

International Relations

World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly

Why in the news?

India will host the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) in Delhi.

- ❖ It is being held for the first time in ITU's (International Telecommunication Union) history of 150 yrs in India from 14th-24th October 2024.
- ❖ It will be attended by world leaders and experts of the Telecom field from 190+ countries.

About WTSA 2024:

- ❖ It is a quadrennial event and serves as the governing conference of the ITU (International Telecommunication Union) Standardisation Sector (ITU-T).
- ❖ It is one of the three world conferences organized by the International Telecommunication Union, an entity within the United Nations system.
- ❖ HQ of ITU: Geneva, Switzerland.



ITU WTSA
NEW DELHI 2024
15 TO 24 OCTOBER 2024

Globe Steering Committee

Why in the news?

India has been elected to the 15-member steering committee of the global anti-corruption platform Globe Network.

- ❖ India was elected to the steering committee after a multi-stage voting process during the fifth plenary meeting of the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (Globe Network) in Beijing.
- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is the central authority from India for the GloBE Network while the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) are member authorities.

❖ **Significance:**

- As a member of the Steering Committee, India will play a crucial role in shaping the global agenda against corruption and asset recovery.

About Globe Network:

- ❖ It is a G20 initiative to combat cross-border financial crimes and corruption and received strong support from India in 2020.
- The network is emerging as a unique platform where agencies from across the world share best practices, criminal intelligence, develop strategies and support in the common cause of combating corruption.
- ❖ It has 121 member countries and 219 member authorities and has one chair, one vice-chair and thirteen members in the steering committee for providing leadership.

Science And Technology

PARAM Rudra supercomputers

Why in the news?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently launched three PARAM Rudra supercomputers.

- ❖ The supercomputers, developed indigenously at a cost of ₹130 crore, have been deployed in Pune, Delhi, and Kolkata.
- **Objective:** To drive pioneering research across multiple scientific disciplines.
- The PARAM Rudra supercomputers, part of India's goal of achieving self-reliance in high-performance computing (HPC), will support advanced scientific research in various fields.
- The Giant Metre Radio Telescope (GMRT) in Pune will use the new system to explore astronomical phenomena such as Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs).
- ❖ **Significance:** It will play a pivotal role in India's push for scientific and technological advancement under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).

**National Supercomputing Mission
(2015)**

- ❖ It is a collaboration between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- ❖ It aims to create a network of advanced computing systems across India.

Awards and Honors

Sastra Ramanujan Prize 2024

Why in the news?

The 2024 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize will be awarded to Alexander Dunn of the Georgia Institute of Technology, U.S.

- ❖ He was awarded for several breakthroughs in the study of modular forms, half-integral weight forms, metaplectic forms and their connections to prime numbers and integer partitions.

Sastra Ramanujan Prize

- ❖ SASTRA has instituted SASTRA-RAMANUJAN AWARD comprising US \$10,000 and a citation for outstanding researchers all over the world under the age of 32 since 2005.



Index and Report

IMD World Talent Ranking 2024

Why in the news?

India has been ranked 58th in the IMD's World Talent Ranking 2024.

- ❖ Talent score of India in 2024: 40.47.
- ❖ In 2023, India was at the 56th rank.

About the Index:

- ❖ It assesses nations based on their ability to develop, retain, and attract highly qualified domestic and international talent, thereby gauging their long-term value-creation capabilities.
- ❖ It is the eleventh edition of this index, first edition was published in 2014.
- ❖ The top three nations in this index are:
 - Switzerland: Talent score: 100
 - Singapore: Talent score: 85:65
 - Luxembourg: Talent score: 81:69

The 2024 IMD World Talent Ranking

2024 COMPETITIVENESS RANKING

		Score	
01	Switzerland	100.00	-
02	Singapore	85.65	↗ 6
03	Luxembourg	81.69	↗ 1
04	Sweden	81.02	↗ 6
05	Denmark	78.49	↗ 2
06	Iceland	77.94	↗ 3
07	Norway	77.92	↗ 4
08	Netherlands	77.88	↗ 3
09	Hong Kong SAR	77.22	↗ 7
10	Austria	77.17	↗ 1

Global Innovation Index (GII) , 2024

Why in the news?

India has been ranked 39th out of 133 global economies in the latest Global Innovation Index, 2024.

- ❖ Last year, India was ranked 40th in the index.
- ❖ India leads the lower middle-income group. It holds the record for overperforming on innovation for the 14th consecutive year.
- ❖ **Significance:** India's ranking has improved from 81st in 2015 to 39th in 2024.

About the GI, 2024:

- ❖ It is the world's benchmark resource charting global innovation trends to guide policymakers, business leaders and others in unleashing human ingenuity to improve lives and address shared challenges, such as climate change.
- ❖ It is released by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).
 - HQ of WIPO : Geneva
- ❖ According to WIPO's Global Innovation Index (GII) 2024:

- Switzerland, Sweden, the United States, Singapore and the United Kingdom are the world's most innovative economies.
- China, Turkiye, India, Viet Nam and the Philippines are the fastest 10-year climbers



Important Days/ Dates

World Tourism Day

Why in the news?

World Tourism Day is annually celebrated on 27th September.

- ❖ **Theme 2024:** Tourism and Peace
 - It highlights the vital role of the tourism sector in fostering peace and understanding between nations and cultures and supporting reconciliation processes.
- ❖ **Host Country:** Georgia.
- ❖ **History of this day:**
 - It commemorates the adoption of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) statutes in 1970.
 - ✓ The headquarter of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is in Madrid, Spain
 - Established by the United Nations in 1980, the day laid the foundation for global tourism, which intends to connect people across borders.

- In 1997, UNWTO started the tradition of selecting a host country every year to highlight the significance of tourism on an international level.



World Rabies Day

Why in the news?

World Rabies Day is annually celebrated on 28th September.

- ❖ **Objective:** It aims to raise awareness and advocate for rabies elimination globally.
- ❖ It is observed on September 28 to commemorate the death of Louis Pasteur since 2007
- ❖ **Theme 2024:** "Breaking Rabies Boundaries"

Rabies

- ❖ Rabies is a vaccine-preventable, zoonotic, viral disease affecting the central nervous system.
 - In up to 99% of the human rabies cases, dogs are responsible for virus transmission.

- It spreads to people and animals via saliva, usually through bites, scratches, or direct contact with mucosa (e.g. eyes, mouth, or open wounds).
- Children between the age of 5 and 14 years are frequent victims.



News in Short

- ❖ Actress Anushka Sen has recently been honoured with an award recognising her efforts to strengthen the relationship between Korea and India.
- ❖ World Environmental Health Day is celebrated on September 26 every year.

- ❖ Theme 2024: "Environmental Health: Creating Resilient Communities through Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation".
- ❖ The Union Labour Ministry and e-commerce giant Amazon have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to leverage the National Career Service (NCS) portal for boosting job opportunities.
- ❖ World's longest-serving death row inmate (Iwao Hakamada from Japan) has been acquitted.
- ❖ Sandhya Suri's hard-hitting police procedural drama "Santosh" has been selected by the UK as their official entry in the race for the Best International Feature Film at the 2025 Oscars.



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

For more such content, subscribe to our Telegram Channel https://t.me/pw_upsc