

### Science and Technology

#### Vaghsheer



Mumbai-based Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited handed over the sixth Scorpene submarine, Vaghsheer, of Project P-75 to the Indian Navy.

#### Key point

- ❖ Vaghsheer can launch attacks with both torpedoes and tube-launched anti-ship missiles, whether submerged or on the surface.
- ❖ The submarine is capable of performing a variety of missions, including Anti-Surface Warfare, Anti-Submarine Warfare, Intelligence Gathering, and Area Surveillance.
- ❖ Vaghsheer also features a high level of automation, with a sophisticated Integrated Platform Management System and Combat Management System that integrates diverse equipment, systems, and sensors.
- ❖ Additionally, Vaghsheer stands apart from the previous five submarines as it is fitted with an indigenously developed Air Conditioning Plant and an Internal Communication & Broadcast System.
- ❖ Delivery of the six submarines Kalvari, Khanderi, Karanj, Vela, Vagir, and now Vaghsheer, reaffirms India's position in the exclusive group of submarine-building nations.

### Index

#### Henley Passport Index



Singapore has reclaimed its place at the top of the world's most powerful passports which enjoy visa-free access to 195 out of 227 destinations worldwide, according to the Henley Passport Index.

### Key point

- ❖ India has slipped to 85th position in the Henley Passport Index from 80th last year, with visas to 57 countries.
- ❖ Henley Passport Index authoritative ranking of world passports based on destinations accessible without a prior visa.
- ❖ Initiated in 2006 as the Henley & Partners Visa Restrictions Index (HVRI).
- ❖ Utilizes data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and Henley & Partners' research team.
- ❖ This index includes 199 passports and 227 travel destinations.
- ❖ Passport's visa-free 'score' is determined by the number of countries it provides access to without a visa.
- ❖ **Index Authority:** Considered the standard reference tool for global citizens and sovereign states in assessing passport rankings and global mobility.

### Event

The 21st edition of the Third Eye Asian Film Festival




The 21st edition of the Third Eye Asian Film Festival will kick off in Mumbai on 10 January 2025.

### Key point

- ❖ The opening film will be the acclaimed Chinese drama *The Black Dog*, which won the Best Film award at the Cannes Film Festival.
- ❖ A total of 61 films have been selected for the festival, which will run from today through the 16th of this month, with screenings scheduled in Andheri, Sion, and Thane.
- ❖ The Asian Spectrum section will feature films from countries including China, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, Tunisia, and Bhutan, showcasing a wide variety of storytelling styles.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ South Korea will be highlighted in the Country Focus segment, with six of its films being showcased.</li> <li>❖ Renowned lyricist and screenwriter Javed Akhtar will be honoured with the Asian Cinema Culture Award, while journalist Rafique Baghdadi will receive the Satyajit Ray Memorial Award.</li> </ul>
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### Person in News

<p><b>General Joseph Aoun</b></p> 	<p>General Joseph Aoun was elected President of Lebanon by the Lebanese Parliament on 9 January 2025.</p> <p><b>Key point</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The presidency had been vacant for over two years since Michel Aoun's term ended in October 2022.</li> <li>❖ Parliament failed 12 times before reaching a consensus on electing a new President.</li> <li>❖ Lebanon is facing significant challenges after 14 months of conflict between Israel and Hezbollah.</li> <li>❖ General Aoun's leadership is critical for rebuilding the conflict-affected country.</li> </ul>
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### M.P Special

<p><b>Plastpack 2025</b></p> 	<p>Chief Minister launched plastic industry conference 'Plastpack 2025' in Indore on 9 January 2025</p> <p><b>Key point</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The conference, running until January 12, serves as an industry fair featuring participation from over 400 companies and more than 2,000 exhibitors from the plastic industry.</li> <li>❖ Organized in collaboration with the Madhya Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation (MPIDC), the event aims to explore growth opportunities and innovations in the sector.</li> </ul>
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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ To encourage industrial investment, regional investor summits have been organized, with six summits held so far, leading to an investment of Rs 4 lakh crore.</li></ul> |
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### Short News

- ❖ Union Minister of Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal launches **8th edition** of the National Programme for Organic Production at the Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (NASC Complex), Pusa in New Delhi.
- ❖ Retired Supreme Court Justice **B.N. Srikrishna** has been appointed as Chairman of the Advisory Board for Equal, an identity verification firm, and its investor, OneMoney, a data-sharing platform.
- ❖ **H. Lakshmanan**, former Executive Director of Sundaram-Clayton (now TVS Holdings Ltd), has passed away at the age of 91.
- ❖ Blue Origin launches its New Glenn rocket on January 10, 2025, marking a significant milestone in the company's space exploration efforts.
- ❖ Renowned playback singer **P. Jayachandran**, celebrated for his soulful voice that enchanted music enthusiasts for over six decades, passed away at the age of 81 in Thrissur on, January 9.

**Important Daily Current Affairs Question**

1. What is the rank of India in Henley Passport Index 2025?

- A. 85th
- B. 84th
- C. 83th
- D. 81st

Answer-A

2. The 21st edition of the Third Eye Asian Film Festival began at which of the following places?

- A. Bhopal
- B. Mumbai
- C. Indore
- D. Delhi

Answer -B

