

International Relations

UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Why in the news?

India has been chosen to Chair the 68th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND).

- ❖ Shambhu Kumaran (India's Permanent Representative to the UN in Vienna) officially assumed the Chairmanship of CND on 6th November, 2024.
- ❖ This is the first time that India has been named to Chair this important UN body.
- ❖ **Significance:**
 - It reinforces India's growing leadership role on the global stage and its commitment to addressing international issues through established multilateral mechanisms.

About Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND):

- ❖ It is the principal policy-making body of the United Nations on drug-related matters.
- ❖ It is mandated to monitor global drug trends, support Member States in formulating balanced policies, and oversee the implementation of the major international drug conventions.



Science And Technology

100 Day TB elimination campaign.

Why in the news?

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched the 100 Day TB elimination campaign.

About the campaign:

- ❖ It was launched by Jagat Prakash Nadda from Panchkula, Haryana on 7th December 2024.
- ❖ It will be implemented across 347 districts in 33 States and Union Territories.
- ❖ **Objective:** To enhance TB case detection, reduce diagnostic delays, and improve treatment outcomes, particularly in high-risk groups.
 - It envisages improving programme performance on key output indicators viz. TB incidence rates, diagnostic coverage, and mortality rates.

❖ *Significance:*

- This initiative is in line with the vision of a TB-Mukt Bharat that was laid out by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, at the 2018 Delhi End TB Summit.

- ❖ According to the latest government data, nearly 21.69 lakh TB cases have been notified between January and October 2024.
- The incidence rate of TB in India has shown a 17.7 per cent decline from 237 per 1,00,000 population in 2015 to 195 per 1,00,000 population in 2023.
- TB deaths have reduced by 21.4 per cent from 28 per lakh population in 2015 to 22 per lakh population in 2023, according to the government.
- ❖ India aims to eliminate TB by 2025, five years ahead of the global target of 2030.



Schemes In News

National Mental Health Survey-2

Why in the news?

The National Mental Health Survey-2 (NMHS-2) was officially launched at JIPMER, Puducherry.

- ❖ *Objective: To provide state-level data on critical mental health issues, including depression, suicide, and substance abuse.*
- *It will also help to identify service gaps to guide policymakers in resource allocation and improving care delivery.*

About the Survey:

- ❖ It is a comprehensive initiative to assess the prevalence of mental health conditions and treatment gaps in the community.
- ❖ It is spearheaded by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and implemented by NIMHANS, Bengaluru.
- ❖ It is one of India's largest mental health surveys, encompassing all 28 states and 8 Union Territories.



Miscellaneous

India's first Google Safety Engineering Centre

Why in the news?

Google has chosen Hyderabad to set up Google Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC).

- ❖ Telangana government has entered into an agreement with Google to establish India's first Google Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC).
- ❖ It would be the second-of-its-kind in the Asia-Pacific region, after Tokyo, and only the fifth in the world, with similar facilities in Dublin, Munich and Malaga.

Google Safety Engineering Centre (GSEC)

- ❖ It is a specialized international cybersecurity hub that will play a vital role in developing advanced security and online safety products for India.



Awards and Honors

Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development.

Why in the news?

Veronica Michelle Bachelet Jeria has been awarded the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development 2024.

- ❖ She is the former President of Chile and has been awarded for her advocacy for gender equality and the rights of vulnerable populations.
- ❖ She became the inaugural Director of UN Women and served as UN High Commissioner for Human Rights from 2018 to 2022.

About Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development:

- ❖ It is an annual prestigious award. It has been named after former Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi. It has been conferred every year since 1986 by the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust.
 - The 2024 award was announced by the international jury of the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust, chaired by former Foreign Secretary and National Security Advisor Shivshankar Menon.
- ❖ It consists of an award of Rs.10 million and a trophy with a citation.



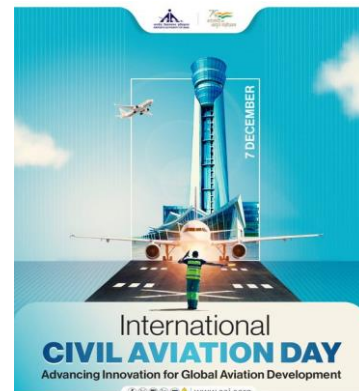
Important Days/ Dates

International Civil Aviation Day

Why in the news?

International Civil Aviation Day is annually celebrated on December 7.

- ❖ December 7, 2024, will mark the 80th anniversary of the signing of the Convention on International Civil Aviation in Chicago, United States in 1944.
- ❖ History of this day:
 - It was commemorated for the first time on December 7, 1994 marking the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Convention on International Civil Aviation.
- ❖ Objective: To recognize the importance of aviation to the social and economic development of the world
- ❖ Theme of this day:
 - Every five years, coinciding with ICAO anniversaries (2014/2019/2024/2029/etc), the ICAO Council establishes a special anniversary theme for International Civil Aviation Day.
 - 2024 theme: "Safe Skies. Sustainable Future: Together for the next 80 years".



Armed Forces Flag Day 2024

Why in the news?

7th December is celebrated as Armed Forces Flag Day every year.

- ❖ Objective:
 - To honor the valiant members and martyrs of the Army, Navy, and Air Force.
 - This day honors their sacrifices and unwavering dedication to preserving the peace, freedom, and security of the country.
- ❖ History of this day:
 - On December 7, 1949, Armed Forces Flag Day was established as a measure to promote the well-being of military troops.

सशस्त्र सेना झंडा दिवस



News in Short

- ❖ Former Bihar DGP DP Ojha, IPS officer of the 1967 batch passed away on 6th December, 2024
 - He was appointed as the DGP on February 1, 2003 and removed from the post on December 6, 2003.
- ❖ UNGA has declared December 21 as World Meditation Day.
 - India, was a member of the core group of countries that guided the unanimous adoption of the resolution titled 'World Meditation Day' in the 193-member UN General Assembly on December 6, 2024.

- ❖ 'Prashasan Gaon Ki Ore' campaign:
 - It will be launched on 19th of December during the Good Governance Week.
 - The one-week programme will be held till 24th of December, covering events in all the districts across the country.
 - This is the third time that the Government will be conducting a national campaign at Tehsil level to address public grievances and improve service delivery.



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