

Defence And Security

World Maritime Conference

Why in the news?



The World Maritime Technology conference (WMTC) is being held in Chennai from December 4 to 6, 2024.

- ❖ It is a triennial global event under the auspices of the World Maritime Technology Congress.
- ❖ It marks the return of the conference to India after a gap of 15 years, with the last edition hosted in Mumbai.
- ❖ The previous conference, which was delayed due to the Covid pandemic, was held in Copenhagen in April 2022.

Schemes In News

PRAGATI

Why in the news?

The University of Oxford has lauded India's PRAGATI initiative as a transformative model for governance.

- ❖ It has urged the global community to learn from India's innovative approach.

About the study:

- ❖ In a study titled "From Gridlock to Growth: How Leadership Enables India's PRAGATI Ecosystem to Power Progress," the university highlighted the platform's role in revolutionizing project monitoring and resolution in India.
 - The report emphasizes PRAGATI's success in breaking bureaucratic inertia, fostering a "Team India" mindset, and instilling accountability and efficiency across central and state governments.
 - PRAGATI has enhanced social progress and environmental sustainability. Fast-tracked projects providing essential services — such as roads, railways, water, and electricity — have improved the quality of life for millions.
- ❖ The Oxford report further notes that PRAGATI's lessons are particularly relevant for nations grappling with the Middle-Income Trap.

- ❖ It demonstrates how governance innovation, combined with strategic infrastructure investments, can create conditions for sustained growth and progress.

PRAGATI

- ❖ PRAGATI stands for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation and was launched in 2015.
- ❖ It has redefined the management of large-scale infrastructure projects and social programs across the nation.
- ❖ The platform combines digital tools, real-time data, drone feeds, and video conferencing to expedite project timelines while ensuring development reaches even the remotest regions.

Miscellaneous

Oxford's World of the Year

Why in the news?



Following a public vote in which more than 37,000 people had their say, Oxford has announced “Brain rot” as Word of the Year for 2024.

Brain rot

- ❖ It is defined as “the supposed deterioration of a person’s mental or intellectual state, especially viewed as the result of overconsumption of material (now particularly online content) considered to be trivial or unchallenging.
- ❖ The first recorded use of ‘brain rot’ was found in 1854 in Henry David Thoreau’s book Walden, which reports his experiences of living a simple lifestyle in the natural world.
- ❖ The term increased in usage frequency by 230% between 2023 and 2024.

Sports

World Athletes of the Year 2024

Why in the news?

Letsile Tebogo and Sifan Hassan have been adjudged as the “World Athletes of the Year 2024” at the World Athletics Awards.

- ❖ **Tebogo** became Botswana's first Olympic champion at Paris 2024. Tebogo received his award after becoming Botswana's first Olympic champion at Paris 2024 in the 200m, crossing the line at the Stade de France in 19.46 seconds.
 - The 21-year-old was named **Male World Athlete of the Year** as well as **Male Track Athlete of the Year**.
- ❖ **Dutchwoman Hassan** collected the **Female World Athlete of the Year** award after winning her first global marathon title in the Paris Olympics in less than 18 months after claiming the 2023 London Marathon on debut.
 - Her Paris triumph made her the **first athlete since Emil Zatopek** to win medals in the 5000m, 10,000m and marathon at the same Games.
 - She also claimed the **Female Out of Stadium Athlete of the Year** award with Ethiopia's men's marathon gold medallist Tamirat Tola taking the men's equivalent.

World Athlete of the Year Awards

- ❖ First awarded in 1988, the annual prize is given to the best male and female track and field athletes of that calendar year.



Persons In News

Justice Murdu Fernando

Why in the news?



Justice Murdu Nirupa Bindushini Fernando has been sworn in as the new Chief Justice of Sri Lanka.

- ❖ She succeeded Chief Justice Jayantha Jayasuriya, who recently retired.
- ❖ She becomes the 48th Chief Justice of Sri Lanka and the second woman to hold this position.

Important Days/ Dates

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Why in the news?

International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) is a global healthcare event observed every year on the 3rd of December.

- ❖ **Objective:** To promote the rights, dignity, and well-being of people with disabilities at every level of society.
 - Additionally, it also aims to raise awareness of the situations of persons with disabilities in all aspects of political, social, economic, and cultural life.
 - It aims to work towards creating equal opportunities for persons with disabilities through the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to "leave no one behind."
- ❖ **History of this day:**
 - The annual observance of this day began in 1992, after it was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 47/3.
 - In 2006, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) was also adopted.
- ❖ **Theme 2024:** "Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future".

HOSPITALS

Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future

A global call to recognize the critical role that persons with disabilities play in creating a more inclusive and sustainable world for all.

03rd December 2024
International Day of
**Persons with
Disabilities**



News in Short

- ❖ **Rajendra Prasad Jayanti:**
 - It is celebrated on 3rd December to mark the birth anniversary of India's first president, Dr. Rajendra Prasad.
 - December 3 is also celebrated as Medha Diwas in Bihar.
- ❖ India's Pavan Kampelli has secured a bronze medal in the e-football event at the 2024 Asian Esports Games in Bangkok, Thailand.
 - This is the first-ever medal for India at the Asian Esports Games.
 - He is popularly known as 'Mr. Tomboy' had recently emerged as the winner of the WAVES Esports Championship 2025 for eFootball last month.

❖ As per the West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee:

➤ UNESCO has declared the state as a top destination for heritage tourism.

❖ The 59th All India Conference of Director Generals / Inspector Generals of Police was held at Bhubaneswar on November 30 and December 1, 2024.

❖ Gujarati “**Gharcholas**” traditionally worn on weddings within Hindu and Jain communities has received a Geographical Indication or GI tag from the Government of India.

❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved an investment of ₹1,750 crore for the construction of the **Tato-I Hydro Electric Project (HEP)** in Arunachal Pradesh's Shi Yomi district.

❖ President Droupadi Murmu conferred National Awards for Empowering Persons with Disabilities to thirty-three exemplary individuals and institutions on International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2024 in New Delhi.



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