

QUAD 2024

The Prime Minister of India participated in the Quad Leaders' Summit.

More on News

- ❖ The fourth Quad Leaders' Summit was hosted by the US in Wilmington, Delaware.
- ❖ President Joseph R. Biden of the US, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia, Prime Minister Kishida Fumio of Japan, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the summit.

About QUAD

- ❖ It is a group of four countries **India, Australia, Japan, and the US** with a commitment to support an open, free, and inclusive Indo-Pacific.
- ❖ **Aim:** QUAD's initiatives are aimed at complementing the region's development priorities, accelerating the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals, and delivering public goods to countries in the Indo-Pacific region.
- ❖ **Evolution:** The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, or QUAD, was proposed by the then-Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007. It fell dormant for a decade and was resurrected in 2017, with a Joint Working Meeting on the sidelines of the ASEAN Summit. Quad saw a natural evolution and elevation in 2021, with the first Quad Leaders' Summit taking place in virtual format on 12 March that year.



- ❖ **Host:** India is all set to host the QUAD Summit next year (2025).

Key Outcomes of QUAD 2024

Quad Cancer Moonshot

- ❖ The Quad launched the historic Quad Cancer Moonshot, a collective effort to leverage public and private resources to reduce the number of lives lost to cancer in the Indo-Pacific, with an initial focus on cervical cancer.
- ❖ Altogether, the Quad Cancer Moonshot is projected **to save hundreds of thousands of lives over the coming decades.**

Wilmington Declaration

- ❖ The Quad alliance of the US, Japan, India, and Australia has issued a joint declaration emphasizing their **strategic alignment and commitment to Indo-Pacific peace.**
- ❖ The Wilmington Declaration condemns destabilizing actions or unilateral actions that seek to change the status quo by force or coercion.

MAITRI

- ❖ Quad announced a new regional **Maritime Initiative for Training in the Indo-Pacific (MAITRI)** to enable its partners in the region **Indo-Pacific partners to maximize tools provided through IPMDA** and other Quad partner initiatives, to monitor and secure their waters, enforce their laws, and deter unlawful behavior.
 - IPMDA is a cooperative initiative that aims to improve maritime awareness and response capabilities in the Indo-Pacific region.
- ❖ India will be **hosting the inaugural MAITRI workshop in 2025.**



Indo-Pacific Logistics Network

- ❖ The Quad launched a Quad Indo-Pacific Logistics Network pilot project, to pursue shared **airlift capacity among the four nations and leverage collective logistics strengths**, in order to support civilian response to natural disasters more rapidly and efficiently across the Indo-Pacific region.
- ❖ This effort will complement existing efforts with Indo-Pacific partners.

Coast Guard Cooperation

- ❖ The U.S. Coast Guard, Japan Coast Guard, Australian Border Force, and Indian Coast Guard plan to **launch a first-ever Quad-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission in 2025** in the Indo-Pacific to improve interoperability.
- ❖ Through this effort, members of the Japan Coast Guard, Australian Border Force, and Indian Coast Guard will spend time on board a U.S. Coast Guard vessel operating in the Indo-Pacific.

Quad Ports of the Future Partnership

- ❖ The Quad Ports of the Future Partnership will harness the Quad's expertise to support sustainable and resilient port infrastructure development across the Indo-Pacific, in collaboration with regional partners.
- ❖ **In 2025, Quad partners intend to hold the inaugural Regional Ports and Transportation Conference, hosted by India in Mumbai.**

Semiconductors

- ❖ Quad Leaders welcome the finalization of a Memorandum of Cooperation for the Semiconductor Supply Chains Contingency Network to facilitate collaboration in addressing semiconductor supply chain risks.

QUIN

- ❖ The Quad Investors Network (QUIN) is a **nonprofit initiative launched at the 2023 Quad Leaders' Summit.**
- ❖ The QUIN aims to accelerate investments in critical and emerging technologies across the Indo-Pacific region, bringing together investors, entrepreneurs, technologists, and public institutions from the Quad countries to support innovation that aligns with the Quad's shared values and promotes economic growth, resilience, and regional stability.
- ❖ This year, the QUIN supported ten major strategic investments and partnerships across the Quad in the critical minerals, renewable energy, cybersecurity, and aerospace sectors.

UN's Summit of the future

On 22nd September 2024, Prime Minister of India, along with other heads of state and government attended the United Nations' Summit of the Future.

Key Points

- ❖ The summit was focused on **"Multilateral Solutions for a Better Tomorrow"**.
- ❖ At the summit, the leaders addressed the concerns of the changing world and aim to find solutions that **"protect the needs and interests of current and future generations"**.

- ❖ The summit is significant given the ongoing geopolitical tensions, climate change-related crisis, digital divide and concerns over data privacy.

What is the UN's summit of the future?

- ❖ **Proposed:** The summit of the future was first proposed by the **UN secretary-general, Antonio Guterres, in 2021.**
- ❖ It has been named so as it is a **“once-in-a-generation opportunity”** to reshape human history fostered by international cooperation.
- ❖ The summit is a high-level event, bringing world leaders together to forge a new international consensus on how we deliver a better present and safeguard the future.

10th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

The Indian Parliament hosted the two-day 10th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region Conference in New Delhi.

Key Points

- ❖ The conference was chaired by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, who is also the Chairperson of the CPA India Region.
- ❖ **Attendees:** Forty-six Presiding Officers, four Chairmen, 25 Speakers, three Deputy Chairmen, and 14 Deputy Speakers of Legislatures from States and Union Territories, along with their Principal Secretaries, Secretaries, and accompanying officers, will be attending the conference.
- ❖ **Theme:** The theme of the conference was **‘The Role of Legislative Bodies in the Attainment of Sustainable and Inclusive Development.’**

- ❖ This is the **second occasion** the **CPA India Region Conference** was held in New Delhi.

The **Commonwealth Parliamentary Association India Region** was created in **2004** from the erstwhile CPA Asia Region as one of the nine regions of the CPA. Currently, it has 31 Member Branches, including the Parliament of India and 30 State and Union Territories Legislatures.

Goa Maritime Symposium

The Indian Navy hosted the fifth edition of the Goa Maritime Symposium at Naval War College, Goa.

Key Points

- ❖ The Goa Maritime Symposium is a forum for fostering collaborative thinking, cooperation, and mutual understanding between India and key maritime nations of the Indian Ocean Region.



- ❖ **Theme:** The theme for the event was **Common Maritime Security Challenges in the Indian Ocean Region: Progressing Lines of Efforts to Mitigate Dynamic Threats such as illegal and unregulated fishing and other illegal maritime activities.**

- ❖ The Naval representatives from **12 Indian Ocean Littoral countries** participated: These are Bangladesh, Comoros, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, the Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, the Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.
- The **observers from Kenya and Tanzania** will also attend the event.

International Big Cat Alliance

The Union cabinet has approved the proposal of India to become a member country of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) by signing and ratification of the Framework Agreement on the establishment of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA).

Background

On February 29, 2024 Union Cabinet approved the establishment of International Big Cat Alliance with Headquarters in India with a one-time budgetary support of ₹150 crore for a period of five years from 2023-24 to 2027-28.

Key Points

- ❖ **Launched:** On the occasion of commemorating 50 years of India's Project Tiger on April 9, 2023 the Prime Minister launched an International Big Cat Alliance.
- ❖ **Objective:** It aims at securing the future of cats: tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, puma, jaguar and the cheetah.
- ❖ **Members:** So far four countries have become members of IBCA including **India, Nicaragua, Eswatini and Somalia**.
 - Twenty-four countries (including India) have consented to be members of IBCA and nine international organizations have also consented to be partner organization of IBCA.

- ❖ **All UN member countries** are eligible for becoming the member of IBCA.

PM visits to US

As part of his three-day visit to the United States, PM Modi addressed the members of the Indian diaspora at a community event in New York's Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

Major Takeaways from the Address

- ❖ **Indian consulates:** Prime Minister Modi has announced that two new Indian consulates will be opened in the US in Boston and Los Angeles. This expansion reflects India's commitment to strengthening ties with the Indian diaspora across the United States. India has six consulates in New York, Atlanta, Chicago, Houston, San Francisco and Seattle.
- ❖ **Thiruvalluvar Chair of Tamil studies:** The Prime Minister also announced the opening of a Thiruvalluvar Chair of Tamil studies in the University of Houston.
- ❖ **PUSHUP mantra:** He gave the PUSHUP mantra for making India a developed nation. P stands for Progressive Bharat, U stands for Unstoppable Bharat, S stands for Spiritual Bharat, H stands for Humanity First Bharat, and P stands for Prosperous Bharat.

Earth's Mini Moon

Earth to get 'mini-moon' 2024 PT5, orbiting for 2 months.

Key Points

- ❖ Earth is set to witness a 'mini-moon' called 2024 PT5 (a small asteroid that will not collide with Earth but will orbit around it, similar to the Moon) for a brief period of around two months from **September 29 to November 25, 2024**.

- ❖ **Detection:** It was **first detected on August 7 by NASA** and is estimated to be between 16-138 feet in size, orbiting 2.6 million miles from Earth.
- ❖ **Origin:** 2024 PT5 likely originated from the Arjuna asteroid belt, which contains space rocks that orbit the sun near Earth.

Person In News- Appointments

Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh



He has been appointed as next **Chief of Air Staff**.

He was commissioned into the fighter pilot stream of the Indian Air Force in December 1984.

Justice Tashi Rabstan



He has been appointed as **Chief Justice of J&K and Ladakh High Court**.

Atishi



She has been appointed as the **Chief Minister**. She will head 13 departments, including **Education, Power and Finance**.

Person In News- Achievements

Film Actor Chiranjeevi Konidela



He has been honoured with the award of the **most prolific star in the Indian film industry** by the **Guinness World Records** at an event in **Hyderabad**. He has performed 24 thousand dance moves in 537 songs in his 156 films in several languages in a span of 45 years.

Person In News- Sports

Wrestler Sangram Singh



He became the **first Indian male wrestler to win an MMA (mixed martial arts) fight** at the **Gama International Fighting Championship** Tbilisi in Georgia. Sangram also registered the fastest win ever by an Indian fighter in the 93 kg division in the championship.

Person In News- Worldwide

Anura Kumara Disanayake



He has sworn in as **the President of Sri Lanka**. He will be the ninth executive president of Sri Lanka.

The election Commission conducted a second round of counting for the first time in the country's history as no candidate went beyond the required 50% mark.

Important Days/Dates

September 22

World Rhino Day



Since 2011, World Rhino Day has been celebrated internationally on September 22nd by rhino experts and advocates around the world.

September 23

International Day of Sign Languages



September 23 is International Day of Sign Languages. This day, **recognized by the United Nations in 2017**, celebrates the beauty of sign languages and promotes linguistic diversity.

From September 23 to 29 is being celebrated as the International Week of the Deaf.

Theme: The theme for 2024, **"Sign Up for Sign Language Rights"**, encourages global support for the legal recognition of national sign languages.

Miscellaneous

- ❖ **Nazira Banoo, a talented athlete from the LOC village of Lato in Kargil, UT Ladakh**, won a gold medal in the individual Poomsae under-30 category at the 1st Khelo India Women's Taekwondo League Phase 1, held in Vadodara, Gujarat.
 - The tournament, organised by the Taekwondo Federation of India in collaboration with Khelo India, hosted hundreds of participants from different states and union territories across the country.
- ❖ The **Indian Cancer Genome Atlas (ICGA)** has launched India's first comprehensive cancer multi-omics data portal which provides open access to clinically correlated data from Indian cancer patients, aimed at transforming cancer research and treatment for Indian population.

