

BIHAR CURRENT AFFAIRS

26th December, 2024



Bihar Special

New Governor of Bihar

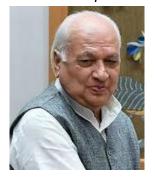
Why in the news?

Arif Mohammed Khan, the Governor of Kerala since 2019, will now serve as the Governor of Bihar.

He will be the 42nd Governor of Bihar post independence.

About Arif Mohammed Khan:

- Born on 18 November 1951 in Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh.
- Khan is an alumnus of Aligarh Muslim University and Lucknow University.
- He is a staunch critic of the Muslim Personal Law Board and resigned from Rajiv Gandhi's cabinet over differences regarding the Shah Bano case.
- He has also represented the Kanpur and Bahraich constituencies in the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 12th Lok Sabha.
- As a Union Cabinet Minister, Arif Mohammad Khan held the Ministry of Energy and Civil Aviation during 1989–90.
- He took charge as the 22nd Governor of Kerala on O6 September 2019.



Polity And Governance

New Governors of States

Why in the news?

President Droupadi Murmu has appointed new governors for five states.

- Former Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla has been appointed as the Governor of Manipur.
 - He is a retired 1984-batch IAS officer, served as the Union Home Secretary from 22 August 2019 to 22 August 2024.
- Arif Mohammed Khan, the Governor of Kerala since 2019, will now serve as the Governor of Bihar.
- Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, the Governor of Bihar, has been reassigned as the Governor of Kerala.
- General Vijay Kumar Singh (Retd.), a former Army Chief and Union Minister, has been appointed as the Governor of Mizoram.
- President Murmu accepted the resignation of Raghubar Das as the Governor of Odisha. Das, a senior BJP leader from Chhattisgarh, resigned from the position recently.
 - Hari Babu Kambhampati, currently the Governor of Mizoram, has been reassigned as the Governor of Odisha.





Chief Justices of High Courts

Why in the news?

The Central Government has notified the appointment of Chief Justices of two High Courts – Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand High Court.

The Chief Justice and Judges of the High Courts are to be appointed by the President under clause (1) of Article 217 of the Constitution.

Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh HC



- Justice GS Sandhawalia has been appointed as the chief justice of the Himachal Pradesh high court (HC).
- Prior to his appointment, he was serving as a judge of the Punjab and Haryana HC.

Chief Justice of Uttarakhand HC



- Justice Narender G was appointed as the head of the Uttarakhand high court.
- Prior to his appointment, he was serving as a judge of the Andhra Pradesh HC.

Economy

India's First Zero-Waste Airport

Why in the news?

Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport in Indore became the country's first zero-waste airport.

- Union Civil Aviation minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu inaugurated a recycling plant at the airport.
- The basic concept behind making the airport zero waste is following four R i.e. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Restore.

- Compost manure will be made from wet waste, while dry waste will be separated.
- According to the bulk waste management rules, a material recovery facility has been constructed in a 3000-squarefoot area.







India;s first Bio-Bitumen-Based National Highway Stretch

Why in the news?

India's first bio-bitumen-based National Highway stretch was inaugurated on NH-44 in Mansar, Nagpur, Maharashtra.

- It was inaugurated by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari.
- Authorities have implemented ligninbased bio-bitumen technology to develop the stretch, provided by Praj Industries, in collaboration with CSIR - Central Road Research Institute (CRRI), National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), and Oriental.

Significance:

- It is a significant breakthrough for India to have used lignin as a sustainable binder in flexible pavement technology.
 - This addresses the challenge of bitumen scarcity, while also mitigating the dependency of India on imports, amounting to 50 per cent of the total supply at the moment.
 - Leveraging India's abundant lignocellulosic biomass, this development aligns with the nation's vision for sustainable industrial growth.

Advantages:

This innovation contributes to global sustainability goals by generating revenue for bio-refineries, mitigating stubble burning, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 70 per cent compared to fossil-based bitumen.



Miscellaneous

Wine tourism initiative

Why in the news?

The Uttarakhand government has officially launched its first wine production unit in Kotdwar.

- Objective: To promote wine tourism under its new excise policy.
- Under the wine tourism initiative:
 - Wine enthusiasts will have the opportunity to tour the wine production unit and its premises.







- Visitors will learn about the history of wine and the production process and get a chance to taste different varieties of wine.
- To enhance the experience, guest houses are being developed around these units, allowing tourists to relax and enjoy the region's scenic beauty.
- Small and medium units for wine production will be encouraged in various hilly regions, allowing local fruits to be used for wine production, which will increase employment and business opportunities for the local population
- * Significance: Wine tourism has gained significant popularity in several countries, and Uttarakhand aims to tap into this growing trend.

Important Days/ Dates

Good Governance Day

Why in the news?

The **Good Governance Day**, or Sushasan Diwas, is marked on **December 25** every year in India.

Objective: To commemorate the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

- To create awareness among the masses, especially among the young generation, about the accountability of government and administration.
- It promotes citizen-centric as well as efficient and transparent governance to improve service delivery.
- This year, India is observing the 100th birthday anniversary of Vajpayee.
 - The government of India will commemorate the day under the theme, "India's Path to a Viksit Bharat: Empowering Citizens through Good Governance and Digitalisation."
 - As part of the celebrations, the central government also carries out Sushasan Saptah (Good Governance Week) every year from December 19-25.

History:

In 2014, the newly elected BJP announced that former PM of India and Bharatiya Janata Party's doyen Atal Bihari Vajpayee's birth anniversary will be commemorated as Good Governance Day.

PSC WALLAH



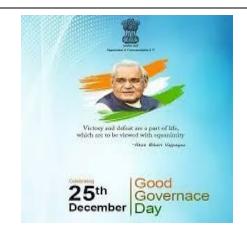


Union Government's initiatives on 100th birthday:

- To mark the 100th birth anniversary of Vajpayee, PM Modi visited Madhya Pradesh where:
 - He inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of several development projects in Khajuraho.
 - He laid the foundation stone of the Ken-Betwa river linking national project, which will be the maiden interlinking of rivers project in India under the national perspective plan.
 - PM Modi released a commemorative stamp and coin (100 rupees) marking Vajpayee's birth anniversary.
 - He laid the foundation stone of 1,153 Atal Gram Sushasan buildings, which will play a significant role in the practical conduct of work and responsibilities of the Gram Panchayats.
 - He inaugurated the Omkareshwar Floating Solar Project of Madhya Pradesh's Khandwa district -aimed at reducing carbon emissions and contributing to the Centre's mission of net zero carbon emission by 2070.

Atal Vihari Vajpayee

- He was born on December 25, 1924,
 in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ He went on to serve as the Prime Minister of India on three occasions - first in 1996 for a term of 13 days, followed by a 13-month term between 1998 and 1999, and later a full term of five years between 1999 to 2004.
 - His tenure saw transformational initiatives like the Kisan Credit Card, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, and the National Rural Health Program.
- He was known for his famous poetry and writings, and emerged as the first leader from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to become the Prime Minister.
- He was honoured with Bharat Ratna, the country's highest civilian honour, in 2015.



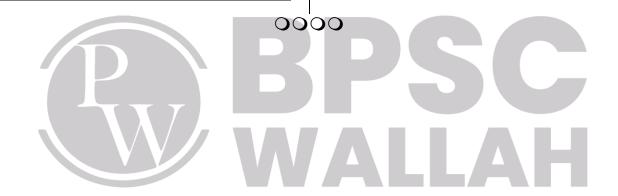




News in Short

- Madhya Pradesh has earned a prestigious spot on the Wall Street Journal's list of "Must-Visit Global Destinations for 2025".
- Former Chief Minister of Delhi and Aam Aadmi Party convenor Arvind Kejriwal launched a scheme in honour of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar.
 - The name of this scheme is Dr Ambedkar Samman Scholarship Scheme.

- Under this scheme, students from SC ST category of Delhi will get benefits.
- The entire cost of higher education abroad for SC, ST category students will be borne by the Delhi government.
- India has been announced as the host of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Cup Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun 2025.





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