

27th December 2024

Appointment of Governors

The President of India has appointed new governors for five Indian states, introducing key leadership changes in Manipur, Bihar, Kerala, Mizoram, and Odisha.

Key Points-

Appointed Governors with States

- ❖ **Manipur: Ajay Kumar Bhalla**, former Union Home Secretary, has been named the Governor of Manipur. Bhalla, a 1984-batch IAS officer, served as the Home Secretary from August 22, 2019, to August 22, 2024.
- ❖ **Bihar: Arif Mohammed Khan**, who served as the Governor of Kerala since 2019, has been reassigned as the Governor of Bihar. Born on November 18, 1951, in Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh, Khan is an alumnus of Aligarh Muslim University and Lucknow University. Khan has represented the Kanpur and Bahraich constituencies in the Lok Sabha across multiple terms.
- ❖ **Kerala: Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar**, previously the Governor of Bihar, has been appointed as the Governor of Kerala.
- ❖ **Mizoram: Ex Union Minister and retired Army-Chief-General Vijay Kumar Singh** was appointed as the Governor of Mizoram. He served in the Indian Army for 42 years, playing a crucial role in the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War and participating in operations against the LTTE in Sri Lanka in 1987.
- ❖ **Odisha: The Governor of Mizoram, Dr Hari Babu Kambhampati**, has been appointed as the Governor of Odisha.

- ❖ As per **Article 155 of Constitution of India**: The Governor of a State shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.

Tableaux for 2025 Republic Day

The defence ministry announced "Swarnim Bharat: Virasat aur Vikas" as the theme for tableaux for 2025 Republic Day Celebration (RDC).

Key Points-

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal **are among the 15 states and UTs whose tableaux** have been selected for Republic Day Parade 2025.
- ❖ The **UTs which have been selected are Chandigarh, Dadar Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu, and Goa.**
- ❖ In addition, 11 Union ministries and departments have also been selected.

Forbes World's 100 Most Powerful Women

Forbes has revealed its 2024 list of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women, celebrating those who made an impact globally.

Key Points-

- ❖ The list evaluates women based on their financial strength, media presence, impact, influence, and more.
- ❖ This year (2024), **Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, leads the rankings.**
- ❖ **Christine Lagarde**, who heads the European Central Bank, follows closely in second place.
- ❖ **Italy's Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni**, a rising force in global politics, holds the third position.

- ❖ Three Indian women, too, made it to the prestigious list:
- ❖ **Nirmala Sitharaman**, ranked **28th** on Forbes' 2024 list of the World's 100 Most Powerful Women, is India's Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs. She made history in 2019 as the first woman to take on these roles full-time and was reappointed in 2024.



- ❖ **Roshni Nadar Malhotra** serves as the chairperson of HCL Technologies, making history as the first woman to lead a publicly listed IT company in India.
- ❖ **Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw**, ranked **82nd** on Forbes' 2024 list, is one of India's wealthiest self-made women and a pioneer in the biotechnology industry. She founded Biocon in 1978, which has become a leading biopharmaceutical company with a strong presence in the U.S. market.

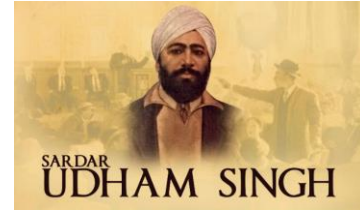
Shaheed Udham Singh

On 26th December 2024, Shaheed Udham Singh is remembered on 125th Birth Anniversary.

Key Point-

About Shaheed Udham Singh

- ❖ He was born on **26th December 1899** in the village **Sunam** of Punjab in undivided India.
- ❖ He was a Freedom Fighter who belonged to the **Gadar Party**.
- ❖ He avenged the Jallianwala Bagh massacre by **assassinating Michael O'Dwyer, the then Lieutenant Governor of Punjab**.
- ❖ While in the custody of the Britishers, he used the name '**Ram Mohammad Singh Azad**', representing the three major religions in India and his anti-colonial sentiments.



- ❖ He was hanged to death on July 31, 1940, for committing a murder.

Short News- Uttar Pradesh

- ❖ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath unveiled the statue of '**Bharat Ratna**' and former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee at **Kudiya Ghat**, situated along the banks of the Gomti River in Lucknow.
- ❖ **Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh-affiliate Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas (SSUN)** will organise a month long 'Gyan Maha Kumbh 2081' on the sidelines of the Maha Kumbh 2025 in Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj in January 2025.
 - The objective of the **Gyan Maha Kumbh** is to push for speedy implementation of the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** and the inclusion of the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) in education,

Person In News- Appointments

Arunish Chawla

- ❖ He is a 1992-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer from the Bihar cadre who has been appointed as new Revenue Secretary in the Finance Ministry.



- ❖ He will continue to hold the additional charge of secretary of the Ministry of Culture till the appointment of a regular incumbent, the appointments committee of the cabinet

Person In News- Obituary

M T Vasudevan Nair



- ❖ He was a **renowned writer, screenwriter, and filmmaker. He passed away recently.**
- ❖ He was born in 1933 in Kudallur, a small village in the Palakkad district of what was then the Malabar region under British rule.

Important Days/Dates

Key Point-

December 26

- ❖ **Veer Bal Diwas**
- ❖ In India **Veer Bal Diwas is observed on December 26 each year.**
- ❖ It is to honour the unparalleled sacrifices of the Sahibzadas Guru Gobind Singh Ji's four sons.
- ❖ The celebration is specifically focused on **Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada**

Fateh Singh; they showed outstanding bravery by facing challenges against all odds during the reign of the Mughal Empire.

- ❖ The **festival Veer Bal Diwas traces back to 26th December 1705**, when both of the two young Sahibzadas were taken into custody by the Mughal army led by Wazir Khan. They faced extreme pressures to give up their beliefs and convert to Islam; however, the two children refused to budge on their faiths. They were bricked alive as a form of punishment for their defiance.
- ❖ The **decision to commemorate this day was made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on January 9, 2022**, marking a significant step in recognizing the contributions of children in India's history.
- ❖ The first official observance took place on December 26, 2023, emphasizing the importance of teaching younger generations about resilience and moral integrity.

Sports

ICC Champions Trophy 2025

- ❖ The **2025 ICC Champions Trophy will be the ninth edition of the ICC Champions Trophy.**
- ❖ It will be **hosted by Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates from 19 February to 9 March 2025.**
- ❖ The 15-match, eight-team event returns to the cricket calendar for the first time since the last edition was staged in 2017, with defending champions Pakistan hosting their first global cricket tournament since 1996, alongside the UAE which was confirmed as the neutral venue.
- ❖ **Rohit Sharma will be the captain of Indian Team** in the championship.

Important News- Other States

Key Point-

Madhya Pradesh

- ❖ IndiGoReach, IndiGo's CSR initiative, has partnered with the Airports Authority of India and AAS Foundation, **Indore**, to **launch the Zero Waste Airport Project**.
- ❖ Using the **4R strategy (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover)**, the project aims to minimize the environmental impact of airport operations and set a new standard for sustainable waste management in aviation.

New Delhi

- ❖ The **Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025** will take place from **January 17-22** across **Delhi NCR**, marking India's growing role as a global hub for mobility.

West Bengal

- ❖ The first '**Udaan Yatri Cafe**' will open at Kolkata's Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport as a pilot project, with plans to expand to other Airports Authority of India (AAI)-operated airports if successful. This will be **an affordable cafe, which will offer essential items such as water, tea, coffee, and snacks** at reasonable prices.



UPPSC
WALLAH

