

### Economy

#### Economic Freedom of the World: 2024 Annual Report

Why in the news?

According to the "Economic Freedom of the World: 2024 Annual Report" released by the Fraser Institute:

- ❖ Hong Kong has been ranked the freest economy in the world among 165 economies.
  - Hong Kong's score of 8.58 edged out Singapore's 8.55, which is at 2nd position.
  - Singapore had dethroned Hong Kong as the freest economy for the first time since 1970 in 2023.
- ❖ Switzerland is ranked at 3rd position followed by New Zealand at 4th and USA at 5th position.
- ❖ India has been ranked at 84th position (Score: 6.58) among 165 economies.
- ❖ Venezuela is ranked last at 165th position with a score of 3.02.

### Science And Technology

#### India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2024

Why in the news?

The eighth edition of India Mobile Congress took place from 15-18 October 2024 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

- ❖ It was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi.
- ❖ The theme of the India Mobile Congress 2024: 'The Future is Now'.
- ❖ It was hosted by the Department of Telecommunications, Government of India.
- ❖ It was held in concurrence with World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) 24, the governing conference of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Standardization Sector (ITU-T).

#### About Indian Mobile Congress:

- ❖ It is Asia's largest digital technology forum.
- ❖ It has become a well-known platform across the globe for showcasing innovative solutions, services and state-of-the-art use cases for industry, government, academics, startups and other key stakeholders in the technology and telecom ecosystem.
  - The India Mobile Congress 2024 showcased over 400 exhibitors, about 900 startups, and participation from over 120 countries.



### World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA 2024)

- ❖ India hosted the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) in Delhi.
  - It is a quadrennial event and serves as the governing conference of the ITU (International Telecommunication Union) Standardisation Sector (ITU-T).
  - It was held for the first time in ITU's (International Telecommunication Union) history of 150 yrs in India.
  - HQ of ITU: Geneva, Switzerland.

### Defence And Security

#### Swavlamban Shakti

##### Why in the news?

The Army's Sudarshan Chakra Corps of Southern Command began "Exercise SWAVLAMBAN" SHAKTI' at Babina Field Firing Ranges near Jhansi.

- ❖ **Objective:**
  - To integrate New Technology Equipment (NTEs) into the Army's offensive strategies, ensuring readiness for future warfare scenarios.

- ❖ The XXI Corps or Sudarshan Chakra Corps, a strike corps of the army, is headquartered in Bhopal.



### Schemes In News

#### Samarth Scheme

##### Why in the news?

Samarth Scheme has been extended for two years (FY 2024-25 and 2025-26) with a budget of Rs. 495 Crore to train 3 lakh persons in textile-related skills.

- ❖ **Samarth: Scheme For Capacity Building In Textile Sector:**
  - ❖ It is a flagship skill development scheme approved in continuation to the Integrated Skill Development Scheme for 12th FYP.
- ❖ **Objective:**
  - It aims to encourage and support the industry in creating jobs in the organized textile and related sectors, covering the entire value chain of textiles, excluding spinning and weaving.

- It also provides upskilling/ reskilling programs to improve the productivity of existing workers in Apparel & Garmenting segments.

### Miscellaneous

#### National Learning Week

##### Why in the news?

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the 'Karmayogi Saptah' - National Learning Week on 19th October at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.

##### About the National Learning Week(NLW):

- ❖ **Objective:** To create a "One Government" message, align everyone with national goals and promote lifelong learning.
  - It will stimulate a renewed commitment to learning and development.
  - During NLW, each Karmayogi will commit to achieving a target of at least 4 hours of competency-linked learning.
- ❖ It will be the largest event of its kind providing fresh impetus towards individual and organizational capacity development for Civil Servants.



### Awards and Honors

#### 2024 Conscious Companies Awards

##### Why in the news?

Mohanji has been honored with "Humanitarian award" at the 9th Conscious Companies Awards held in Johannesburg, South Africa.

- ❖ He is a globally recognized humanitarian and philanthropist who has devoted his life to guiding people from selfishness to selflessness.
  - His mission is to awaken kindness in the hearts of people and inspire them to embrace the highest values of human potential—compassion, kindness, and non-violence.
  - He is deeply committed to helping humanity make the transition from "humankind" to "kind humans," believing that humanity is the best religion and ahimsa (non-violence) in thoughts, words, and actions is the best spiritual practice.

### About the award:

- ❖ The Conscious Companies Awards are dedicated to recognizing individuals and organizations that promote ethical behavior and sustainable practices, fostering leadership that not only prioritizes profits but also enhances the well-being of people and the planet.



### National Kishore Kumar Award

#### Why in the news?

Rajkumar Hirani has been honored with the National Kishore Kumar Award.

- ❖ He was honored on the occasion of the 37th death anniversary of renowned singer and actor Kishore Kumar in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh.

### About the award:

- ❖ The award is given every year to an eminent artist by the Directorate of Culture, Madhya Pradesh Government from 1997.



### Important Days/ Dates

#### Police Commemoration Day

#### Why in the news?

October 21 is observed as "Police Commemoration Day" across the country to pay homage to police martyrs.

#### ❖ History of this day:

- On October 21, 1959, ten valiant Policemen laid down their lives in an ambush laid by heavily armed Chinese troops at Hot Springs, Ladakh.
- October 21 is observed in commemoration of these martyrs and of all other martyrs who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

#### National Police Memorial

- ❖ It is situated in Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.
- ❖ It was dedicated to the nation on Police Commemoration Day-2018 by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.
- **Objective:** To honor the sacrifices made by Police personnel and their paramount role in preserving national security and integrity.





### Books And Authors

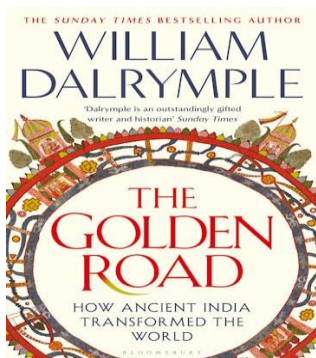
#### **The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World**

##### **Why in the news?**

The book "The Golden Road: How Ancient India Transformed the World" has been authored by

**William Dalrymple.**

- ❖ In this book, he has highlighted India's oft-forgotten position as a crucial economic and civilisational hub at the heart of the ancient and early medieval history of Eurasia.
- ❖ From Angkor to Ayutthaya, The Golden Road traces the cultural flow of Indian religions, languages, artistic and architectural forms and mathematics throughout the world.



### News in Short

- ❖ India and Bhutan will enhance their collaboration to further boost energy production from the Puna-1 Hydroelectric Power (HEP) Project.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a two-day visit to Russia from the 22nd October to attend the 16th Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) Summit, 2024.
- ❖ Indian batsman Virat Kohli has become the fourth (after Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid, and Sunil Gavaskar) Indian batsman to reach nine thousand Test runs.
- ❖ Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha has appointed National Conference MLA Mubarak Gul as the pro tem Speaker of the new Legislative Assembly.
- ❖ In Madhya Pradesh, in a first of its kind of initiative, 'pink alarms' have been installed at the government-run district hospital and medical college in Datia for women safety.

- ❖ *INS Shardul as part of long range training deployment has concluded its visit to Port Rashid, Dubai, UAE.*
  - *It is an important milestone in strengthening maritime cooperation between India and UAE.*

- ❖ *Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS) - INS Tir and ICGS Veera has completed their long range training deployment to Manama, Bahrain.*



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