

India Water Week (IWW)

The **8th India Water Week-2024** will be inaugurated by President Smt. Draupadi Murmu on September 17, 2024 in New Delhi in the august presence of Union Jal Shakti Minister Shri C.R. Patil and Minister of State Shri Raj Bhushan Choudhary.

Key Points -

- ❖ **Ministry:** This international event is being organized by the **Ministry of Jal Shakti** from **17th to 20th September 2024 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi**.
- ❖ **Participant:** The event will be attended by eminent delegates including experts from the water resources sector from various countries as well as Ministers and senior officials of the Central and State Governments, scholars from various academic institutions, representatives of NGOs and civil society.
- ❖ **Subject:** 'Partnerships and Collaboration for Inclusive Water Development and Management'.
- ❖ **Objective:** The objective of India Water Week was to create public awareness and garner support for implementing key strategies to conserve, protect and optimally utilise available water.

Main attractions of the program-

- ❖ Inaugural Session and Ministerial Meeting, where Ministers will share their perspectives and vision on the water sector.
- ❖ **Global Water Leaders Meeting**, where global experts in the water sector will share their practical and thought-provoking ideas for the water sector.
- ❖ **Country Forum** with countries like Denmark, Israel, Australia, Singapore etc.

- ❖ **Practitioners Forum**, where government, private and non-government experts will share experiences of implementing water sector programmes and initiatives, highlighting best practices.
- ❖ **Startup Forum**, where startups will get an opportunity to present their ideas in the water sector.
- ❖ The exhibition showcases high-tech solutions and technologies from several countries like Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Colombia, the UK, the USA, several African countries, etc.
- ❖ More than 5000 delegates from across the globe will participate in these events and conference sessions.

'Operation Sadbhav'

India recently launched '**Operation Sadbhav**' which will help the country's worst affected by **Typhoon Yagi** namely Myanmar, Vietnam and Laos.

Key Points-

- ❖ Under Operation Sadbhav, India has provided assistance to the Government of Vietnam to provide relief to the affected communities in Northern Vietnam affected by the natural disaster.
- ❖ **Help:** A consignment of 35 tonnes of humanitarian aid, including water purification materials, water containers, blankets, kitchen utensils solar lanterns, etc. was delivered to Vietnam today by a special aircraft.
- ❖ Humanitarian assistance to Vietnam is testimony to the enduring close ties between the two countries, marked by our comprehensive strategic partnership.

- ❖ **HADR:** India has been one of the first responders to provide **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)** to the affected countries. Operation Sadbhav is part of India's broader effort to contribute to HADR in the ASEAN region, in line with its long-term 'Act East Policy'.

Bhaskar Platform

The name **Bhaskar**, which means 'rising sun', was chosen for the **digital platform** by the Union Commerce and Industry Minister while launching the Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry (Bhaskar) initiative under the 'Startup India' programme in New Delhi.

Key Points-

- ❖ Bhaskar is designed to integrate and empower India's fast-growing startup ecosystem, providing a one-stop solution for seamless collaboration, knowledge sharing, and innovation.
- ❖ **Objective:** Bhaskar aims to bring together incubators, policymakers and other key stakeholders of the startup ecosystem under one roof to make it easier to access and discover.
- ❖ With over 1.4 lakh DPIIT-recognised startups by August 2024, India has established itself as one of the largest and most vibrant startup ecosystems globally.
- ❖ **Main features of Bhaskar:**
 - **Industry Alliances:** By bringing together stakeholders from different sectors, industries, technologies and regions, the platform creates opportunities for collaboration for all.

- **Dynamic Networking:** Easily connect and collaborate with like-minded people through personalized dashboards and features to interact with each other.
- **Increasing Visibility:** Make yourself visible using profile cards to get discovered in the startup ecosystem.
- Bhaskar will serve as a **central one-stop digital platform** that will house the ever-evolving startup ecosystem stakeholders under one roof, making it the largest digital registry of the startup ecosystem in the world in the times to come.

Namo Bharat Rapid Rail

Giving a boost to the country's railway infrastructure, Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the country's **first Vande Metro** (now renamed as Namu Bharat Rapid Rail Service) between Bhuj and Ahmedabad.

Key Point-

- ❖ The Ahmedabad-Bhuj Vande Metro service will stop at **nine stations** and cover the distance of 360 km in 5 hours 45 minutes at a maximum speed of 110 kmph.
- ❖ Developed on the same platform as the Vande Bharat Express, the Vande Metro train is a **self-propelled train** set designed for short-distance inter-city travel.
- ❖ However, unlike Vande Bharat which is a semi-high speed 160 kmph train set, the Vande Metro trains will have a **maximum speed limit of 130 kmph**.

Person In News- Appointment

Atishi Marlena



- ❖ Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MLAs in their legislative meeting on September 17 have elected Atishi Marlena as the new Chief Minister (CM) of Delhi.
- ❖ Atishi holds the maximum number of departments including Education, Finance, Revenue, and Law.
- ❖ With this, she will be the third woman Chief Minister of Delhi. Before her, former External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Sheila Dixit held this post.

Zafar Hassan



- ❖ Recently, Jordan's King Abdullah II named his Chief of Staff Jaafar Hassan as the new Prime Minister.
- ❖ Under Jordan's constitution, the government usually resigns after legislative elections. The Prime Minister is appointed by the King, not the parliament, which has limited powers.

Books in news

Sushil Kumar Shinde

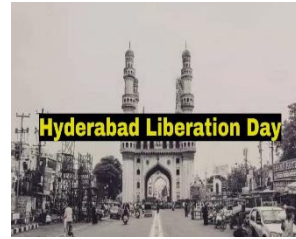
'Five Decades in Politics'

- ❖ The book "Five Decades of Politics" is the autobiography of Sushil Kumar Shinde.
- ❖ Politician Sushil Kumar Shinde has held the positions of Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Union Home Minister, General Secretary of All India Congress Committee, etc.

Important Days/Dates

17 September

Hyderabad Liberation Day



- ❖ Hyderabad Liberation Day is celebrated on September 17 to commemorate the liberation of the region from Nizam rule and its integration into the Indian Union in 1948.
- ❖ Hyderabad was a major Indian princely state under the Nizams, who accepted British sovereignty. The seventh Nizam, Mir Osman Ali, was one of the wealthiest men in the world.
- ❖ Due to its strategic size and location, Hyderabad was one of the last princely states to merge with India after independence.

Species In News

Anaimalai Flying Frog



- ❖ The Herpetofauna survey revealed rich biodiversity in Grass Hills National Park, and Kariyan Shola National Park in the Pollachi division of ATR.
- ❖ The survey, conducted from September 3 to 5, identified 20 species of reptiles and 34 species of amphibians.

- ❖ The survey team recorded 11 reptile species and 12 amphibian species in Grass Hills National Park, spread over 3,122 hectares in the Valaparai forest range.
- ❖ Important amphibian discoveries included the critically endangered Anaimalai flying frog (*Rhacophorus pseudomalabaricus*) and the Deccan night frog (*Nyctibatrachus deccanensis*), which thrive in moist montane forests and rivers.

Sports

India's Asian Team Championship silver medallist Anmol Kharb won her first individual international badminton title.

Key Points-

- ❖ Unseeded 17-year-old Anmol Kharab, currently ranked 222 in the world, defeated world number 80 Amalie Schulz of Denmark 24-22, 12-21, 21-10.
- ❖ The Belgium International Badminton Tournament 2024 was held from Wednesday 11 to Saturday 14 September 2024 in **Leuven, Belgium**.
- ❖ Last year at the age of 16, Anmol Kharab won the women's singles title at the National Badminton Championships 2023.

Important News- Other States

Maharashtra

- ❖ Vice President of India Jagdeep Dhankhar presided over the inauguration of the Sanvidhan Mandir at Elphinstone Technical High School and Junior College in Mumbai.
- ❖ The Vice President virtually inaugurated the Sanvidhan Mandir at 433 Industrial Training Institutes across Maharashtra from the institute's campus.

Important News- Worldwide

Iran

- ❖ Iran recently launched a research satellite into orbit with a rocket built by the Revolutionary Guards.
- ❖ The Chamran-1 satellite, launched into space by a Qom-100 satellite carrier, has been placed in an orbit of 550 kilometers (340 miles) and its first signals have been received. The solid-fuel carrier was designed and built by the Revolutionary Guards' Aerospace Force.
- ❖ The primary mission of the satellite (weighing 60 kilograms (132 pounds)) is to test hardware and software systems to demonstrate orbital manoeuvring technology in altitude and phase.

Cambodia

- ❖ Cambodia's famous religious and archaeological site Angkor Wat has been named the most photogenic UNESCO World Heritage Site in Asia by Times Travel, announced by Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet on September 15.

Miscellaneous

- ❖ ICRA ESG Ratings Limited has assigned its first Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) rating to **Incred Financial Services**, a non-banking financial company.
 - ICRA ESG received registration as a Category-I ESG Rating Provider (ERP) from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) earlier this financial year.

