

**Mains Exam Practice (MEP): Questions of the Day**

1. "The G20 Summit 2024 focuses on global challenges such as economic stability, climate change, and digital transformation. Discuss India's role and contributions in shaping the agenda and outcomes of the summit, highlighting its significance in enhancing India's global standing." [BPSC General Studies I Section II: 38 marks]
2. Examine the major outcomes of COP 29 and assess their implications for developing countries, focusing on India's climate goals and commitments. [BPSC General Studies II Section II: 38 marks]

**Bihar Special**

**Danapur Railway Division**

**Why in the news?**

The historic Danapur division of the Indian Railways network completed 100 years on January 1, 2025.

- ❖ Danapur (earlier Dinapore) division was established on January 1, 1925.

- Danapur division was put under the Kolkata-based Eastern Railway (ER) established in 1952.
- From 2002 onwards, it came under East Central Railway (ECR), carved out of ER, with headquarters at Hajipur in north Bihar.
- ❖ Its office is located in a majestic building erected in 1929 near the historic Danapur station at Khagaul town near Patna.
- ❖ The first divisional superintendent of Danapur was C Eyers, who took charge on January 1, 1925.
- ❖ The post was redesignated as divisional railway manager (DRM) from 1980s onwards, according to information displayed on the succession board.
- ❖ The current Danapur division spans the rail network from Jhajha to Kuchman.



### Economy

#### India's Fiscal Deficit

##### Why in the news?

India's fiscal deficit for the first eight months of this fiscal year through November stood at 8.47 lakh crore rupees or 52.5 percent of annual estimates.

- ❖ Total receipts stood at 18.94 lakh crore rupees, while overall expenditure from April to November was at 27.41 lakh crore rupees.
- ❖ These figures were 59.1 percent and 56.9 percent of this fiscal year's budget target.
- ❖ Tax revenue was 14.43 lakh crore rupees, and non-tax revenue was 4.27 lakh crore rupees.

- ❖ The central government's fiscal deficit target is 4.9 percent of the gross domestic product for 2024-25, as announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Union Budget 2024-25 against 5.6 percent in 2023-24, which was lower than the revised estimates of 5.8 percent.

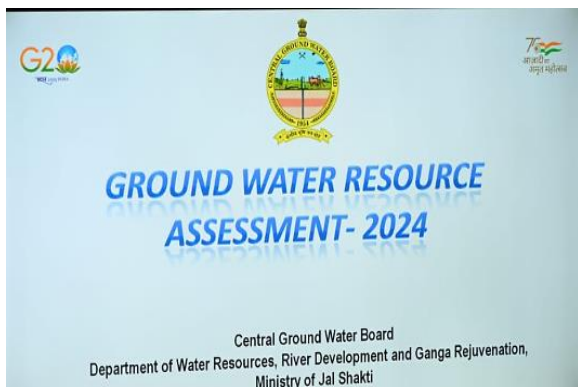
### Environment And Geography

#### Groundwater Resource Assessment 2024

##### Why in the news?

Union Jal Shakti Minister C R Patil released the Dynamic Ground Water Resource Assessment Report for the year 2024.

- ❖ The assessment was carried out jointly by the Central Ground Water Board and States and Union Territories.
- ❖ According to Report:
  - The total annual groundwater recharge has been assessed as over 446 Billion Cubic Meters.
  - The total annual groundwater recharge in the country has increased by 15 Billion Cubic Meters substantially and extraction has declined by three Billion Cubic Meters in 2024.
  - The annual groundwater extraction for all uses is over 245 Billion Cubic Meters. The report highlights that 100 percent of groundwater samples in the northeastern states are in an excellent category for irrigation.



### Persons In News

#### Vitul Kumar

##### Why in the news?

The Centre government has assigned senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Vitul Kumar to officiate charge for the post of DG of the Central Reserve Police Force.

- ❖ He replaced Aneesh Dayal Singh on December 31, 2024.
- ❖ He is a 1993-batch IPS officer from the Uttar Pradesh cadre and is currently serving as Special Director General of the CRPF.



### Important Days/ Dates

#### Global Family Day

##### Why in the news?

Global Family Day is celebrated annually on January 1st every year.

##### ❖ History:

- In 1999, all UN member states were encouraged to spend the first day of the year creating plans on maintaining peace.
- Due to the success of this day, the UN declared Global Family Day an annual event in 2001.

##### ❖ Objective: It encourages people to build stronger relationships with their families.

##### ❖ The theme for Global Family Day 2025 is 'One World, One Family: Building Bridges Across Generations.'

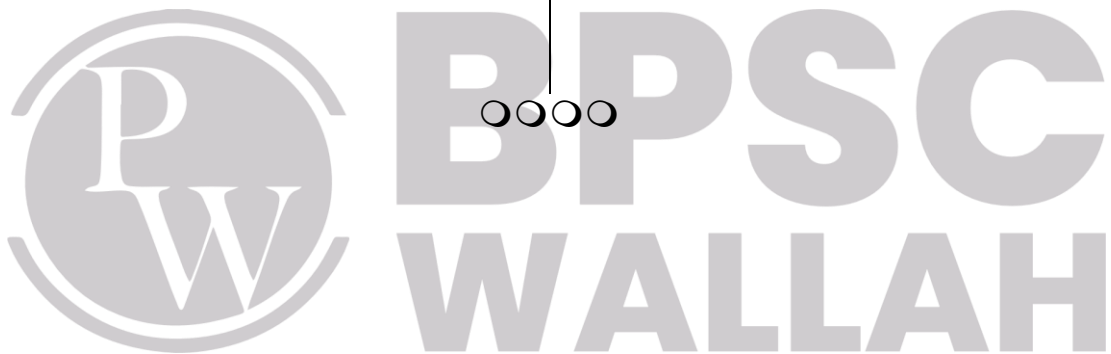
##### ❖ Note: The International Day of Families is held on 15th May every year.



### News in Short

- ❖ Turkey has successfully tested the firing of the supersonic missile UAV-122 from the Bayraktar Akinci drone.
- ❖ Bosnia's ancient love song Saved Alinka has been added to UNESCO's heritage list also referred to as the Balcon Blues.
- ❖ In Tamil Nadu, the iconic tourist destination Kanyakumari has added another jewel to its crown.

- ❖ India's first glass bridge over the sea was inaugurated here.
- ❖ India's Lakshya Sen won bronze in the King Cup International Badminton Open 2024 after beating French shuttler Alex Lanier at Shenzhen, the People's Republic of China.



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

For more such content, subscribe to our Telegram Channel [https://t.me/pw\\_upsc](https://t.me/pw_upsc)