

**02<sup>nd</sup> September 2024**

### *Cyclone Asna*

A cyclone is currently forming over the Saurashtra-Kutch region of Gujarat, marking a rare meteorological event.

#### *Key points*

- ❖ As per the IMD, this will be the first cyclonic storm to develop over the Arabian Sea in August since 1976.
- ❖ **Cyclonic storm in August:** Historically, only three cyclonic storms have emerged over the Arabian Sea in August.
  - In 1976, the cyclone developed over Odisha, moved west-northwestwards, emerged into the Arabian Sea, made a looping track and weakened over the northwest Arabian Sea near the Oman coast.
  - Before this, in 1964, a brief cyclone formed near the South Gujarat coast and weakened as it approached the shore. In 1944, another cyclone strengthened after entering the Arabian Sea but then weakened while still at sea.
- ❖ **Naming:** The cyclone is to be named, Cyclone Asna, a name suggested by Pakistan, once it strengthens into a cyclonic storm.

A cyclone is a large-scale air mass that rotates around a strong center of low atmospheric pressure. It is characterized by its spiral arrangement of thunderstorms that produce strong winds, heavy rainfall, and often severe weather conditions.

### *World Skills 2024*

India is set to showcase its young talent at the WorldSkills 2024 to be held in Lyon, France.

#### *Key Points*

- ❖ The WorldSkills Competition is a **biannual skills competition**, often considered as the Olympic Games of international skilling events.

- ❖ **Sectors involved:** The competition showcases excellence in skills across various sectors, including construction, manufacturing, information technology, and creative arts.
- ❖ **Age group:** Competitors, typically under the age of 23, engage in rigorous testing, completing tasks that reflect contemporary industry standards.
- ❖ For the first time, international trainers were invited to the country and competitors were also sent to countries like South Korea, Japan, Austria, Thailand, and Dubai, with Switzerland for international exposure and rigorous training.
- ❖ More than 52 WorldSkills experts, along with support from over 100 industry and academic partners, have been involved in training and preparing the India Contingent which is one of the largest groups representing their country at WorldSkills Lyon.

India Skills is an initiative by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. It serves as a national platform for skill competitions, aiming to identify and nurture talented youth in various vocational fields.

### Short News

- ❖ On 31st August, 2024, the Prime Minister of India flagged off three Vande Bharat trains on three routes: **Meerut—Lucknow, Madurai—Bengaluru, and Chennai—Nagercoil**. These trains will boost connectivity in Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The Meerut City - Lucknow Vande Bharat will help passengers save around 1 hour in comparison to the current fastest train between the two cities.

### Place In News

Dhulikhel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ It has been declared as the first 'healthy city' of Nepal by the World Health Organisation.</li> <li>❖ India's Pune City Banda is the first healthy city in Asia and Dhulikhel has been declared second with a score of 65.48.</li> </ul>
-----------	--

### Important Days/Dates

31st August	7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The 7th Rashtriya Poshan Maah was launched from Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.</li> <li>❖ The event, centered on promoting nutrition related awareness and well-being across the nation</li> </ul>
-------------	---------------------------	--

### Sports

#### Paris Paralympics 2024

- ❖ Rubina Francis won Bronze in P2 - Women's 10M Air Pistol SH1 event at the Paris Paralympics 2024. Rubina scored a total of 211.1 to finish third in the final.
- ❖ Avani Lekhara, on 30th August, 2024, successfully defended her women's 10m air rifle shooting standing SH1 title at the Paris 2024 Paralympics, becoming the first Indian woman to win two gold medals in the Games' history.
- ❖ Manish Narwal added a silver medal in the men's 10m air pistol SH1 event.

In SH1 class, athletes are able to hold their gun without difficulty and shoot from a standing or sitting position in a wheelchair or chair.

### Miscellaneous

- ❖ SJVN has been conferred with prestigious Navratna status by the Department of Public Enterprises, Government of India. This prestigious recognition, making the company the 25th Navratna of India. The company, established in 1988 as a joint venture between the Government of India and the Government of Himachal Pradesh, has grown into a multi-faceted power entity with operations across India and Nepal.
- ❖ NHPC Limited has been accorded with the prestigious status of 'Navratna' company by the Government of India. It will enable faster decision-making, increase efficiency and empower employees. It will support major CAPEX and investment plans, drive growth, expand market reach and achieve long-term gains.
- ❖ Sanjay Leela Bhansali's *Heeramandi* is nominated for 'Best OTT Original' and 'Best Original Song' at the Busan International Film Festival.

○○○○

