

### Double-Decker Electric Bus

U.P's chief minister launched the first double-decker electric bus.

#### Key Points

- ❖ The Chief minister of Uttar Pradesh has launched the state's **first double-decker electric bus at the Aakanksha Haat programme** at Indira Gandhi Pratishthan, Lucknow.
- ❖ The move aims to provide a bus service that may help **reduce traffic problems and ensure environment conservation in urban areas**.
- ❖ 65 passengers can travel at a time.
- ❖ The passengers would be provided with a 10 per cent concession on digital payments.
- ❖ **CCTV cameras and a panic button** have been installed for the safety of women.
- ❖ Its real time location could be accessed through an electronic bus vehicle tracking device.

These buses will be run from **Lucknow to Ayodhya, Varanasi, Kanpur, Prayagraj and Gorakhpur**.

### AMU Minority Status

The Supreme Court (SC) of India delivered its judgment in the case relating to the minority status of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).

#### Background

- ❖ In 1967, the Azeez Basha judgment by a five-judge bench had declared that **AMU was neither established nor administered by a Muslim minority community**, disqualifying it from minority status under Article 30.

- ❖ Parliament subsequently amended the **AMU Act in 1981** to recognise AMU's origins within the Muslim community, but a 2006 Allahabad high court decision invalidated these amendments, leading to renewed legal debate on AMU's minority character before the seven-judge bench.

#### Key Points

- ❖ The **7-judge bench, by a 4:3 majority, overruled its 1967 judgment in the S. Azeez Basha vs. Union of India case** which rejected the minority status of AMU and held that an institution incorporated by a statute cannot claim to be a minority institution.
- ❖ **Bench:** The SC bench of **Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud**, Justice Manoj Misra, Justice J.B. Pardiwala, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Justice Surya Kant, Justice Satish Chandra Sharma, and Justice Dipankar Datta passed the judgment.

#### Chronicling the case

**ALLAHABAD HC RULING (2006)**  
Allahabad high court rules that AMU is not and has never been a minority institution

**UPA'S CHALLENGE (2006)**  
The Congress-led UPA govt files a petition in the SC, challenging the HC order. AMU separately moved SC

**NDA LOOKS TO WITHDRAW APPEAL (2016):** NDA govt informs the SC that it wishes to withdraw the UPA appeal

**PARAMETERS FOR MINORITY TAG (2019)**  
The issue was referred to a larger bench to define the parameters for the granting of minority status to educational institutions

The stand taken to file an SLP (special leave petition against the 2006 high court ruling) was also against the public policy of reservation... as applicable to central universities, and therefore, was against public interest.

— Centre in its submission through solicitor general (SG)  
**TUSHAR MEHTA**

- ❖ Earlier on February 01, 2024, the SC bench reserved its verdict on the issue of granting minority status, under Article 30 of the Constitution of India, to AMU.
- ❖ **Article 30(1)** guarantees religious and linguistic minorities the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

- ❖ Recent majority SC bench opinion concluded that institutions **created by minority groups can retain their minority character even if they are incorporated by a statute**, challenging the earlier understanding that statutory recognition disqualified an institution from claiming minority status.

### Person In News- Worldwide

#### Alix Didier Fils-Aimé

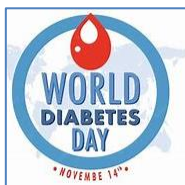
- ❖ He has been appointed the **Prime minister of Haiti**.
- ❖ Haiti is a country on the island of Hispaniola in the Caribbean Sea, east of Cuba and Jamaica, and south of The Bahamas.
- ❖ **Port-au-Prince** is the capital and most populous city of Haiti.



### Important Days/Dates

#### November 14

- ❖ **World Diabetes Day**
- ❖ World Diabetes Day (WDD) is observed on **November 14 every year to raise global awareness of diabetes**.
- ❖ It is organized by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) and the World Health Organisation (WHO).



- ❖ This year's theme is: **"Breaking Barriers, Bridging Gaps"**.
- ❖ November 14 was chosen as the date because it commemorates the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting, one of the scientists who discovered insulin in 1921, alongside Charles Best.

### Reports/Indexes

#### World Intellectual Property Indicators (WIPI) 2024

- ❖ It is released by the **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**.
- ❖ The report reveals significant growth in patent, trademark, and industrial design applications across top economies.
- ❖ For the first time, **India was included in the top 10 countries of the world for three main intellectual property (IP) rights: patents, industrial design applications, and trademark applications**. The patent filing in India has shown the fifth consecutive year of a double-digit growth rate.
- ❖ According to the WIPO report, the number of patents filed in **India in 2023 was 64,480**. The country's growth rate in patent filing was 15.7 per cent compared to 2022.
- ❖ **Worldwide:** The report states that more than 35 lakh patents were filed worldwide in 2023 and this was the fourth successive year that global patent filing has shown positive growth.
- ❖ In 2023, the maximum patent filing was in China (1.64 million), followed by the United States of America (518,364), Japan (414,413), South Korea (287,954), Germany (133,053) and India (64,480).



- ❖ Asia remains the top spot for patents, accounting for 68.7 per cent, 66.7 per cent, and 69 per cent of global patent, trademark, and industrial design filing activity, respectively, in 2023.
- ❖ World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is the United Nations agency. It was established in 1967. It has 193 member states Its headquarters are located in Geneva, Switzerland.

### Awards/Prizes

#### Booker Prize 2024

- ❖ British author **Samantha Harvey** has won the prestigious Booker Prize for Fiction for her novel "Orbital".
- ❖ Orbital, which is Harvey's fifth novel and sixth book, takes place over a single day in the life of six astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the International Space Station.
- ❖ Harvey receives **£50,000** and a trophy, which was presented to her by Paul Lynch, last year's winner, at a ceremony held at Old Billingsgate in London.
- ❖ The Booker Prize is the world's most significant award for a single work of fiction.
- ❖ The prize is open to authors from anywhere in the world, writing in English, and published in the UK and/or Ireland.
- ❖ It has rewarded and celebrated world-class talent for over fifty years, shaping the canon of 20th and 21st century literature.



### Important News- Other States

#### New Delhi

- ❖ Delhi Metro has introduced a **new bike taxi service**. Customers can book their Bike taxi rides from Delhi Metro's official mobile app, DMRC Momentum (Delhi Sarthi 2.0) itself. The new facility will include two types of bike taxis called SHERYDS for women travelers and RYDR for all passengers.
- ❖ The 25th Meeting of the **South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC-25)** was held in New Delhi. It was hosted by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). The SATRC meeting is held annually to discuss and coordinate regulatory and other related issues in the area of telecommunication and ICT.

### Miscellaneous

- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has approved the **formation of the first all-women battalion of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)**.
  - Currently, over 7% of the CISF is made up of women, and the new contingent aims to further encourage young women across India to join the armed forces.
  - CISF is a part of the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) and primarily provides security to government institutions and vital installations.
- ❖ Actor and philanthropist, **Sonu Sood**, has been appointed as the **official brand ambassador and advisor for Thailand tourism**.

