud-based solution** that **simplifies the storage, sharing, and verification of documents for a wide range of entities**, including large organisations, corporations, micro, small, and medium Enterprises (MSMEs), trusts, startups and societies.
- ❖ **Aligning with budget:** The platform is a critical component of **India's Digital Public Infrastructure**, aligning with the vision of the Union Budget 2024-25 for enhanced digital governance and ease of doing business.



Features

- ❖ Entity Locker is built on a **robust technological framework that integrates with multiple government and regulatory systems, offering:**
 - Real-time access and verification of documents through integration with government databases
 - Consent-based mechanisms for secure sharing of sensitive information.
 - Aadhaar-authenticated role-based access management to ensure accountability.
 - 10 GB of encrypted cloud storage for secure document management.
 - Legally valid digital signatures for authenticating documents.

Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman

On 24th January 2025, the Department of Justice organized an event at Maha Kumbh, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, to celebrate the successful run of the year-long nationwide campaign, "Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman" (HS2).

Key Points

- ❖ **Launched:** The 'Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman' campaign was launched by the **Hon'ble Vice President of India at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi on 24 January 2024.**
- ❖ The campaign is a resounding **call to action for every citizen to actively contribute to shaping the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.**
- ❖ It was launched to commemorate India's 75th year as a Republic and the 75th anniversary of the adoption of its Constitution.


- ❖ **Participation:** This campaign witnessed remarkable participation, **with over 1.3 lakhs citizens enthusiastically taking the Panch Pran Pledge on the MyGov platform**, reflecting their commitment to nation-building.
- Under the **Gram Vidhi Chetna initiative**, students of law schools across the country organized legal awareness activities within adopted villages and ensured participation at ground level by reaching out to approximately 21,000+ beneficiaries.
- **Nari Bhagidari and Vanchit Varg Samman initiative** effectively engaged more than 70 lakh audiences through impactful webinars organized by the Department of Justice in partnership with Doordarshan and IGNOU, fostering women's participation in legal and social matters.
- To inspire the youth, under the **Nav Bharat Nav Sankalp campaign**, various interactive competitions were conducted, encouraging their active

involvement and fostering a sense of responsibility for a better future.

Short News- Uttar Pradesh

- ❖ On 22nd January 2025, the Union Minister for Culture and Tourism, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, inaugurated the **'Bhagwat' exhibition at the Allahabad Museum**. It is based on **miniature paintings**. The exhibition is curated by this historic museum of Prayagraj, is a meaningful attempt to embellish this special occasion. It is through the collective effort of everyone that this unparalleled Kumbh is becoming divine and grand.
- ❖ The Namami Gange Pavilion, set up by the **Namami Gange Mission in Prayagraj**, is attracting a significant number of visitors every day, at the Mahakumbh-2025.
- This pavilion has become an innovative medium for spreading awareness about the cleanliness and conservation efforts undertaken by the Government for the Ganga River.

Person In News- Appointments

Justice Alok Aradhe	He took oath as the 48th Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court . Governor CP Radhakrishnan administered the oath of office to Justice Aradhe at the Raj Bhavan.	
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Places In News

Mount Ibu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ It is a volcano in eastern Indonesia and it has erupted at least a thousand times this month (January 2025). ❖ Mount Ibu is located on the remote island of Halmahera in North Maluku province, sent a column of smoke up to four kilometers (2.5 miles) into the sky in an eruption. ❖ It is an active stratovolcano.
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Awards/Titles


<p>Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2025</p>	<p>The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) has been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2025, in the Institutional Category, for its excellent work in Disaster Management.</p> <p>About the Awards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The Government of India, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has instituted an annual award known as Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar to recognize and honour the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by individuals and organizations in India in the field of disaster management. ❖ The award is announced every year on 23rd January, the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. ❖ The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 51 lakh and a certificate in case of an institution and Rs. 5 lakh and a certificate in case of an individual. <p>About INCOIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) was established in 1999, Hyderabad, Telangana. ❖ The INCOIS is integral to India's disaster management strategy, specializing in early alerts for ocean-related hazards. ❖ It established the Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre (ITEWC) which provides tsunami alerts within 10 minutes, serving India and 28 Indian Ocean countries. ❖ It has been recognized by UNESCO as a top Tsunami Service Provider.
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Important Days/Dates


<p>January 25</p>	<p>National Voters Day</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The 15th National Voters' Day (NVD) is to be celebrated across the country on 25th January. ❖ The Hon'ble President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu will be the Chief Guest. ❖ This Year's Theme "Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure" is a continuation of last year's theme emphasizing the importance of participation in the electoral process, and encouraging voters to take pride in exercising their franchise. ❖ The first copy of the ECI Coffee Table Book titled "India Votes 2024: A saga of democracy" will be
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		<p>presented to the Hon'ble President by Chief Election Commissioner Shri Rajiv Kumar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A short clip of the upcoming docu-drama series "India Decides" produced by Warner Bros Discovery will also be released at the event. ❖ An ECI publication "Belief in the Ballot: Human stories shaping India's 2024 elections" will also be presented to the Hon'ble President by the Commission. The book is a curated set of human interest stories that set these elections apart. ❖ Since 2011, National Voters' Day has been observed annually on January 25 to commemorate the foundation day of the Election Commission of India, established on January 25, 1950, a day before India became a Republic.
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Books in News

<p>How India Scaled Mt G20: The Inside Story of the G20 Presidency</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ It is a book authored by G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant. ❖ It gives an intense behind-the-scenes outlook to strategic maneuvering and backroom diplomacy that defined India's successful presidency and Prime Minister Modi's vision for a forward-looking agenda and a masterclass roadmap in complex global challenges.
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Species in News

<p>Midges</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Researchers from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) have identified 23 species of blood-sucking flies in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. ❖ 13 of them were recorded for the first time in the country. ❖ These tiny insects, also called midges, are similar in appearance to flies but are more closely related to mosquitoes in their feeding habits. ❖ They belong to the Culicoides genus. ❖ They are locally called bhusi files. ❖ They feed on the blood of livestock like sheep, goats, cattle and wild animals like deer. ❖ The 17 of the 23 identified species are capable of biting humans although no evidence of human disease transmission has been reported so far.
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Miscellaneous

- ❖ IDFC FIRST Bank launches **FIRST EA₹N RuPay credit card** with UPI, FD, cashback features. Customers have the opportunity to receive a yearly interest rate of 7.25% on a fixed deposit with a duration of 1 year and 1 day. The FIRST EA₹N Credit Card is obtained by securing a Fixed Deposit.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has directed banks to **use specific phone numbering series for transactional and promotional purposes to prevent financial fraud.**
 - The '1600xx' series is for transactional calls, while the '140xx' series is for promotions.
 - Banks must also monitor and clean customer databases and follow Telecom Regulatory Authority of India guidelines, aiming for compliance by March 31, 2025.
- ❖ **Tripura, Manipur & Meghalaya Celebrated Statehood Day on January 21st.** On January 21, 1972, the north-eastern states of Manipur, Tripura, and Meghalaya achieved the status of full states within the Indian Union.
- ❖ The **Ministry of Defence (MoD)** has signed a contract with **Heavy Vehicles Factory, a unit of Armoured Vehicle Nigam Limited, for the procurement of 47 Tank-72 Bridge Laying Tanks (BLT) for the Indian Army** at a total cost of Rs 1,560.52 crore.
 - The **BLT is a critical equipment which is employed to launch bridges during offensive/defensive operations by Mechanised Forces.**
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the **setting up of a Standing External Advisory Committee (SEAC), which will evaluate applications for Universal Banks as well as Small Finance Banks (SFBs).**
 - The tenure of the SEAC will be for three years.
 - The committee will be **headed by MK Jain, former Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India, as the chairperson and will have five members.**
- ❖ The **Union Agriculture Ministry** has started the first-ever survey to know the **pattern of edible oil consumption in the country.** It is a 45 days, questionnaire-based survey.
- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has **approved the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of Raw Jute for Marketing season 2025-26.** The MSP of Raw Jute (TD-3 grade) has been fixed at Rs.5,650/- per quintal for 2025-26 season.
- ❖ The Khelo India season starts with the **Khelo India Winter Games 2025 in Ladakh on 23 January 2025.**
 - Nineteen teams, comprising states, Union Territories and institutional outfits, will compete over five days in two events ice-hockey and ice-skating. This will be the first part of KIWG 2025. The **second part, featuring snow games like skiing, will be hosted by Jammu & Kashmir from February 22-25.**

