

16<sup>th</sup> Aug, 2024**Bihar Special****Reclassification of Tanti-Tatwa Caste to Extremely Backward Classes (EBC) Category****Why in the news?**

The Bihar State Government has issued an order to reclassify the Tanti-Tatwa caste back into the Extremely Backward Classes (EBC) category. This decision follows a ruling by the Supreme Court.

❖ **Adjustment of Appointments:**

- Consequently, individuals from the Tanti-Tatwa caste who were appointed under the Scheduled Castes (SC) category will now be adjusted to the EBC category.

**Background of Amendments:**❖ **1991 Reservation Act Amendments:**

- The Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes Reservation Act of 1991 was amended to remove the Tanti-Tatwa caste from the EBC list and include it in the SC category, along with Pan/ Swansi. This amendment allowed Tanti-Tatwa individuals to benefit from SC reservations.

❖ **Supreme Court Ruling:**

- The Supreme Court, following a case involving Ashish Rajak, ruled that the Tanti-Tatwa caste should be excluded from the SC category.

**Introduction of E-Detection System in Bihar****Why in the news?**

Bihar's transport department has introduced an e-detection system at all toll plazas across the state.

❖ **Purpose of the System:**

- The system is designed to automatically detect vehicles lacking necessary documents like permits, fitness certificates, insurance, or other required papers.

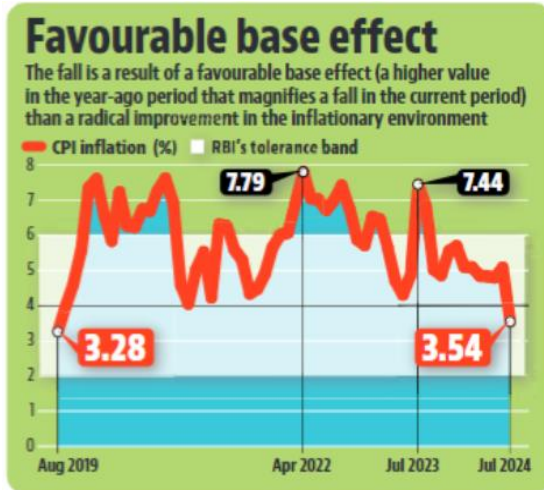
❖ **Automatic E-Challan Issuance:**

- The new system will automatically issue e-challans to both commercial and private vehicles that pass through toll plazas without proper documentation.

## Economy

### Retail Inflation Eases in July 2024

Why in the news?



India's retail inflation dropped to 3.54% on an annual basis in July 2024, as per government data released on August 12, 2024. This is the first time in nearly five years that inflation has fallen below the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) medium-term target of 4%, primarily due to a high base effect.

## Environment And Geography

### New Underwater Geographical Names

Why in the news?

India has advanced marine exploration with the recent naming of three underwater structures in the Indian Ocean.

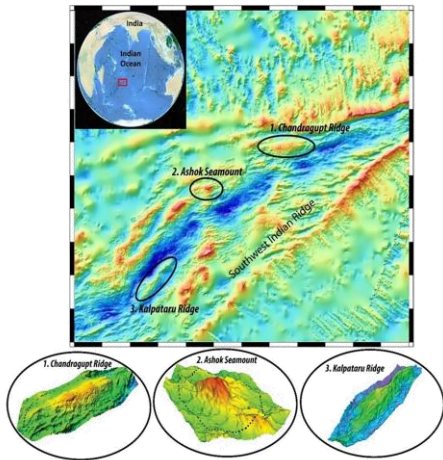
#### ❖ Named Structures:

- **Ashoka Seamount:** Named after Emperor Ashoka of the Mauryan dynasty.
- **Chandragupt Ridge:** Named after Chandragupta Maurya.
- **Kalpataru Ridge:** "Kalpataru" is a Sanskrit term that translates to "wish-fulfilling tree." In Hindu mythology, it is often associated with a divine tree that grants wishes and desires to those who seek its blessings.

#### ❖ Discovery and Naming:

- **Discovery:** The structures were discovered by oceanographers from the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), Goa.
- **Location:** All three are located along the Southwest Indian Ridge area of the Indian Ocean.
- **Discovery Vessels:**
  - ✓ Ashoka Seamount and Kalpataru Ridge were discovered in 2012 by the Russian vessel Akademik Nikolay Strakhov.
  - ✓ Chandragupt Ridge was discovered in 2020 by the Indian vessel MGS Sagar.

❖ **Previous Indian-Named Structures:**



- **Raman Ridge:** Named after Sir CV Raman, discovered in 1951.
- **Panikkar Seamount:** Named after NK Panikkar, discovered by Sagar Kanya in 1993.
- **Sagar Kanya Seamount:** Named after the research vessel Sagar Kanya.
- **DN Wadia Guyot:** Named after geologist DN Wadia, discovered by Sagar Kanya in 1992.

**Defence And Security**

**Long Range Glide Bomb "GAURAV"**

**Why in the news?**

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted the maiden flight test of the Long Range Glide Bomb (LRGB), named "GAURAV," from an Indian Air Force (IAF) Su-30 MK-1 platform.

- The glide bomb successfully hit the target with pinpoint accuracy.
- The test was conducted off the coast of Odisha.

❖ **Features of GAURAV ::**

- GAURAV is an air-launched, 1,000 kg class glide bomb capable of hitting long-distance targets.
- It uses a highly accurate hybrid navigation system, combining INS (Inertial Navigation System) and GPS data, to steer towards the target after launch.

❖ **Development:**

- Designed and developed indigenously by the Research Centre Imarat (RCI) in Hyderabad.
- Adani Defence and Bharat Forge, acting as Development cum Production Partners, participated in the flight trial.



### Miscellaneous

#### 'One India - One Ticket' Initiative

##### Why in the news?

The Indian Railway and National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) have partnered to promote the 'One India - One Ticket' initiative.



- ❖ **Objective:** This collaboration aims to enhance the travel experience for passengers by providing a seamless travel solution across Indian Railways and Namo Bharat trains.
- ❖ **Booking Convenience:** Passengers can now book Namo Bharat train tickets as an add-on service when purchasing an IRCTC train e-ticket.

#### Robot Fish 'Eve'

##### Why in the news?

'Eve' is a robot fish created to explore the ocean and collect DNA samples to investigate the origins of life on Earth.

- ❖ **Technology:** Designed by ETH Zurich, it features a flexible silicone tail and uses two pumps for movement.
- ❖ **Capabilities:** 'Eve' can identify new marine species and navigate around underwater obstacles while capturing DNA for analysis.

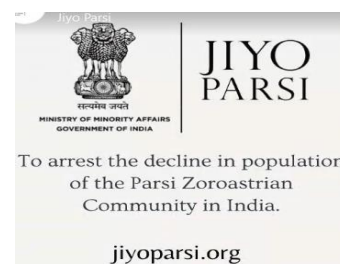


#### Jiyo Parsi Scheme Portal

##### Why in the news?

Union Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju launched the portal for the Jiyo Parsi Scheme.

- ❖ **Objective:** This portal will enable Parsi people to apply online, check the status of their application and receive financial assistance online through Direct Benefit Transfer mode
- ❖ This web portal will enable more and more Parsi couples to avail the benefits of this unique scheme





## 'Amrit Gyan Kosh' and 'Faculty Development' Portals

### Why in the news?

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has recently launched the 'Amrit Gyan Kosh' and 'Faculty Development' portals as part of the Mission Karmayogi initiative.

- ❖ **Aim:** To enhance knowledge and skills among government employees to improve public service.

### About Mission Karmayogi

- ❖ **Objective:** Enhance civil servants' skills through creativity, transparency, and technology.
- ❖ **Launched on:** September 2, 2020.
- ❖ **Learning Focus:** Combines "on-site" and "off-site" learning methods.
- ❖ **Key Pillars:**
  - **Policy Framework:** Establishes guiding policies.
  - **Institutional Framework:** Sets up supporting institutions.
  - **Competency Framework:** Defines required skills and competencies.
  - **Digital Learning Framework (iGOT-Karmayogi):** Provides online learning resources.
  - **e-HRMS:** Electronic Human Resource Management System.

- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Tracks and assesses program effectiveness.



## Sports

### Suspension of Pramod Bhagat

#### Why in the news?

Pramod Bhagat, India's Tokyo 2020 Paralympic gold medalist, has been suspended for 18 months by the Badminton World Federation (BWF) for violating anti-doping regulations, specifically for failing to report his whereabouts three times.

- ❖ **Impact:** Due to this suspension, Bhagat will not be able to defend his title at the Paris Paralympics.
- ❖ **Suspension:** His suspension is effective until September 1, 2025.



## Important Days/ Dates

### National Space Day

#### Why in the news?

India is celebrating its inaugural National Space Day on August 23, 2024, in honour of the successful landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the Moon.

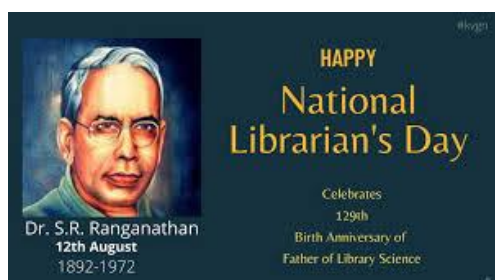
- ❖ The theme for this year's celebration is "Touching Lives while Touching the Moon: India's Space Saga."



### National Librarians' Day

#### Why in the news?

August 12, has been denoted National Librarians' Day in India. Dr. SR Ranganathan, who is known as the Father of Library Science in India, birthday is observed every year as National Librarian Day in India.



## News in Short

- ❖ In run-up to 78th Independence Day, the Divyangjan expedition team of Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI), under the aegis of Ministry of Defence, has unfurled 7800 sq ft Indian national flag atop Uhuru Summit of Kilimanjaro, the highest peak of African continent.
- ❖ Former Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra has assumed the role of Indian Ambassador to the US, succeeding Taranjit Singh Sandhu.
- ❖ Dulon Das, 50, whose family came to Silchar in Assam from Bangladesh's Sylhet in 1988, has become the first person to get Indian Citizenship under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) in the northeastern state.
- ❖ India and the US signed a landmark MoU on August 13, 2024 to explore cooperation in the MSME sector, aiming to boost trade and collaboration.

- ❖ E-scooter co Ather became the fourth unicorn in 2024 after Perfios, Krutrim AI, and Rapido.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh (MP) has become the first state in India to provide cash assistance to girl students for purchasing sanitary napkins.

- ❖ Hockey India has appointed PR Sreejesh as the chief coach of the Indian junior men's team.
- ❖ Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has launched a new initiative 'HIM-UNNATI' aimed at promoting natural farming across the state.



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