

WorldSkills Lyon 2024

India delivered a stellar performance at the WorldSkills Lyon 2024 held in France, winning 16 medals and Medallions of Excellence.

Key Points-

- ❖ **Winner:** Ashwitha Police won **4 prestigious bronze medals** in Pastry & Confectionery, Dhrumikumar Dhirendrakumar Gandhi & Satyajit Balakrishnan in Industry 4.0, Jothir Adithya Krishnapriya Ravikumar in Hotel Reception and Amresh Kumar Sahu in Renewable Energy.
- In addition, the Indian delegates also bagged 12 Medals of Excellence, a testimony to their specialized skills and consistent performance in various trades.
- Ashwitha Police, participating in Pastry and Confectionery, also won the **Best of Nation Award** and emerged as the most outstanding participant from Team India.

Best Of Nation

- ❖ Pastry and Confectionery

Competitor

- ❖ Ashwitha Police

State

- ❖ Telangana

Bronze	Competitor	State
Pastry and Confectionery	Ashwitha Police	Telangana
Industry 4.0 (Team Skill)	Dhruvilkumar Dhirendrakumar Gandhi &	Gujarat

	Sathyajith Balakrishnan	
Hotel Reception	Joethir Adithya Krishnapriya Ravikumar	Delhi
Renewable Energy	Amaresh Kumar Sahu	Odisha

- ❖ **Participant:** WorldSkills Lyon 2024 gathered over 1,400 participants from over 70 countries.
 - India competed in **52 skill categories** along with countries like China, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Germany, Brazil, Australia, Colombia, Denmark, France, UK, South Africa, Switzerland, USA, etc.

About WorldSkills-

- ❖ WorldSkills competitions are the gold standard of skills excellence. They inspire young competitors to reach new heights, helping them turn their passion into a profession.
- ❖ It is held **every two years** in different parts of the world.
- ❖ **Significance:** It showcases a country's leadership in innovation-based areas such as additive manufacturing and web technology as well as craftsmanship areas such as cabinet making and cooking.

NPS Vatsalya Scheme

As announced in the Union Budget 2024-25, Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman will launch the NPS Vatsalya Scheme on September 18, 2024 in New Delhi.



Key Points -

- ❖ **Online Platform:** The Union Finance Minister will launch an online platform for subscribing to NPS Vatsalya, release the scheme brochure and distribute **Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN) cards** to new minor subscribers.
- ❖ **Place:** NPS Vatsalya programs will be organized simultaneously at about **75 locations** across the country. Other locations will join it through video conference and PRAN subscription will also be distributed to new minor subscribers at that location.
- ❖ **Organiser:** The scheme will be run under the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- ❖ **Features:** NPS Vatsalya will allow parents to save for their children's future by investing in a pension account and ensure long-term wealth. NPS Vatsalya offers flexible contribution and investment options, allowing parents to **invest as little as Rs 1,000 annually** in the child's name, making it accessible to families from all economic backgrounds.
- ❖ **Aim:** The launch of NPS Vatsalya reflects the Government of India's commitment to promote long-term financial planning and security for all. This is a big step towards making India's future generations more financially secure and independent.

Subhadra Yojana

Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the Subhadra Yojana on his 74th birthday on 17 September 2024. It is a scheme of the **Odisha** government.

Key points -

- ❖ **Eligible category:** Under the scheme, Rs 10,000 will be transferred per year to eligible women beneficiaries in the age group of **21 to 60 years** in the state.
- ❖ **Assistance received:** Over five years till 2028-29, the scheme will provide **financial assistance of Rs 10,000 annually** to over 1 crore women across the state. The transfer will be made in two installments of Rs 5,000 each on Rakhi Purnima (Raksha Bandhan, which usually falls in August) and International Women's Day (March 8).
- ❖ The scheme is named after **Goddess Subhadra**, the younger sister of Lord Jagannath, the presiding deity of Odisha.
- ❖ **Significance:** This is the largest women-centric scheme and more than 1 crore women are expected to be covered under it.

Other Works:

- ❖ The PM also transferred funds to **bank accounts of over 10 lakh women**.
- ❖ Laid foundation stone of **Railway projects** worth over Rs 2800 crore and dedicated them to the nation, and National Highway projects worth over Rs 1000 crore.
- ❖ Released first installment of assistance to about 10 lakh beneficiaries under PMAY-G across 14 States.

Person In News- Appointment

Amrit Mohan Prasad



Senior IPS officer Amrit Mohan Prasad has been appointed as the Director General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

He is a 1989 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Odisha cadre.

He is currently serving as Special Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

Note: The Sashastra Seema Bal is a border guarding force of India deployed along the borders with Nepal and Bhutan.

Abdelmadjid Tebboune



Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune has been sworn in for a second term.

Santosh Kashyap

The All India Football Federation appointed Santosh Kashyap as the new chief coach of the national senior women's team.

He will replace former international player Chaoba Devi.

His first tournament will be the SAFF Women's Championship to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal from October 17 to 30.

Manu Bhakar



Recently, two-time Olympic medalist Manu Bhakar has been appointed as the brand ambassador for the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

Manu Bhakar is the daughter of a marine engineer.

Person In News

Arvind Kejriwal



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal resigned from his post on 17 September.

His tenure was from **February 2015 to February 2020** and **February 2020 to September 2024**.

Award/Title

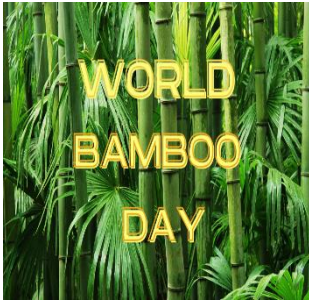
South Indian International Movie Awards (SIIMA) 2024

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan was awarded the Critics Award for Best Actress for her performance in director Mani Ratnam's film Ponniyin Selvan: Part 2.

Important Days/Dates

18 September

World Bamboo Day



- ❖ World Bamboo Day is celebrated every year on September 18 to raise awareness about the benefits of bamboo and promote its use in everyday products.
- ❖ The World Bamboo Organization declared September 18 as World Bamboo Day at the 8th World Bamboo Congress in Bangkok in 2009.
- ❖ Theme of World Bamboo Day 2024: "Next Generation Bamboo: Solution, Innovation, and Design."

Important News- Other States

Chennai, Tamil Nadu

- ❖ A two-day national seminar, Exercise AIKYA, of the National Disaster Management Authority and Army Southern Command will commence in Chennai from September 18-19.
- ❖ The main objective of the exercise is to enhance disaster preparedness and foster strong collaboration among key stakeholders.
- ❖ The seminar will review contemporary issues such as tsunamis, landslides, floods, forest fires, cyclones and recent disasters and discuss ways to prevent such challenging situations.

Pune, Maharashtra

- ❖ The foundation stone of India's first-of-its-kind CO₂-to-Methanol Pilot Plant with a total capacity of 1.4 tonnes per day (TPD) was unveiled by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India at Thermax Limited campus in Pune, Maharashtra.
- ❖ The project is being implemented under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi and Thermax Limited, Pune.

Important News- Worldwide

Mexico

- ❖ Mexico recently became the first country in the world to allow voters to elect judges at all levels.
- ❖ Outgoing President Andrés Manuel López Obrador had pushed hard for reform.

Scotland

- ❖ Glasgow will host the 2026 Commonwealth Games following a deal backed by the Scottish Government.
- ❖ The Australian state of Victoria was originally chosen to host the multi-sport event but withdrew due to rising costs.

Miscellaneous

- ❖ India will host the second formal meeting of the COP9 Bureau and the third formal meeting of the Fund Approval Committee under the UNESCO International Convention on Doping in Sport in New Delhi on **17-18 September 2024**. The meeting will be organized by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**.

- ❖ The current BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government will implement '**One Country, One Election**' in its current term itself.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the **fourth Quad Leaders' Summit** in Wilmington, Delaware on **September 21**. India has agreed to host the next Quad Summit in 2025.

- ❖ **Bank of Baroda** has launched a Generative AI solution to improve customer service and internal operations. The GenAI-powered Virtual Relationship Manager '**Aditi**' answers all customer queries by acting as 24*7 virtual relationship managers.



UPPSC WALLAH

