

International

US President-elect Donald Trump names Kash Patel as next FBI Director



About News :-

- ❖ US President-elect Donald Trump on Saturday (local time) nominated the name of Kashyap "Kash" Patel to serve as the next Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).
- ❖ In a post on the social media platform Truth Social, Trump announced Patel's nomination, highlighting his distinguished career in various government roles. These include serving as Chief of Staff at the Department of Defense, Deputy Director of National Intelligence, and Senior Director for Counterterrorism at the National Security Council during Trump's first term as President.

Key Points :-

- ❖ Trump further tasked Patel with addressing critical issues such as rising crime rates, criminal gangs, and human and drug trafficking across the US border. He also underlined that Patel would work under Attorney General Pam Bondi to restore the FBI's core motto: Fidelity, Bravery, and Integrity.
- ❖ "This FBI will end the growing crime epidemic in America, dismantle migrant criminal gangs, and stop the evil scourge of human and drug trafficking across the border," Trump stated, adding that "Kash will work under our great Attorney General, Pam Bondi, to restore Fidelity, Bravery, and Integrity to the FBI."

- ❖ Donald Trump secured a second term as President of the United States following his victory in the 2024 presidential election, winning 295 electoral votes, defeating Democratic rival Kamala Harris, who garnered 226 votes. Since his victory, Trump has moved quickly to finalise his foreign policy and national security team in preparation for his formal inauguration in January 2025.

National

PM Modi to dedicate successful implementation of three new criminal laws to Nation at Chandigarh

About News :-

- ❖ At a ceremony in Chandigarh on December 3, 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi committed the country to the effective application of the three new criminal laws: Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita 2023, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam 2023.
- ❖ Since Chandigarh is the first Indian state or Union Territory to fully adopt the three new criminal laws, the event was held there.
- ❖ According to Union Minister Amit Shah, the three new criminal laws would be put into effect in the nation in three years.
- ❖ On July 1, 2024, three new criminal laws went into effect: Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita 2023, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam 2023.

THE NEW CRIMINAL LAWS TO THE NATION



Who attended the Function?

- ❖ The theme of the event was "Secure Society, Developed India—From Punishment to Justice." Chandigarh Director General of

Police Surendra Singh Yadav, Punjab Governor Gulab Chand Kataria, Chandigarh Administrator, and Union Home Minister and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah were present.

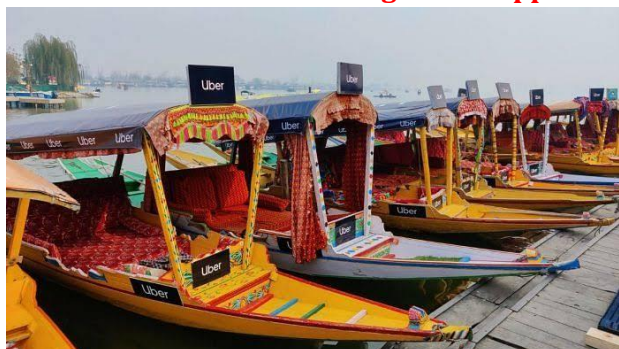
- ❖ As part of the event, Prime Minister Modi watched as the Chandigarh Police performed a live crime scene investigation demonstration at Punjab Engineering College, demonstrating how to gather evidence under the new legislation.
- ❖ Amit Shah claims that the goal of the new criminal laws is to obtain a conviction within three years of a formal complaint being filed.

About the Three Criminal Laws

- ❖ The three new criminal laws replace the ones from the British era and aim to modernize, streamline, and increase the transparency of the nation's legal system.
- ❖ The following laws are repealed by the three new ones:
- ❖ The Indian Penal Code 1860 was superseded by the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.
- ❖ The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 was superseded by the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, and
- ❖ The Indian Evidence Act of 1872 will be superseded by the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023.

State

Uber rolls out India's first water transport service with shikara bookings on its app



About News :-

- ❖ The international American ride-hailing app With the onboarding of the Shikaras at the famous Dal Lake in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, Uber has introduced its first water transportation service in India.

- ❖ For the first time, an Indian ride-hailing app has started offering reservations for water transportation.
- ❖ Shikaras are houseboats that are smaller and elegantly adorned, like Venice's gondolas.
- ❖ In certain European nations, such as Venice, Italy, Uber provides water transportation services.
- ❖ Nevertheless, the service that was first offered by the corporation in Asia was the one that was provided in Srinagar.

Uber Shikara Service in Dal Lake

- ❖ Seven Shikara owners have reportedly entered into an agreement with Uber, allowing consumers to reserve Shikaras at prices set by the government.
- ❖ According to the firm, Uber will transfer the full cash on to its Shikara partners and won't charge any costs.
- ❖ It is anticipated that the Shikara operators would receive a guaranteed salary with the start of the Uber service.
- ❖ It will make hiring shikaras easier for visitors, put an end to haggling over prices with shikara owners, and increase local tourism.

Economic

Govt scraps windfall profit tax on domestic crude oil, export of fuels



About News :-

- ❖ The Indian government eliminated the windfall tax, also known as the special additional excise duty, on the export of gasoline, diesel, and aviation turbine fuel (ATF) as well as on locally produced crude petroleum oil. The Road and Infrastructure Cess, which was imposed on the export of gasoline and diesel, has also been eliminated by the government.

- ❖ On November 2, 2024, the Union Ministry of Finance declared that these taxes would be eliminated.
- ❖ On July 1, 2022, the Indian government implemented a windfall tax to target the excessive profits made by oil businesses as a result of the abrupt rise in crude petroleum oil and its derivatives prices brought on by the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

The windfall tax was established for what reason?

- ❖ The government claims that because of the extremely high costs, Indian oil refiners imported crude oil from overseas, processed it domestically, and then sold the gasoline, diesel, and aviation turbine fuel on the global market. In many regions of the nation, this led to a shortage of petroleum products.
- ❖ To deter oil corporations from exporting crude oil and petroleum products from India, the Indian government levied a windfall tax or special additional excise charge.
- ❖ It was anticipated that this would lower prices and expand the nation's supply of these petroleum products.
- ❖ The government intended to utilize the tax revenue to pay for a range of welfare initiatives.

Why did the government decide to do away with the tax?

- ❖ The administration decided to do away with the windfall tax on petroleum products for a number of reasons.
- ❖ The government does not anticipate a sharp rise in the price of crude oil, since the price has stabilized on the global market.
- ❖ There is a downward trend in the windfall tax revenue as well. This tax generated around Rs 25,000 crore in 2023–2024 and Rs 6,000 crore in 2024–2025.
- ❖ The windfall tax was opposed by domestic crude oil producers because it reduced their profitability and discouraged domestic production.
- ❖ It also caused concern among Indian and international petroleum industry investors.

Appointment

Supreme Court Justice Murdu Fernando Sworn in as Sri Lanka's 48th Chief Justice



About News :-

- ❖ On December 2, 2024, Justice Murdu Nirupa Bindushini Fernando was sworn in as Sri Lanka's Chief Justice at the Presidential Secretariat in front of President Anura Kumara Dissanayake. Following the trailblazing Justice Shirani Bandaranaike, Justice Fernando is the second woman to occupy the prestigious position of Chief Justice, marking a historic milestone in Sri Lankan judicial history.
- ❖ A Historic Appointment
- ❖ Sri Lanka's 48th Chief Justice.
- ❖ The second female occupant of the role, following Justice Shirani Bandaranaike.
- ❖ Appointed when Chief Justice Jayantha Jayasuriya retired.

Ceremony and Approval

- ❖ The Constitutional Council gave its approval to the nomination.
- ❖ In front of President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, sworn in at the Presidential Secretariat.
- ❖ Dr. Nandika Sanath Kumanyake, the president's secretary, was among the dignitaries present.

Background in Education

- ❖ A graduate of Moratuwa's Princess of Wales College.
- ❖ Graduated from the University of Colombo's Faculty of Law with a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.).

Career Path

- ❖ at 1985, she started working at the Attorney General's Department.
- ❖ In 1997, he was elevated to deputy solicitor general.

- ❖ In 2014, he was promoted to Additional Solicitor General.
- ❖ In March 2018, he was appointed to the Supreme Court.
- ❖ Held the positions of senior most judge on the Supreme Court and Senior Additional Solicitor General.

Defence

India-Malaysia joint military exercise Harimau Shakti 2024 to begin in Kuala Lumpur



About News :-

- ❖ On December 2, 2024, the bilateral Joint Military Exercise "Harimau Shakti" between India and Malaysia got underway in Bentong Camp in the Pahang district. The drill was held in the Indian Army's Umroi Cantonment in Meghalaya in 2023.
- ❖ The dates of the 2024 annual bilateral exercise are set for December 2–15, 2024.
- ❖ In October 2012, the Indian Army contingent and the Malaysian Army contingent participated in Harimau Shakti, their first yearly bilateral military exercise, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- ❖ The goal of the combined combat exercise is to improve the two military forces' cooperation and coordination.

Attendees of the Harimau Shakti Exercise in 2024

- ❖ 78 members of the Indian Army's Mahar Regiment will represent the Indian contingent in the 2024 Harimau Shakti Exercise, while 123 members of the Royal Malaysian Regiment will represent Malaysia.

The Exercise's Main Focus

- ❖ The exercise will strengthen the two nations' amicable military relations and improve their capacity to conduct cooperative counter-insurgency operations in jungle environments.

There will be two stages to the activity.

- ❖ Phase I: Cross-training between the two Armies will be the main focus of this phase, which will include lectures, drill practice in jungle settings, and demonstrations.
- ❖ Phase II: Both armies will actively participate in a simulated exercise in which soldiers will carry out a number of exercises, such as anti-ambush, harbor occupation, conducting reconnaissance patrols, ambush, and an attack on a terrorist-occupied region.

Miscellaneous

Yogi govt to set up luxury tent city for Mahakumbh 2025 in UP

About News :-

- ❖ After declaring the Maha Kumbh area in Prayagraj as a new district, the Uttar Pradesh In Sector 20 (Arail) of the Mahakumbh Mela region, the government is constructing a luxurious tent city with over 2,000 Swiss cottage-style tents to house the anticipated crores of devotees for the Mahakumbh in 2025.
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation Limited (UPSTDC) is working on the initiative in conjunction with six important partners, including Aagaman, Kumbh Camp India, Rishikul Kumbh Cottage, Kumbh Village, Kumbh Canvas, and Era, according to an official statement.
- ❖ The next Maha Kumbh, which takes place in Prayagraj once every twelve years, is set to start on January 13 and end on February 26, 2025.



Key Points :-

- ❖ The Maha Kumbh region in Prayagraj was designated as a new district by the Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government on Sunday.

- ❖ This large-scale initiative intends to serve the anticipated 45 crore tourists from 75 nations.
- ❖ The tents will be built to international standards and feature amenities comparable to those of a five-star hotel.
- ❖ Prices for lodging in the tent city will range from Rs 1,500 to Rs 35,000 per day and fall into four categories: villa, maharaja, Swiss cottage, and dormitory.
- ❖ Extra guests (apart from those staying in dorms) would incur additional fees of Rs 4,000 to Rs 8,000.
- ❖ These tents will provide top-notch lodging options for the 45 crore pilgrims who are anticipated to arrive between January 1 and March 5.
- ❖ To ensure the comfort of guests, the tent city will feature Villa Tents spanning 900 square feet, Super Deluxe Tents ranging from 480 to 580 square feet, and Deluxe Blocks covering 250 to 400 square feet.

Sport

India opens against Hong Kong in Asian women's handball

About News :-

- ❖ On December 3, 2024, the 20th Asian Women's Handball Championships 2024 got underway in New Delhi. India is hosting the Asian Women's Handball Championships for the first time.
- ❖ From November 24 to December 4, 2022, South Korea hosted and won the 19th Asian Women's Handball Championships in Seoul and Incheon, South Korea.
- ❖ Originally scheduled to take place in Almaty, Kazakhstan, the 20th Championships were eventually moved to India.



20th Asian Women's Handball Championship 2024 organizer

- ❖ The Asian Handball Federation, which oversees handball in Asia, hosts the Asian Women's Handball Championship as one of its main events.
- ❖ The Championships are hosted by a member federation and are organized by the Asian Handball Federation. The Handball Federation of India is hosting it this year.
- ❖ From December 3–10, 2024, the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi will host the 20th Asian Women's Handball Championships.

Women's Handball World Championship 2025 Qualifying Event

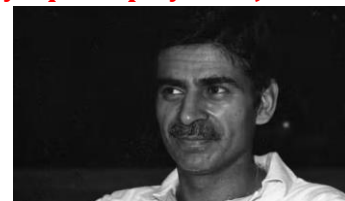
- ❖ The International Handball Federation's Women's Handball World Championship 2025, which Germany and the Netherlands will co-host from November 27 to December 14, 2025, will be qualified for by the 20th Asian Women's Handball Championships.
- ❖ The 2025 Women's Handball World Championship will be open to the top four teams from the 20th Asian Women's Handball Championship in 2024.

20th Asian Women's Handball Championships teams

- ❖ The Asian Women's Handball Championships feature the top eight Asian teams.
- ❖ The top two teams in each of the two groups formed from the eight teams will advance to the 2025 World Championships and the semifinals.

Obituary

Legendary squash player Raj Manchanda dies



About News :-

Legendary squash player Raj Manchanda, the Arjuna Award recipient and winner of six national titles, died at the age of 79.

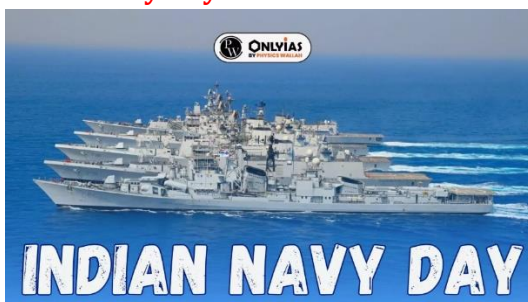
- ❖ Manchanda, one of the most recognizable faces in the Indian squash fraternity, was the undisputed national champion from 1977 to 1982 and won an unprecedented 11 titles for the Services.

Key Points :-

- ❖ He also represented India in the Asian Championships and world-level tournaments during this period and made his presence felt through his patented use of the lob accompanied by a nagging accuracy of shots all around the court.
- ❖ He was awarded the Arjuna Award in 1983.
- ❖ He started to make his presence felt when he was captain with the Electrical and Mechanical Engineer Corps (EME) of the Indian Army, winning his first national title at the age of 33.
- ❖ In 1981, at the Asian Championships, he faced the legendary Jahangir Khan who would go on to dominate the world stage in the 1980s.
- ❖ He captained the Indian team on several occasions, including when the country won silver at the 1981 Asian Team Championships in Karachi.
- ❖ His best individual performance was a fourth-place finish at the 1984 Asian Championships in Jordan where the team, led by him, won a bronze medal.

Important Day

Indian Navy Day – 4 Dec



About News :-

- ❖ Indian Navy Day is observed annually on December 4th to honor the valor, achievements, and dedication of the Indian Navy.
- ❖ The day commemorates the success of Operation Trident during the 1971 Indo-Pak

war, showcasing the Navy's prowess and strategic capabilities.

- ❖ This occasion pays tribute to the naval forces and highlights their critical role in safeguarding India's maritime boundaries and interests.
- ❖ Indian Navy Day 2024 will emphasize the Navy's importance in ensuring national security, fostering international cooperation, and promoting a sustainable maritime environment.

The Indian Navy Day 2024 Theme is "Strength and Power through Innovation and Indigenisation,"

History of Indian Navy Day

- ❖ The Indian Navy's history dates back to 1612 when the East India Company formed a maritime force to protect its interests. Over time, this force evolved into the Indian Navy after India gained independence in 1947.
- ❖ The Royal Indian Navy was renamed the Indian Navy in 1950.
- ❖ December 4th was chosen to honor Operation Trident, during which the Navy launched a successful attack on Karachi Harbor in 1971.
- ❖ The operation resulted in significant damage to the Pakistani Navy, marking one of the first major uses of anti-ship missiles in combat.

