

28th September 2024

Global Innovation Index, 2024

India has moved up to 39th place among 133 global economies in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2024.



Key Point

- ❖ India also ranks first among the 10 economies in the Central and Southern Asia region.
- ❖ India also ranked 1st among lower-middle-income economies and 4th in the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Science & Technology (S&T) Cluster Ranking.
- ❖ India's rise in the GI ranking is notable, as the country was ranked 81st in 2015.
- ❖ According to the World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) GI 2024, Switzerland, Sweden, the US, Singapore, and the UK are the world's most innovative economies, while China, Turkey, India, Vietnam, and the Philippines are the fastest climbers over the past decade.
- ❖ The GI, which started in 2007 by INSEAD, a business school, and World Business, a British magazine, provides a comprehensive measure of global innovation.

Best Tourism Villages Competition-2024

Ministry of Tourism, Government of India announced winners of the **Best Tourism Villages Competition 2024**, on 27th September 2024, on the occasion of World Tourism Day.



Key Point

- ❖ To promote tourism to the Soul of India (India's villages), the Best Tourism Villages Competition was introduced in 2023.
- ❖ The focus was to identify and recognize villages that preserve and promote cultural and natural assets through community-based values and commitment to sustainability in all aspects.
- ❖ The first edition of the Best Tourism Villages Competition in 2023 saw applications from 795 villages.
- ❖ In the second edition of the Best Tourism Villages Competition, a total of 991 applications were received from 30 States and UTs, out of which 36 villages were recognized as winners across 8 categories of the Best Tourism Villages Competition 2024.

- ❖ Prampur from Ashoknagar district, Madhya Pradesh, was awarded for Craft.
- ❖ Sabarvani from Chhindwara district, Madhya Pradesh, was honoured for Responsible Tourism.
- ❖ Ladpura Khas from Orchha district, Madhya Pradesh, was recognized for Responsible Tourism.

Paryatan Mitra and Paryatan Didi – A National Responsible Tourism Initiative

Ministry of Tourism, Government of India launched a national responsible tourism initiative by the name of 'Paryatan Mitra & Paryatan Didi'



Key Point

- ❖ Ministry of Tourism piloted Paryatan Mitra and Paryatan Didi in 6 tourist destinations across India namely - Orchha (Madhya Pradesh), Gandikota (Andhra Pradesh) Bodh Gaya (Bihar), Aizawl (Mizoram), Jodhpur (Rajasthan), and Sri Vijaya Puram (Andaman & Nicobar Islands).

- ❖ Through this initiative, the Ministry of Tourism aims to elevate the overall experience for tourists in destinations, by having them meet 'tourist-friendly' people who are proud Ambassadors & Storytellers for their destination.
- ❖ Through Paryatan Mitra & Paryatan Didi, special emphasis is being placed on the training of women and youth to enable them to develop new tourism products & experiences like heritage walks, food tours, and crafts.
- ❖ Since the pilot of this program on August 15th this year, around 3,000 people have been trained in the 6 pilot destinations on the importance of creating a positive experience for tourists, thereby being a Paryatan Mitra.

Param Rudra Supercomputers

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation three PARAM Rudra Supercomputers via video conferencing.



Key Point

- ❖ Developed indigenously under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).
- ❖ These supercomputers have been deployed in Pune, Delhi and Kolkata to facilitate pioneering scientific research.
- ❖ **National Supercomputing Mission (NSM):**
 - Launched in 2015, the ambitious Rs 4,500-crore project is led jointly by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the Department of Science and Technology.
 - **Aim:** To create a powerful supercomputing capability for the country and offer powerful computational facilities to boost research.
 - The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) were entrusted to spearhead the seven-year mission, ending in 2022.
 - A National Knowledge Network (NKN), a grid, will connect 70 supercomputers across 75 research institutions with over a thousand researchers using this facility.

- In the first phase of NSM, PARAM Shivay, PARAM Shakti, PARAM Brahma, PARAM Yukti and PARAM Sanganak were deployed at IIT (BHU), IIT Kharagpur, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune, and Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Research.
- Currently, India's most powerful, civilian supercomputers are Pratyush and Mihir, with a combined capacity of 6.8 petaflops.

About Supercomputers:

- ❖ They are the most powerful and fastest computers (in terms of data processing speed). Supercomputers are designed to process massive amounts of data, such as trillions of instructions or data, in a single second.
- ❖ This is due to supercomputers' thousands of interconnected processors.
- ❖ It was invented in 1976 by Seymour Roger Cray.
- ❖ India's first domestic supercomputer, the PARAM 8000, was built by C-DAC in 1991.
- ❖ Vijay Pandurang Bhatkar is called the father of supercomputers in India.

World's Third Largest Producer And Consumer Of Ethanol

Food and Public Distribution Minister Pralhad Joshi has said that India has become the World's third-largest Producer and Consumer of Ethanol. While inaugurating the two-day India Sugar and Bio-Energy conference in New Delhi,



Key Point

- ❖ In the last decade sugarcane cultivation increased by about 18 percent while sugarcane production has increased by 40 percent.
- ❖ The vital role of the farmers in the country's renewable energy landscape from being the Anna Dattas to becoming Urja Dattas.
- ❖ India is the second largest producer of sugarcane next to Brazil and therefore, both countries can cooperate and collaborate on production and use of biofuels like ethanol, biodiesel, biojet fuel etc.

UP and MP Partner on 8 GW Solar Power Projects

Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Uttar Pradesh (UP) are partnering to develop 8 gigawatts (Gw) of solar power plants a first-of-its-kind initiative in India through which two states are co-developing RE projects to share power.



Key Point

- ❖ These projects would supply power to each state during high demand seasons, alternating every six months.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh: Faces peak demand from October to March this being the rabi cropping season.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh: High demand the shipment is experienced in the middle of the year between April and September during the kharif cropping season.
- ❖ These seasonal demand patterns will then be incorporated in the distribution of solar power.
- ❖ Thus, the first phase of development will include the creation of a 2 GW project, with Morena (MP) as one of the potential project locations.

- ❖ Madhya Pradesh: Proposals to expand its renewable power generating capability to 20 GW in the year 2030 from the present 9 GW.

Harini Amarasuriya

Sri Lanka's new president, Anura Kumara Dissanayake, named Harini Amarasuriya, a college professor and first-time lawmaker, as the new prime minister of the Indian Ocean island nation.



Key Point

- ❖ Amarasuriya is the third woman prime minister of Sri Lanka, following the world's first woman prime minister, Sirimavo Bandaranaike in 1960..
- ❖ She belongs to the National People's Power coalition.
- ❖ She is an alumna of Hindu College, New Delhi.
- ❖ She is also the first academician turned politician to become the prime minister of Sri Lanka.

About Sri Lanka

- ❖ Capital - Jayawardhapura Kotte
- ❖ Currency - Sri Lankan Rupee
- ❖ President - Anura Kumara Dissanayake
- ❖ Prime minister - Harini Amarasuriya

Short News

- ❖ India has been elected to the fifteen-member steering committee of the **GlobE Network** following a multi-stage voting process during a plenary session in Beijing.
- ❖ Veteran **Kamal Chawla** secured the gold medal in the 2024 IBSF World Men's 6-Red Snooker Championship by defeating a player from Pakistan in the final.
- ❖ Minister of Communications, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia visited the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) Bengaluru Campus and inaugurated 5G O-RAN testing lab.
- ❖ Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, on the occasion of World Tourism Day, on 27th September 2024 launched the Incredible India Content Hub on the revamped Incredible India digital portal.

❖ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has projected India's economic growth at 7% for the financial year 2024 and 7.2% for FY2025, stating that the country's economy remains strong.

❖ India is set to make a significant mark in the telecommunications sector by hosting the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) in New Delhi, from October 15th to 24th.

Important Daily Current Affairs Question

1. Who among the following recently became the third woman Prime Minister of Sri Lanka?

- (a) Sirimavo Bandaranaike
- (b) Chandrika Kumaratunga
- (c) Harini Amarasuriya
- (d) Ranil Wickremesinghe

Answer – (c)

2. Which of the following villages in Madhya Pradesh won the Best Tourism Villages Competition-2024 in the Responsible Tourism category .

- (a) Ladpura Khas
- (b) Sabarvani
- (c) A and B
- (d) Pranpur

Answer – (c)

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