

International Relations

Digital Infrastructure Growth Initiative for India Framework (DiGi Framework)

Why in the news?

The United States, Japan and S Korea have announced the launch of a new framework named as DiGi Framework.

- ❖ DiGi Framework stands for Digital Infrastructure Growth Initiative for India Framework
- ❖ Objective: To collaborate with the Indian private sector to support digital infrastructure in India.
 - It will support projects in the information and communications technology sector such as 5G, Open RAN, submarine cables, optical fiber networks, telecom towers, data centres, smart city, e-commerce, AI, and quantum technology



4th Spain-India Forum

Why in the news?

The fourth Spain-India Forum was inaugurated by the President of Spain, Pedro Sánchez in Mumbai.



About the Forum:

- ❖ It was jointly organized by the Observer Research Foundation and the Spain India Council Foundation.
- ❖ Theme: "Spain-India Partnership amid Geopolitical and Technological Challenges: New Horizons, New Possibilities."

Economy

43rd half-yearly report on MFER

Why in the news?

The Reserve Bank of India has published its 43rd half-yearly report from April to September 2024 on Management of Foreign Exchange Reserves (MFER).

- ❖ According to the report, the position of foreign exchange reserve as on October 18, 2024:
 - India has a total 688.27 billion US dollars Foreign Exchange Reserves.

- ❖ Out of that, 598.24 US dollars is foreign currency assets (FCA), 67.44 US dollars Gold, 18.27 US dollars Special drawing Rights (SDRs) and 4.32 US dollars reserve \Tranche Position (RTP).
- ❖ **History of this report:** In February 2004, the Reserve Bank had started a process of compiling half yearly reports.

Miscellaneous

CRS Mobile Application

Why in the news?

The Union Home Minister, Amit Shah has launched the Civil Registration System (CRS) mobile application.

- ❖ **Objective:** It aims to make registrations faster, more accessible, and available in regional languages.

About the application:

- ❖ It is a new initiative developed by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India to simplify birth and death registrations.
- ❖ It streamlines the registration process, allowing citizens to register births and deaths from anywhere, at any time.

Run for Unity

Why in the news?

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated the 'Run for Unity' event in New Delhi on 29th October, 2024.

- ❖ The event is a part of National Unity Day, celebrated annually on October 31 to honor Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's birth anniversary.
- ❖ **History of this event:**
 - The 'Run for Unity' was first initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2015 to honor the legacy of Sardar Patel.



Persons In News

Naim Qassem

Why in the news?

Naim Qassem, will be Hezbollah's new chief as per its announcement.

- ❖ He has served as Deputy Secretary General of the Lebanese group since 1991.
- ❖ Qassem will succeed Hassan Nasrallah, who was killed more than a month ago in an Israeli bombing.

About Hezbollah:

- ❖ The U.S. State Department designated Hezbollah as a foreign terrorist organization in October 1997.

- ❖ More than 60 other countries and organizations, including the EU, the Arab League, and the Gulf Cooperation Council, have also designated Hezbollah either in part or in its entirety as a terrorist group.



Index and Report

Rule of Law Index, 2024

Why in the news?

India has been ranked 79 out of 142 countries in the Rule of Law Index 2024.

- ❖ Within South Asia, India ranked third after Nepal (69) and Sri Lanka (75),

India's performance on different indicators

FACTOR	GLOBAL RANK	REGIONAL RANK	INCOME RANK
Constraints on Government Powers	60/142	2/6	3/38
Absence of Corruption	97/142	3/6	15/38
Open Government	44/142	1/6	1/38
Fundamental Rights	102/142	3/6	15/38
Order and Security	98/142	3/6	21/38
Regulatory Enforcement	78/142	3/6	11/38
Civil Justice	107/142	3/6	23/38
Criminal Justice	89/142	3/6	14/38

followed by Bangladesh (127) Pakistan (129) and Afghanistan (140).

About the Index:

- ❖ It is released by the World Justice Project (WJP).
 - The World Justice Project (WJP) is an independent, nonpartisan, multidisciplinary organization
 - working to create knowledge, build awareness, and stimulate action to advance the rule of law.
- ❖ It ranks the countries on **eight indicators**: constraints on government powers, absence of corruption, open government, fundamental rights, order and security, regulatory enforcement, civil Justice and criminal justice.



- ❖ Globally, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden and Germany stood in the top five places.
- ❖ Among the G7 countries, Germany topped fifth, followed by Canada (12), Japan (14), UK (15), France (22), the USA (27) and Italy (32).
- ❖ Venezuela got the lowest rank and placed at 142.

Important Days/ Dates

World Cities Day 2024

Why in the news?

World Cities Day is celebrated on 31 October every year across the world.

❖ History of this day:

- By resolution 68/239, the United Nations General Assembly announced 31 October as World Cities Day.
- ✓ It was established on 27 December 2013 by the United Nations General Assembly in which decided to celebrate 31 October as World Cities Day.
- It was first celebrated in 2014 in Shanghai, China, organized by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

❖ Theme 2024:

- “Youth leading climate and local action for cities.”



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