

International

Mohammed al-Bashir appointed as Syria's interim prime minister



About News:-

- ❖ Repatriation of Syrian refugees overseas has been one of the top priorities of Mohammed al-Bashir, the country's recently appointed prime minister.
- ❖ One of his primary objectives, he stated, is to "bring back the millions of Syrian refugees who are abroad."
- ❖ Al-Bashir stressed the need for "stability and calm" in Syria and said he is working with former Bashar al-Assad regime officials to rebuild institutions and public services.

Key Points:-

- ❖ On December 10, 2024, the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS rebels in Syria, appointed Mohammad al-Bashir as the country's acting prime minister in the wake of Bashar al-Assad's ouster on December 8, 2024.
- ❖ On Tuesday, Mohammed al-Bashir was named Syria's next acting prime minister, serving until March 1, 2025.

About the Syrian Arab Republic or Syria

- ❖ Capital: Damascus
- ❖ Currency: Syrian Pound

National

PM Modi releases compendium of Subramania Bharati's works on 143rd birth anniversary



About News:-

- ❖ On the occasion of Subramania Bharati's 143rd birthday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a ceremony in Delhi on Wednesday to unveil the compilation of his entire body of work.
- ❖ The entire collection of Mahakavi Bharathiyar's works arranged chronologically, is called "Kaala Varisayil Bharathi Padaippugal." Seeni Viswanathan is the person who compiled it.

Key Points:-

- ❖ Several dignitaries, including Union Ministers L Murugan and Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, attended the occasion.
- ❖ The father of the contemporary Tamil literary style is considered to be Subramania Bharati, an Indian writer during the nationalist era.
- ❖ Bharati, often called the "Mahakavi Bharathiyar," fought for self-determination because of his great sense of social justice. Gnanaratham, Kannan Pattu, Panchali Sapatham, Kuyil Pattu, and Pudiya Russia are a few of his most significant compositions.

State

Arunachal Pradesh To Host 4th Eaglenest Bird Festival In January 2025



About News:-

- ❖ Khellong (Doimara) and Thongre village in Arunachal Pradesh are set to host the fourth Eaglenest Bird Festival from January 17-19, 2025.
- ❖ The news was made at the 4th Mon Sergyeling & Mon Rigzung Sergyeling festival's grand finale in Tawang, which also featured the unveiling of the festival's new logo.

Key Points:-

- ❖ The event this year will promote sustainable ecotourism and community-driven conservation initiatives while showcasing the region's abundant biodiversity.
- ❖ The establishment of the Eco Bio-Diversity Park at Atho-Nyo (Doimara Khellong), which includes a tree planted by His Holiness during his historic 1959 visit, and the designation of the "Trail of His Holiness the Dalai Lama," a culturally significant route, are noteworthy highlights.
- ❖ The festival will also include adventure trekking and a birdathon, which will enable attendees to experience the Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary's breathtaking scenery and promote ecotourism and environmental preservation in Arunachal Pradesh.

About Arunachal Pradesh:-

- ❖ Capital:- Itanagar
- ❖ Governor:- Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik
- ❖ CM :- Pema Khandu

Economic

India's surging FDI inflows surpass the \$1,000 billion milestone in the last 4 years

About News:-

Data gathered by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) shows that foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows into India increased to \$1,033.40 billion between April 2000 and September 2024, reflecting the growing investment opportunities in the nation's rapidly expanding economy.



Key Points:-

- ❖ Cars, computer software, IT hardware, telecom, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, and services are the primary economic sectors that gain from foreign direct investment. Additionally, the data indicates that FDI inflows have significantly increased in the emerging non-conventional energy industry.

- ❖ Higher investments, the creation of jobs, and the introduction of cutting-edge technology are all results of FDI inflows, and these factors boost economic growth and productivity.
- ❖ According to a senior official, the government has made doing business easier and put in place several incentives, such as the PLI plan, which have sped up foreign direct investment inflows into the nation.
- ❖ DPIIT data shows that the increase in foreign direct investment (FDI) has persisted into the current fiscal year, rising by a strong 45 percent to \$29.79 billion from April to September as opposed to \$20.5 billion in 2023-2024. FDI in services climbed from \$3.85 billion in the first half of last year to \$5.69 billion in the first half of this fiscal year.
- ❖ According to a state-by-state breakdown of the data, Maharashtra got the largest influx, totaling \$13.55 billion between April and September of 2024-2025. Telangana (\$1.54 billion), Gujarat (about \$4 billion), and Karnataka (\$3.54 billion) came next.
- ❖ FDI inflows during the July-September quarter of the current fiscal year increased by 43% to \$13.6 billion, up from \$9.52 billion in the same quarter of 2023-2024.
- ❖ The nation saw a 47.8% increase to \$16.17 billion in the previous April-June quarter.

Appointment

Former Assam cricketer Devajit Saikia appointed acting secretary of BCCI



About News:-

- ❖ Devajit Saikia is prepared to assume leadership as the acting secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) till elections are held for the post.

Key Points:-

- ❖ Since Jay Shah has begun his term as the International Cricket Council (ICC) Chairman, Saikia, who is currently the Joint Secretary, will temporarily fill the vacancy in the Secretary position.

- ❖ Within 45 days of Shah leaving his position, the Indian Cricket Board must organise elections for the Secretary position; this will probably be announced soon.
- ❖ Saikia, an Assamese native, used to play first-class cricket. He is the joint secretary of the BCCI at the moment.
- ❖ It is agreed that Saikia will remain in this position until September of the following year, at which point the position will be filled permanently.
- ❖ Saikia was previously managing the role of joint secretary of the board, Binny using the powers under article 7.2 (d) of the BCCI constitution has made the appointment.

About the Board of Control for Cricket in India

- ❖ Founded:- 1 December 1928
- ❖ Headquarters:- Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ❖ President :- Roger Binny

Science & Technology

India's first Hyperloop train test track completed by IIT Madras

About News:-

- ❖ The completion of a 410-meter Hyperloop test track by IIT Madras is a critical turning point in India's progress towards advanced transportation systems and a huge advancement in transportation technology.
- ❖ Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw made the news on Thursday, sharing a video of the test track along with the exciting development.



Speed And Efficiency Of Hyperloop

- ❖ The operational speed of a hyperloop train is approximately 360 km/h, although it can exceed 1,100 km/h.
- ❖ The system provides faster movement and greater energy efficiency by operating in a vacuum-sealed, frictionless environment.

Mumbai-Pune Hyperloop Project

- ❖ India plans to build its first full-scale Hyperloop project along the Mumbai-Pune corridor.
- ❖ Although this ambitious system is still in its early phases of development, its goal is to reduce the travel time between the two cities to just 25 minutes

What Is Hyperlook Technology?

- ❖ The Hyperloop is a high-speed transit system that uses low-pressure tubes to carry pods that act as pressurised vehicles at amazing speeds.
- ❖ Each pod, which can accommodate 24–28 passengers, will go straight between locations without stopping, making it a very effective and promising point-to-point transit option.
- ❖ With its promise of quicker connection and ground-breaking technology for the future, India's Hyperloop project represents a major step towards implementing next-generation transportation systems.

Award

President Droupadi Murmu will confer the National Panchayat Awards 2024

About News:-

- ❖ On December 11, 2024, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj will host the National Panchayat Awards Conferment Ceremony in Plenary Hall, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- ❖ At this esteemed occasion, 45 recipients will receive the National Panchayat Awards from the Hon. President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu.




Key Points:-

- ❖ A total of 45 awardees (36 Gram Panchayats, 3 Block Panchayats, 3 District Panchayats, and 3 Institutions) are selected for the National Panchayat Awards 2024.
- ❖ Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar- (27 Awardees; Rs.20.25 crore award money)

Award Theme	Rank	Gram Panchayat	State/UT	Award Money applicable (Rs. In crores)
Poverty Free and Enhanced Livelihoods Panchayat	1	Galibeedu	Karnataka	1.00
	2	Perumpadappa	Kerala	0.75
	3	Betcherra	Tripura	0.50
Healthy Panchayat	1	Bommasamudrum	Andhra Pradesh	1.00
	2	Keluapalli	Odisha	0.75
	3	Jajuar Middle	Bihar	0.50
Child- Friendly Panchayat	1	Jengrai	Assam	1.00
	2	Bhartaul	Uttar Pradesh	0.75
	3	Rajkang	Tripura	0.50
Water- Sufficient Panchayat	1	Nayampudi	Andhra Pradesh	1.00
	2	Sikander	Himachal Pradesh	0.75
	3	Debbari	Tripura	0.50
Clean and Green Panchayat	1	Tagarampudi	Andhra Pradesh	1.00
	2	Sumoor	Ladakh	0.75
	3	Modale	Maharashtra	0.50
Self- Sufficient Infrastructure in Panchayat	1	Keeranatham	Tamil Nadu	1.00
	2	Sahapur	Odisha	0.75
	3	Parthu	Bihar	0.50
Socially Just & Socially Secured Panchayat	1	Muppalla	Andhra Pradesh	1.00
	2	Thanadhar	Himachal Pradesh	0.75
	3	Hardibhata	Chhattisgarh	0.50
Panchayat with Good Governance	1	Vavkulli Two	Gujarat	1.00
	2	Khaltsi	Ladakh	0.75
	3	Punhada	Bihar	0.50
Women- Friendly Panchayat	1	South Manubankul	Tripura	1.00
	2	Chillapalli	Telangana	0.75
	3	Varaganoor	Tamil Nadu	0.50

Nanaji Deshmukh Sarvottam Panchayat Satat Vikas Puraskar(9 Awardees;Rs. 19 crore award money)

Category	Rank	Panchayat	State	Award Money (Rs. In crores)
Best Gram Panchayats	1	Manyachiwadi	Maharashtra	1.50
	2	BebejiaDemowBangthai	Assam	1.25
	3	Thanadhar	Himachal Pradesh	1.00
Best Block Panchayats	1	Chatrapur	Odisha	2.00
	2	Amarpur	Tripura	1.75
	3	Tirora	Maharashtra	1.50
Best District Panchayats	1	Gomati	Tripura	5.00
	2	Koraput	Odisha	3.00
	3	Udupi	Karnataka	2.00

Sport

Japan Wins 20th Asian Women's Handball Championship



About News:-

- ❖ At the Asian Women's Handball Championship (AWHC) 2024 in New Delhi, the Indian women's handball team finished sixth.
- ❖ On December 10, 2024, the 20th Asian Women's Handball Championship came to a spectacular end as Japan defeated South Korea 25-24 in an exciting final to win their second-ever championship title.
- ❖ India hosted the tournament for the first time.

Key Points:-

- ❖ In a thrilling final, Japan shocked the defending and all-time champions South Korea by winning 25-24 after trailing 12-9 at halftime. After seven consecutive championship victories, South Korea lost to Japan, who won their second title.
- ❖ In the playoffs for fifth and sixth place, Team India put up a fierce and determined fight against heavyweights and ten-time silver medallists China, winning 41-30 in the end.
- ❖ After defeating Iran 28-22 in the third-place playoff, Kazakhstan won its second-ever bronze medal in the competition.
- ❖ In the meantime, Hong Kong-CHN defeated Singapore 33-18 to secure a seventh-place finish ahead of the latter. Iran, Kazakhstan, South Korea, and Japan earned spots in the 2025 IHF World Women's Handball Championship, which will be held in Germany and the Netherlands.

Obituary

Renowned poet Nikki Giovanni passes away at 81



About News:-

- ❖ Renowned poet, activist, author, and professor Nikki Giovanni has passed away. She was 81.

Key Points:-

- ❖ Giovanni was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, on June 7, 1943, under the name Yolanda Cornelia Giovanni Jr. Her work on social issues, particularly gender and race, and civil rights is what made her most famous.
- ❖ According to a profile on the website of Virginia Tech, where she has been a faculty member since 1987 and an Emerita Professor in the Department of English, she has authored over ten children's books in addition to dozens of volumes of poetry, essays, and anthologies.
- ❖ 'Going to Mars: The Nikki Giovanni Project' earned Giovanni a 2024 Emmy for Exceptional Merit in Documentary Filmmaking, and her most recent poetry collection, The Last Book, will be released in the autumn of 2025.
- ❖ Giovanni is survived by her lifelong partner Virginia Fowler, and her son and granddaughter, Thomas and Kai Giovanni in addition to cousins Allison "Pat" Ragan and Haynes Ford and nephew Christopher Black.

Important Day

Universal Health Coverage Day – 12 December



About News:-

Universal Health Coverage Day (UHC Day) is celebrated annually on December 12th to raise awareness about the importance of health care for everyone, everywhere. It emphasizes the need for strong health systems and universal access to health services without financial hardship. The day is observed globally to advocate for universal health coverage (UHC) and to remind governments of their commitment to providing affordable, accessible, and equitable healthcare for all.

The Universal Health Coverage Day 2024 **theme is Health: it's on the government!**

History:-

- ❖ The idea of universal health coverage was formally endorsed by the UN General Assembly in 2012. Before that, the international community recognized health as a fundamental human right but had not focused on comprehensive systems that could provide continuous, affordable, and high-quality care to all.
- ❖ Later, in 2014 the Universal Health Coverage Coalition began celebrating December 12 as UHC Day to mark the UNGA's recognition of UHC's importance. Finally, in 2017 the UNGA officially designated December 12 as International Universal Health Coverage Day, solidifying its status as an annual global observance.

