

International

Donald Trump Takes Oath as 47th President of United States

About News:-

- ❖ Republican leader Donald John Trump, on Monday, took oath as the 47th president of the United States. The swearing-in ceremony happened in the Capitol Rotunda.
- ❖ This marked the beginning of his second term in office. He succeeded Joe Biden after securing victory in the November 2024 election.
- ❖ JD Vance took oath as the 50th Vice President of the United States at the US Capitol Rotunda in Washington DC. JD Vance was with his wife Usha Vance and daughter.
- ❖ US Chief Justice John Roberts administered the oath of office to the 40-year-old JD Vance, who became the third youngest Vice President of the United States.
- ❖ On behalf of the Government of India External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar attended Donald Trump's grand inauguration ceremony.

Key Points:-

- ❖ Key actions during President Trump's second term include issuing nearly 1,600 pardons for those involved in the 2021 USA Capitol riots, withdrawing the USA from the Paris Climate Agreement and the World Health Organization (WHO), and ending birthright citizenship for children of undocumented immigrants and temporary visa holders.
- ❖ Additionally, he proposed a 100% tariff on goods from BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) countries, which could significantly impact India, and a 25% tariff on imports from Canada and Mexico starting February 1.
- ❖ He also declared a national emergency at the southern border with Mexico and reversed 78 executive orders that former President Joe Biden had issued.



- ❖ He imposed travel bans on certain countries. He repealed several executive orders that supported diversity initiatives and aimed to promote equality for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) community.

About Donald Trump:

- ❖ Donald John Trump was born on June 14, 1946, in New York City, USA.
- ❖ In 2016, Trump won the presidential election in the United States and went on to serve as the 45th President from 2017 to 2021.

Maharashtra

Maharashtra signs 54 MoUs worth ₹15.70 lakh crore at Davos

About News:-



- ❖ The Maharashtra government has signed 54 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) worth ₹15.70 lakh crore during the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting 2025 in Davos.
- ❖ These agreements are expected to generate approximately 16 lakh jobs across various sectors.

- ❖ Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has emphasized the state's goal of achieving a USD 1 trillion economy. These investments are part of efforts to attract global capital and expand Maharashtra's industrial base.

Key Points:-

- ❖ One of the key agreements involves MSN Holdings Ltd, which plans to establish an advanced lithium battery and cell manufacturing project under the state's 'Ultra Mega Project' initiative. The project, requiring an investment of ₹14,652 crore, aims to create 8,760 direct and indirect jobs, with a focus on development in the Vidarbha region.
- ❖ The largest MoU signed is with Reliance Group, which has committed ₹3.05 lakh crore for investments across petrochemicals, polyester, renewable energy, bioenergy, green hydrogen, green chemicals, retail, telecommunications, data centers, industrial development, hospitality, and real estate.

About The WEF Annual Meeting 2025:-

- ❖ The WEF Annual Meeting 2025, being held from January 20-24 in Davos, Switzerland, is themed "Collaboration for the Intelligent Age."
- ❖ India has a strong presence at this year's forum, with eight states—Kerala, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and West Bengal—seeking investment opportunities.
- ❖ India's delegation includes five union ministers, three state chief ministers, and nearly 100 CEOs alongside leaders from government, civil society, and the arts. Over 350 governmental leaders, including 60 heads of state and government, are attending the meeting.
- ❖ This year marks India's largest delegation at the WEF, underscoring the country's active role in global economic discussions.

State

Kerala CM Launches 'Kavacham' Disaster Warning System

About News:-



- ❖ Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan will inaugurate the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority's (KSDMA) early warning system 'KaWaChAM', an acronym for Kerala Warnings Crisis and Hazards Management System, today (January 21) at 5 pm.
- ❖ The word 'kavacham' in Malayalam means 'shield', symbolising protection.

Developed By:-

- ❖ KaWaChAM is developed by KSDMA with financial support from the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the World Bank under the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project. This advanced system integrates Kerala's entire early warning mechanism under one framework.

Key Points:-

- ❖ Key features of the system include hazard assessment, issuance of alerts, and action planning based on threat levels.
- ❖ The system will have 126 sirens-strobe light units installed across the state, 93 emergency operations centers (EoCs) connected via VPNs (virtual private networks), decision support software, and a large data center for streamlined operations.
- ❖ The system will have weather warnings sourced from global weather models. As soon as they are received from the central nodal departments, these will then be disseminated through social media and location-based SMS alerts.

- ❖ A siren-strobe light network is being established to provide on-ground disaster notifications.
- ❖ When alerts are issued by state and district EOCs, the sirens and messages will notify the public promptly about potential disasters.
- ❖ The KSDMA conducted a successful test run of the sirens last year.

Economic

Centre introduces Diamond Imprest Authorization scheme to revive the sector

About News:-

- ❖ The Department of Commerce, Government of India, launched the Diamond Imprest Authorization (DIA) Scheme on January 21, 2025, as a strategic move aimed at strengthening the country's foothold in the global diamond trade.
- ❖ The initiative seeks to simplify and reduce the costs associated with importing and handling diamonds for exporters, further positioning India as a key player in the international diamond market.
- ❖ According to the announcement, the DIA scheme will come into effect on April 1, 2025, marking a new chapter for India's diamond industry that aims to enable growth, create jobs, and meet renewed global competitiveness.



Key Features of the Scheme:

- ❖ **Duty-free imports:** Exporters can import natural cut and polished diamonds of less than $\frac{1}{4}$ carat (25 cents) without paying customs duty.
- ❖ **Export obligation:** Exporters must add at least 10 percent value to these diamonds before exporting them.

- ❖ **Eligibility:** The scheme is open to exporters with Two Star Export House status (a recognition granted by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade) and above, with at least \$15 million in exports annually.
- ❖ This move comes in response to policies in diamond-producing countries like Botswana and Namibia, where manufacturers must process diamonds locally.
- ❖ India's DIA Scheme aims to keep investments and jobs within the country, helping small and medium diamond exporters (MSMEs) compete globally.

Appointment

Dhananjay Shukla elected President of ICSI for 2025

About News:-

- ❖ The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) has elected Dhananjay Shukla as the president for 2025.
- ❖ He is a commerce and law graduate a fellow of ICSI and is a practising company secretary in Gurugram.

Key Points:-

- ❖ On the other hand, Pawan G Chandak has been appointed as the vice president for this, and he has a specialisation in labour laws and labour welfare.
- ❖ He is also the vice president of the ICSI for the year 2024. With more than 20 years of experience, he has assisted numerous start-up ventures to be established in India by foreign promoters.
- ❖ While Pawan G Chandak, who is appointed as the vice president, is a company secretary with specialisation in labour laws and labour welfare. Before electing to this position, he was also elected to the Western India Regional Council (WIRC) of ICSI for the term 2019-2022 and served as Secretary of the Region in 2019.
- ❖ Before this, he was Chairman of the Pune Chapter of WIRC of ICSI in the years 2012 and 2017.



Defence

Tri-Services tableau to debut in Republic Day Parade, 'Shashakt aur Surakshit Bharat'

About News:-



- ❖ A Tri-Services tableau will participate in the Republic Day Parade 2025, showcasing the spirit of jointness and integration among the Armed Forces, according to an official statement. The theme for the tableau is 'Shashakt aur Surakshit Bharat'.
- ❖ Displaying the spirit of jointness and integration, the tri-services tableau will roll down Kartavya Path for the first time during the 76th Republic Day Parade.

Key Points:-

- ❖ The tableau will showcase the conceptual outlook for jointness and integration in the Armed Forces, ensuring national security and operational excellence.
- ❖ The tableau would depict a Joint Operations Room facilitating networking and
- ❖ communication among the three services. It would display a battlefield scenario demonstrating a synchronised operation on land, water, and air with the Indigenous Arjun Main Battle Tank, Tejas MKII fighter aircraft, Advanced Light Helicopter, destroyer INS Visakhapatnam & a Remotely Piloted Aircraft, reflecting the tri-services synergy in multi-domain operations.
- ❖ An official statement highlighted that headquarters, Integrated Defence Staff, has taken focused actions towards tri-services synergy to steer the reforms in the right direction.

- ❖ This evolution towards jointness and integration, driven by the synergy between the three services, will significantly enhance the country's military capabilities by fostering a culture of shared responsibility and unified action in safeguarding national interests.
- ❖ Republic Day Parade 2025 will be a unique blend of India's cultural diversity and military prowess, with a special focus on 75 years of enactment of the constitution and Jan Bhagidari.
- ❖ President of the Republic of Indonesia Mr Prabowo Subianto will be the Chief Guest at the parade. Briefing media in New Delhi, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh stated that a 160-member marching contingent and 190-member band contingent from Indonesia will take part in the Parade at Kartavya Path on January 26, 2025, along with the contingents of the Indian Armed Forces.

Award

Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare conducts a workshop on the National Anubhav Awards Scheme, 2025



About News:-

- ❖ The Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare is conducting various activities under the Anubhav Outreach Campaign, 2025 to maximize the submission of write-ups under the National Anubhav Awards Scheme, 2025. All write-ups published from 01.04.2024 up to 31.03.2025 are eligible to be considered for the Anubhav Awards, 2025.

- ❖ In this series, a workshop on the National Anubhav Awards Scheme, 2025 for the Anubhav Nodal Officers of various Ministries/Departments including 12 Public Sector Banks and Central Public Sector Enterprises will be conducted at CSOI, Vinay Marg at 03:00 PM on 23rd January 2025 under the chairmanship of Secretary (Pension).
- ❖ On the behest of the Prime Minister, “the Anubhav portal” [<https://pensionersportal.gov.in/Anubhav/>] was launched in March 2015 for retiring/retired central government officials to submit write-ups on their experiences while in Government. To date, 59 Anubhav Awards and 19 Jury Certificates have been conferred to the outstanding write-ups.

About Anubhav Awards

- ❖ Anubhav Awards were introduced by the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) in 2016 to facilitate the sharing of experience gained during service while working under the Government.
- ❖ It follows from the Anubhav portal that was launched in March 2015.
- ❖ The portal is supposed to be used as an online space for retiring civil servants — so that they can archive all the key experiences and insights discovered during their work experience.
- ❖ The main objective is to create a repository of knowledge that can influence future administrative reforms and enhance governance practices.
- ❖ The Award includes a medal, a certificate, and a monetary incentive of Rs. 10,000.

Sport

Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya to Open Khelo India Winter Games 2025

About News:-

- ❖ The Khelo India season starts with the Khelo India Winter Games 2025 in Ladakh on 23.01.2025 (Thursday).

- ❖ Nineteen teams, comprising states, Union Territories, and institutional outfits, will compete over five days in two events – ice hockey and ice-skating.
- ❖ This will be the first part of KIWG 2025.

Key Points:-



- ❖ The second part, featuring snow games like skiing, will be hosted by Jammu & Kashmir from February 22-25.
- ❖ Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya will be in attendance at the opening ceremony at the iconic Nawang Dorjay Stobdan Sports Complex in Leh on Thursday and will declare the Games Open.
- ❖ A traditional, Ladakhi-style opening has been planned to welcome 594 participants, of which 428 will be athletes.
- ❖ This will be the second time Ladakh will be hosting the Winter Games, into its fifth edition.

About Khelo India Winter Games:-

- ❖ Under the Khelo India Scheme, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) organizes National-level competitions, i.e., Khelo India Youth Games, Khelo India University Games, Khelo India Para Games and Khelo India Winter Games to provide a platform for talented athletes to showcase their sporting and competitive skills.
- ❖ Starting in 2020, so far four editions of the Khelo India Winter Games have been successfully conducted with the participation of 36 States/UTs.

- ❖ The fifth edition of Khelo India Winter Games 2025 will be held in the UT of Ladakh and J&K from Jan. 23-27 and Feb. 22-25, respectively, across two ice and four snow disciplines.
- ❖ Apart from tapping talent, the Khelo India Winter Games also showcase a region's art, culture, and heritage, and promote tourism through sports.

Important Day

India Celebrates Parakram Diwas 2025 to honour the legacy of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on the occasion of his 128th Birth anniversary

About Day:-

- ❖ Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti, also known as Parakram Diwas, is observed on January 23, 2025, to honor the birth anniversary of one of India's most revered freedom fighters.
- ❖ This day is celebrated nationwide to recognize Netaji's remarkable contributions to the independence struggle and to inspire citizens to uphold the values of courage, patriotism, and determination that he embodied.

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti 2025 Overview

- ❖ Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti, observed on January 23, 2025, marks the 128th birth anniversary of one of India's most iconic freedom fighters. Also celebrated as Parakram Diwas, this day honors Netaji's immense contributions to India's independence movement and his vision for a united, self-reliant nation.

- ❖ The celebration highlights his legacy of courage, patriotism, and determination, inspiring citizens across the country.

Key Points:-

- ❖ On the occasion of Parakram Diwas 2025, a grand celebration is set to unfold from 23rd January to 25th January 2025 at Barabati fort in the historic city of Cuttack, the birthplace of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- ❖ The multifaceted celebration will honour the legacy of Netaji on his 128th birth anniversary.
- ❖ The three day event, scheduled for 23rd-25th January 2025, will be inaugurated by Shri Mohan Charan Majhi, the Chief Minister of Odisha, on 23.01.2025.
- ❖ Following the government's decision to commemorate Netaji's birth anniversary as 'Parakram Diwas', the first Parakram Diwas was held that year at Victoria Memorial in Kolkata.
- ❖ The year 2022 saw the unveiling of a hologram statue of Netaji at India Gate, New Delhi; and in 2023, 21 unnamed islands in the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago were named after the 21 Param Vir Chakra Awardees.
- ❖ In 2024, the Prime Minister inaugurated the event at the historic Red Fort in Delhi, the site of the INA trials.



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