

21th Aug, 2024

Bihar Special

Bihar Tree Protection Day

Why in the news?

On August 19, 2024, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar celebrated Raksha Bandhan and "Bihar Tree Protection Day" by tying a Raksha Sutra (protective thread) to a 'Bombax ceiba' tree at Rajdhani Vatika, Patna.

- He also planted a 'Doranda' sapling at Rajdhani Vatika during the event.

❖ Bihar Tree Protection Day:

- Initiated on August 13, 2012, on Raksha Bandhan, the "Bihar Tree Protection Day" aims to raise awareness about the environment, promote tree preservation, and encourage widespread afforestation.

❖ Government Initiatives:

- Dr. Prem Kumar, Minister of Climate Change, stated that large-scale tree planting is being carried out under various schemes, including "Jal-Jeevan-Hariyali" (Water-Life-Greenery).



Economy

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Update: April-June 2024

Why in the news?

For the period of April to June 2024, India attracted a total net Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of \$6.9 billion.

- ❖ This represents a significant increase from the \$4.7 billion recorded during the same period in the previous year (April-June 2023).

Growth in Gross Inward FDI

- ❖ **Year-on-Year Growth:** Gross inward FDI increased by 26.4% YoY to \$22.5 billion in Q1 of 2024-25.
- ❖ **Key Sectors:** Manufacturing, financial services, communication services, computer services, and energy sectors contributed to approximately 80% of gross FDI inflows.

- ❖ **Major Source Countries:** Singapore, Mauritius, the Netherlands, the US, and Belgium. These countries accounted for around 75% of the FDI flows.

Environment And Geography

Green Tug Transition Programme

Why in the news?

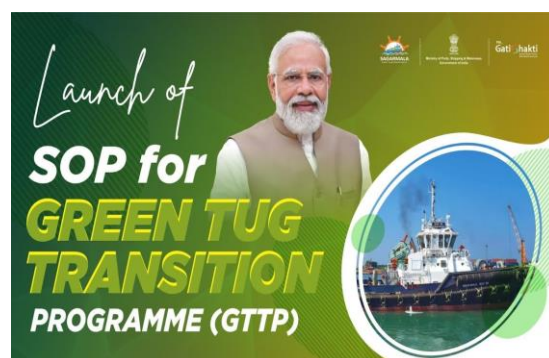
The Centre has launched Green Tug Transition Programme (GTTP) to convert traditional fuel engine harbour tugs to greener alternatives, with a ₹1,000 crore investment.

- ❖ **Phase 1:** Begins on October 1, 2024, ends on December 31, 2027.
- ❖ **Participating Ports:**
 - Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority
 - Deendayal Port Authority
 - Paradip Port Authority
 - VO Chidambaranar Port Authority
- ❖ **Technology Focus:**
 - The four major ports will each acquire or charter at least two green tugs, initially battery-electric with potential for hybrid and green hydrogen technologies.

Future Compliance

- ❖ **Transition Goal:** By 2033, all new tugs built for Indian ports must meet green standards, contributing to the Maritime India Vision 2030's targets.

Maritime India Vision 2030 (MIV 2030)



- ❖ **Renewable Energy Target:** 60% of power demand in major ports from renewable sources by 2030.
- ❖ **Emission Reduction Target:** 30% reduction in carbon emissions per tonne of cargo by 2030.

Defence And Security

Para-Drop Operation Of World's First Portable Hospital At 15,000 Feet

Why in the news?

The Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Indian Army executed a pioneering operation, marking the first instance of its kind.

- ❖ **Precise Para-Drop:** The operation involved the precise para-drop of the Aarogya Maitri Health Cube at an altitude of around 15,000 feet.

Aarogya Maitri Health Cube



- ❖ **Indigenous Development:** The trauma care cubes were developed indigenously under Project BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita and Maitri).
- ❖ **Critical Medical Assistance:** These cubes are vital for delivering critical medical aid in remote and inaccessible areas.

Miscellaneous

Ironman 70.3 Triathlon

Why in the news?

Pawni, a resident of Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, successfully completed the Ironman 70.3 triathlon in Davao, Philippines.

- ❖ **Timing:** At 18 years old, she finished the triathlon in 7 hours and 22 minutes, well within the allowed time.
- ❖ **Challenging Event:** The Ironman 70.3 consists of three rigorous segments: a 1.9 km open ocean swim, a 90 km bicycle ride, and a 21.1 km run.



Sports

Brooks Koepka Wins LIV Golf Greenbrier Title

Why in the news?

Brooks Koepka won the LIV Golf Greenbrier Title 2024, defeating Jon Rahm in a playoff.

- ❖ **Record:** This victory marks Koepka's fifth career title in the Saudi-backed LIV Golf series.
- ❖ **Previous Titles:** Koepka's previous LIV titles include Jeddah (2022, 2023), Orlando (2023), and Singapore.



Western India Billiards and Snooker Championship

Why in the news?

Pankaj Advani of ONGC won the senior snooker title at the Western India Billiards and Snooker Championships 2024.

- ❖ **Location:** Khar Gymkhana billiards hall, Mumbai
- ❖ **Billiards Title:** Advani won the billiards title, overcoming S. Srikrishna in the final.
- ❖ **Snooker Title:** In the snooker final, Advani defeated Kamal Chawla.
- ❖ **Milestone Achievement:**



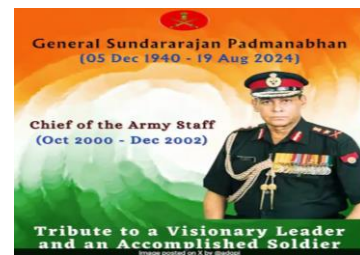
- This victory marks Advani's seventh consecutive title in Mumbai over the past two years.

Obituary

S. Padmanabhan

General Sundararajan Padmanabhan, former Chief of Army Staff, passed away in Chennai.

Tenure: Served as the Chief of Army Staff from September 30, 2000, to December 31, 2002.



Girish Sahni

Former CSIR Director—General Girish Sahni passed away at 68 due to a heart attack.

- ❖ **Career:**
 - Developed clot-specific streptokinase; licensed to Nostrum Pharmaceuticals in 2006.
 - Led the creation of India's first indigenous clot-buster drug, 'STPase,' and recombinant streptokinase ('Klotbuster' and 'LupiFlo').



Phil Donahue

Phil Donahue was an American media personality, writer, film producer and the creator, and host of "The Phil Donahue Show," passed away recently in Manhattan.

Career Highlights:



- ❖ Phil Donahue pioneered the daytime talk show format with "The Phil Donahue Show," which aired from 1967 to 1996.
- ❖ Known for addressing controversial and social issues like politics and relationships, his show was notable for its audience participation, allowing viewers to ask questions and share their thoughts directly.

News in Short

- ❖ India has approved Nepal's export of an extra 251 MW of electricity, bringing the total to 1,000 MW.
- ❖ The 19th CII India - Africa Business Conclave will be held in New Delhi from August 20-22.
- ❖ Prime Minister Modi will visit Poland and Ukraine from August 21-23, focusing on dialogue and diplomacy, with meetings planned with Ukrainian President Zelensky and Indian students.



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

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