

### Bihar Special

#### Mukhyamantri Balika Cancer Pratirakshan Yojana

##### Why in the news?

Mukhyamantri Balika Cancer Pratirakshan Yojana has been launched to prevent girls aged 9-14 years from developing cervical cancer.

- ❖ State health minister Mangal Pandey has launched the free human papillomavirus vaccination drive for girls aged 9-14 years.
  - In the first phase, it was launched in five districts namely Patna, Nalanda, Siwan, Purnia and Muzaffarpur.
- ❖ **Significance:** With this, Bihar has become the first state in the country to launch such vaccination programmes for young girls.



### International Relations

#### Electricity Trade Agreement

##### Why in the news?

India, Nepal, and Bangladesh have signed a trilateral agreement to export 40 megawatts of electricity from Nepal to Bangladesh via India's power grid.

- ❖ It was signed in Kathmandu and enabled Nepal to sell electricity to Bangladesh for the first time. Nepal has only been exporting electricity to India.

##### About the Agreement:

- ❖ As per the agreement:
  - Bangladesh will now import 40 megawatts of electricity from Nepal.
  - The Indian side has also been involved in the trade deal, as Nepal's electricity will be transmitted to Bangladesh through the transmission infrastructure on the Indian territory.
  - For now, Nepal will transmit the energy to India through the 400 KV Dhalkebar-Muzaffarpur cross-border transmission line before India transmits the equivalent to Bangladesh.

### Defence And Security

#### Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS)

##### Why in the news?

DRDO has successfully conducted three flight tests of the 4th Generation, technically advanced miniaturised Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) at the Pokhran Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan.

### About VSHORADS:

- ❖ It is a Man Portable Air Defence System designed and developed indigenously by Research Centre Imarat (RCI) in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories and DcPPs.
- ❖ **Significance:** This new missile equipped with modern technologies will give a further technological boost to the Armed Forces against aerial threats.



### Maritime Decarbonization Conference

#### Why in the news?

Conference on Maritime Decarbonisation in India co-hosted by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) concluded in New Delhi.

- ❖ **Objective:** To discuss a range of critical themes, including green port infrastructure, clean harbour craft, the use of zero-carbon fuels, emissions reduction strategies, and the electrification of inland waterways.

#### About the Conference:

- ❖ It underscored India's commitment to achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2070 and highlighted strategic initiatives to decarbonize its maritime sector, aligned with the Maritime India Vision 2030.

### Awards and Honors

#### MIDORI Prize 2024

#### Why in the news?

Vera Voronova from Kazakhstan and Ysabel Agustina Calderón Carlos from Peru have been selected for the MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity 2024.

- ❖ They have been recognised for their outstanding contributions to conservation and sustainability.

<b>Vera Voronova</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ She is the executive director of the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan.</li> <li>❖ She has made significant contributions to restoring ecosystems and recovering endangered species in Central Asia</li> </ul>	<b>Ysabel Agustina Calderón Carlos</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ She is the founder and chief executive of Sumak Kawsay, an environmental business in Peru.</li> <li>❖ Her work focuses on stopping the decline of pollinators while supporting local economies, especially for Indigenous women and youth.</li> </ul>
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### About the award:

- ❖ It was instituted by AEON Environmental Foundation, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
  - The announcement of the award was made in Montreal Quebec, Canada on October 2 2024.
  - The award ceremony will take place on October 29, 2024, in Cali, Colombia, during the high-level segment of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- ❖ The award is given every two years to people who make outstanding contributions to protecting biodiversity at all levels.
  - Each winner receives a cash prize of \$100,000 and a commemorative plaque.
  - With this year's winners, the total number of MIDORI Prize recipients has reached 19 individuals from 17 different countries.
  - The first MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity was awarded in 2010 to Jean Lemire and Dr. Gretchen C. Daily.



### Vayalar award 2024

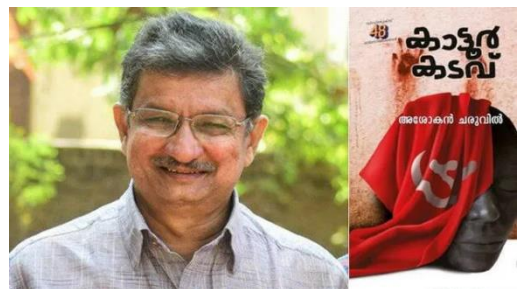
#### Why in the news?

The Vayalar Award for 2024 has been conferred upon writer **Ashokan Charuvil** for his novel 'Kattoorkadavu'.

- ❖ 'Kattoorkadavu' explores themes of life, revival and the national movement set against the backdrop of a village devastated by the Great Flood.

#### About the award:

- ❖ It includes a cash prize of one lakh rupees and a bronze sculpture by renowned artist Kanai Kunhiraman.
- ❖ This year marks the 48th edition of the Vayalar Award, which has celebrated outstanding literary works since its inception in 1977.



## Sports

### Irani Cup

#### Why in the news?

Mumbai defeated the Rest of India to win the Irani Cup after a gap of 27 years.

- ❖ Mumbai's last Irani Cup victory came in 1997-98. Since then, the domestic giants had lost eight ties, the last one in the 2015-16 season, before this win.
- ❖ The rest of India has the most Irani Cup wins – 30.

#### About the Irani Cup:

- ❖ Founded during the 1959-60 season, the Irani Cup is named after the late Z.R.Irani, who was part of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) between 1928 and 1970.
- ❖ It is hosted as an annual red-ball match between the Ranji Trophy winners and a RoI team.
- ❖ The Irani Cup was first held in the 1959-60 domestic season as a one-off contest to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Ranji Trophy. 2024 was the 62nd edition of this tournament.



## Important Days/ Dates

### World Cerebral Palsy Day

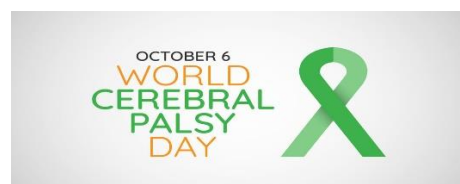
#### Why in the news?

It is observed annually on **October 6** to raise awareness and advocate for the rights of individuals living with cerebral palsy (CP).

- ❖ **History of this day:** It was started in 2012.
- ❖ **Theme 2024:** The theme for this year is **Uniquely CP**, which emphasizes that a person's disability does not define their entire identity.
- ❖ **Significance:** The aim of this day is to break these stereotypes and work towards building an inclusive society where individuals with cerebral palsy are respected for their identity and talents.

#### Cerebral Palsy

- ❖ It is a group of conditions that affect movement and posture. It's caused by damage that occurs to the developing brain, most often before birth.



### World Cotton Day

#### Why in the news?

World Cotton Day is celebrated annually on **7th October** every year.



- ❖ It was celebrated on October 7 in Cotonou, Benin, marking the first time the event was held in a country rather than at an international organization.
- ❖ This also marks the first celebration of WCD on the African continent.
- ❖ **Theme 2024:** "Cotton for Good."

#### History of this day:

- ❖ The initiative of World Cotton Day was born in 2019, when four cotton producers in sub-Saharan Africa—Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali, known as the Cotton Four—proposed the World Trade Organization a World Cotton Day celebration on October 7.
- ❖ According to WTO, a United Nations General Assembly decision on August 30, 2021, officially recognized October 7 as World Cotton Day



#### News in Short

- ❖ Sanjeev Sanyal, a member of Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, has been appointed as the Chancellor of Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics (GIPE), Pune
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed Aviral Jain as the new Executive Director (ED) with effect from October 1, 2024 to look over legal and other departments.
- ❖ India's foreign exchange reserves crossed \$700 billion for the first time on record.
  - With this, India is only the fourth economy in the world to cross \$700 billion in reserves after China, Japan, and Switzerland.
- ❖ The Gujarat government will celebrate October 7 to 15, 2024 as 'Vikas Saptah (Development Week)' to mark the beginning of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's development works as Chief Minister and Prime Minister.
  - This week has been chosen as Narendra Modi had taken over as Chief Minister of Gujarat on October 7, 2001.



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