

International Relations

Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) Signed Between India and Uzbekistan

Why in the news?

The Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan was signed by Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman and Khodjayevo Jamshid Abdukhakimovich, Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan at Tashkent.

Main Provisions:

- ❖ Assures appropriate protection to Uzbekistan investors in India and Indian investors in the Republic of Uzbekistan.
- ❖ Increase the comfort level and boost the confidence of investors by assuring a minimum standard of treatment and non-discrimination.
- ❖ Establishes an independent forum for dispute settlement through arbitration.

- ❖ Includes transparency, transfers, and compensation for losses.
- ❖ Ensures balance between investor protection and the State's right to regulate.

Expected Impact:

- ❖ The signing of the BIT reflects both nations' shared commitment towards enhancing economic cooperation and creating a more robust and resilient investment environment.
- ❖ The BIT is expected to pave the way for increased bilateral investments, benefiting businesses and economies in both countries.



Miscellaneous

Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav 2024

Why in the news?

The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER), through its PSU NEHHDC, is set to organize the grand Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav.

- ❖ **Event Dates:** September 29 to October 6, 2024
- ❖ **Location:** Rashtrapati Nilayam, Secunderabad.
- ❖ **Inaugurated by:** President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu

Festival Highlights:

- ❖ The eight-day festival will celebrate the rich cultural heritage of the North-Eastern states, offering visitors a unique opportunity to explore the vibrant arts, crafts, music, dance, and culinary delights from Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura.
- ❖ Over 300 talented artists and artisans from these regions will showcase their diverse traditions.



Oxygen Bird Park (Amrit Mahotsav Park)

Why in the news?

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari will inaugurate Oxygen Bird Park (Amrit Mahotsav Park) along the Nagpur-Hyderabad National Highway-44 in Nagpur, Maharashtra on 28th September, 2024.

Park Detail:

- ❖ Oxygen Bird Park (Amrit Mahotsav Park) is an eco-initiative developed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) near Jamtha, along the Nagpur-Hyderabad National Highway-44.
- ❖ Covering a total area of 8.23 hectares, including 2.5 hectares dedicated to social forestry.
- ❖ The project, which integrates environmental sustainability and recreational facilities, was formally approved in March 2023 with a development cost of ₹14.31 crores.

'Paryatan Mitra' And 'Paryatan Didi'

Why in the news?

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India launched a national responsible tourism initiative by the name of 'Paryatan Mitra & Paryatan Didi' on September 27th, World Tourism Day.

- ❖ **Objective:** To promote tourism as a means for social inclusion, employment, and economic progress.
- ❖ 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, craft tours, nature treks, homestay experiences, and other innovative tourism products based on the potential of the destination.

Pilot Locations:

- ❖ Madhya Pradesh: Orchha
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh: Gandikota
- ❖ Bihar: Bodh Gaya
- ❖ Mizoram: Aizawl
- ❖ Rajasthan: Jodhpur
- ❖ Andaman & Nicobar Islands: Sri Vijaya Puram



Awards and Honors

Best Tourism Villages Competition 2024

Why in the news?

The 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.

Competition Overview:

- ❖ To promote tourism to the soul of India (India's villages), the Best Tourism Villages Competition was introduced in 2023.
- ❖ Aims to recognize villages that preserve cultural and natural assets with a commitment to sustainability and community-based values

- ❖ 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.

Important Days/ Dates

World Heart Day 2024

Why in the news?

World Heart Day is an international event observed annually on September 29 to raise awareness about cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) and promote heart health globally.

- ❖ The theme of 2024 is "Use Heart for Action".
- ❖ World Heart Day was created by the World Heart Federation (WHF) in 1999 in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO).

- ❖ The first official celebration took place on September 24, 2000, to highlight the growing burden of heart disease and stroke.

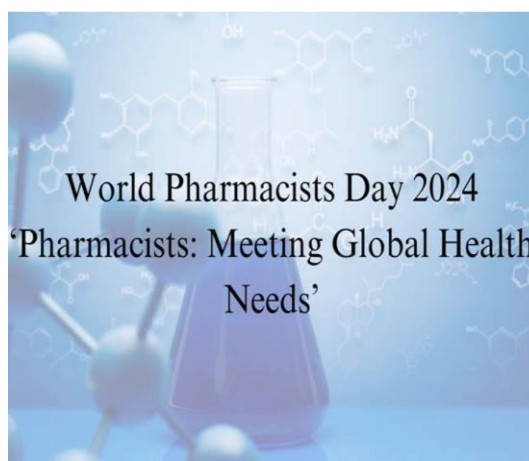


World Pharmacists Day 2024

Why in the news?

World Pharmacists Day is celebrated every year on September 25th, to honour the significant contributions that pharmacists make to global health.

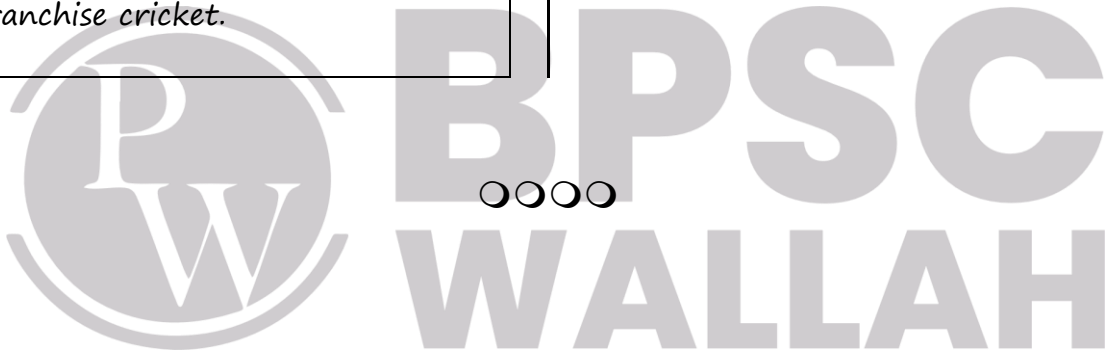
The theme for 2024, is 'Pharmacists: Meeting Global Health Needs.'



News in Short

- ❖ Former Defence Minister and leader of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Shigeru Ishiba has been elected as the next prime minister of Japan, succeeding Fumio Kishida.
- ❖ Dwayne Bravo (West Indies) confirmed his retirement from all forms of cricket. Bravo will now take up a new role as a Mentor in franchise cricket.

- ❖ GP Dohre, a 1962 batch Indian Police Service officer and former Bihar Director General of Police, passed away. He was the DGP of Bihar in 1995-96.
- ❖ The next investors meet of Bihar will be organized in New Delhi on October 4, 2024.



PW Web/App: <https://smart.link/7wwosivoicgd4>

For more such content, subscribe to our Telegram Channel https://t.me/pw_upsc