

### International

#### Emmanuel Macron names Francois Bayrou as the new French Prime Minister



#### About News:-

French President Emmanuel Macron, on Friday, appointed Francois Bayrou as president of the Democratic Movement party (MoDem).

#### Key Points:-

- ❖ Bayrou ran for president three times before rallying behind Macron in 2017.
- ❖ The 73-year-old is the mayor of the southwestern town of Pau as well as the founder of the centrist MoDem party.
- ❖ Barnier had stepped down after just three months in office, marking the shortest tenure of any prime minister in modern French history.
- ❖ On December 5, while addressing the nation from the Elysee Palace, Macron vowed to continue his five-year mandate despite the no-confidence vote that led to the resignation of Barnier.
- ❖ Notably, the 331 members of the 577-seat lower house of the French parliament voted to remove Barnier's centrist minority government, throwing the country into political instability as it faces a growing budget deficit.
- ❖ Far-left and far-right opposition parties triggered the vote after Barnier used special powers to push through budget measures without parliamentary approval.
- ❖ Barnier's government became the first in more than six decades to be toppled by a no-confidence vote.

#### About France:-

- ❖ Capital:- Paris
- ❖ Currency:- Euro
- ❖ President :- Emmanuel Macron
- ❖ Prime Minister :- François Bayrou

### National

#### PM Modi to chair fourth National Conference of Chief Secretaries



#### About News:-

- ❖ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will chair the fourth National Conference of Chief Secretaries in Delhi on 14th and 15th December 2024. It will be another key step towards further boosting the partnership between the Centre and the State Governments.
- ❖ The Conference of Chief Secretaries is driven by the vision of the Prime Minister to strengthen cooperative federalism and ensure better coordination between the Centre and States to achieve faster growth and development.

#### The Conference has been held annually for the last 3 years.

- ❖ The first Chief Secretaries Conference was held in June 2022 at Dharamshala, followed by the second and third conferences in New Delhi in January 2023 and December 2023 respectively.
- ❖ The three-day Conference from 13th to 15th December 2024 will emphasise the evolution and implementation of a common development agenda and blueprint for cohesive action in partnership with the States.

#### Key Points:-

- ❖ The 2024 edition will focus on evolving a unified development agenda and strategic action plan for collective growth in collaboration with state governments.

- ❖ A key theme of the conference will be the promotion of entrepreneurship, skills development, and the creation of sustainable employment opportunities for both urban and rural populations, with a special focus on harnessing India's demographic dividend.
- ❖ It will lay the ground for collaborative action to harness India's demographic dividend by promoting entrepreneurship, enhancing skilling initiatives, and creating sustainable employment opportunities for both rural and urban populations.
- ❖ Under this overarching theme, special emphasis will be on six areas: Manufacturing, Services, Rural Non-farm, Urban, Renewable Energy, and Circular Economy have been identified for detailed discussions.
- ❖ Four special sessions will also be held on Frontier Technology for Viksit Bharat, Developing Cities as Economic Growth Hubs, Economic Reforms in States for Investment, and Capacity Building through Mission Karmayogi.
- ❖ Besides, focused deliberations over meals would be held on Atmanirbharata in Agriculture: Edible Oils & Pulses, Care Economy for the Ageing Population, PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana Implementation, and Bharatiya Gyan Parampara.
- ❖ Best practices from States/ UTs under each of the themes would also be presented at the Conference to encourage cross-learning across States.
- ❖ Chief Secretaries, senior officials of all States/Union Territories, and domain experts among others will be present at the Conference.

#### About India:-

- ❖ Capital :- New Delhi
- ❖ Currency :- Indian Rupee
- ❖ President :- Droupadi Murmu
- ❖ PM :- Narendra Modi

#### State

#### Haryana launches 21st Livestock Census campaign



#### About News:-

- ❖ In a step towards advancing livestock and poultry development, Haryana Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Animal Husbandry, and Dairy Minister, Shyam Singh Rana, inaugurated the 21st Livestock Census campaign at the Govt Veterinary Hospital, Radaur in Yamunanagar district.
- ❖ The event marked the official launch of a state-wide door-to-door survey to collect extensive data on domestic animals and poultry.
- ❖ Highlighting the importance of the livestock census since its inception in 1919, Rana stated, "Conducted every five years, this census serves as the backbone of policy formulation and implementation in the livestock sector."

#### Key Points:-

- ❖ Furthermore, 70 mobile veterinary units operate across districts, offering 24/7 health and breeding services through a toll-free number, 1962. Thanks to govt initiatives and progressive efforts by livestock owners, Haryana's annual milk production reached 119.65 lakh tonnes. The state boasts a per capita daily milk availability of 1,098 grams, more than double the national average of 459 grams. However, Rana urged stakeholders to aim higher, stating, "We must strive to elevate milk productivity to match the advanced levels of developed nations."
- ❖ The Haryana govt significantly increased financial incentives for livestock farmers. The support for indigenous high-yielding cow breeds such as Haryana, Sahiwal, and Belahi was raised to Rs 5,000-Rs 25,000.

- ❖ Similarly, for superior Murrah buffaloes producing over 18 kg of milk daily, incentives were enhanced to Rs 20,000-Rs 40,000. Additionally, the govt allocated Rs 30 crore for free veterinary medicines in 2024-25 to benefit livestock owners.
- ❖ The Minister reiterated the govt's commitment to supporting rural livelihoods and enhancing Haryana's position as a leader in the dairy and livestock sectors.

### Maharashtra

#### Maharashtra cabinet: Full list of 39 Mahayuti ministers, including 18 new faces

##### About News:-

- ❖ The Mahayuti government in Maharashtra headed by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis inducted 39 ministers, including 18 MLAs as first-timers, from allies Shiv Sena and the NCP. This takes the cabinet strength to 42, against the maximum limit of 43 ministers.
- ❖ Maharashtra governor CP Radhakrishnan administered an oath of secrecy and integrity to the new ministers in a swearing in ceremony held at Nagpur on Sunday. The cabinet took shape ten days after Fadnavis was sworn in as the chief minister with Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar as his deputies.



#### The full list of Maharashtra ministers

- ❖ 19 ministers from the BJP
- ❖ Chandrashekar Bawankule
- ❖ Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil
- ❖ Chandrakant Patil
- ❖ Girish Mahajan
- ❖ Ganesh Naik
- ❖ Mangal Prabhat Lodha
- ❖ Jaykumar Rawal
- ❖ Pankaja Munde
- ❖ Atul Save

- ❖ Ashok Ramaji Wooike
- ❖ Ashish Shelar
- ❖ Shivendra Raje Bhosale
- ❖ Jaykumar Gore
- ❖ Sanjay Savkare
- ❖ Nitesh Rane
- ❖ Akash Pandurang Fundkar
- ❖ Madhuri Misal
- ❖ Meghana Bordikar
- ❖ Pankaj Bhoyar

#### 11 ministers from the Shiv Sena

- ❖ Uday Samant
- ❖ Dada Bhuse
- ❖ Sambhuraj Desai
- ❖ Sanjay Rathod
- ❖ Gulabrao Patil
- ❖ Bharat Gogawale
- ❖ Pratap Sarnaik
- ❖ Prakash Abitkar
- ❖ Ashish Jaiswal
- ❖ Sanjay Shirsat
- ❖ Yogesh Kadam

#### 9 ministers from NCP

- ❖ Hasan Mushrif
- ❖ Dhananjay Munde
- ❖ Aditi Tatkare
- ❖ Narhari Zirwal
- ❖ Dattatray Bharne
- ❖ Makarand Patil
- ❖ Babasaheb Patil
- ❖ Indraneel Naik
- ❖ Manikrao Kokate

##### About Maharashtra:-

- ❖ Capital:- Mumbai
- ❖ Governor :- CP Radhakrishnan
- ❖ CM :- Devendra Fadnavis

### Economic

#### RBI Increases Collateral-Free Agricultural Loan Limit from ₹1.6 to ₹2 Lakh

##### About News:-

- ❖ In a significant move to support the agricultural sector and address rising input costs, the Reserve Bank of India has announced an increase in the limit for collateral-free agricultural loans, including loans for allied activities. The existing loan



limit of ₹1.6 lakh per borrower has been raised to ₹2 lakh.

- ❖ This decision acknowledges the impact of inflation and the increasing cost of agricultural inputs on farmers. It aims to provide enhanced financial access to farmers, ensuring they have sufficient resources to meet their operational and developmental needs without the burden of providing collateral.

**Effective January 1, 2025, banks across the country are instructed to:**

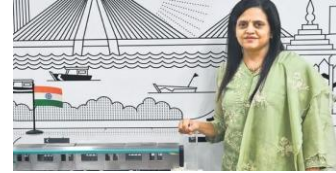
- ❖ Waive collateral security and margin requirements for agricultural loans, including loans for allied activities, up to ₹2 lakh per borrower.
- ❖ Expeditiously implement the revised guidelines to ensure timely financial assistance to the farming community.
- ❖ Banks are instructed to provide widespread publicity to these changes to ensure maximum outreach and awareness among farmers and stakeholders of their operational area.
- ❖ This move enhances credit accessibility, particularly for small and marginal farmers (over 86% of the sector), who benefit from reduced borrowing costs and the removal of collateral requirements.
- ❖ By streamlining loan disbursement, the initiative is expected to increase the uptake of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) loans, allowing farmers to invest in agricultural operations and improve their livelihoods.
- ❖ Combined with the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme, offering loans up to ₹3 lakh at a 4% effective interest rate, this policy strengthens financial inclusion, supports the agricultural sector, and fosters credit-driven economic growth, aligning with the government's long-term vision for sustainable agriculture.

**About RBI:-**

- ❖ Reserve Bank of India
- ❖ Headquarters:- Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ❖ Established:- 1 April 1935
- ❖ Governor :- Sanjay Malhotra (26th)

### Appointment

**Fadnavis appoints Mumbai Metro chief Ashwini Bhide principal secretary in CMO**



**About News:-**

- ❖ Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday appointed Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC) chief Ashwini Bhide as principal secretary in the CM secretariat.
- ❖ This is the first time a woman IAS officer will be working in the CM office.
- ❖ Though she will be taking the place of principal secretary Brijesh Singh in the CMO, Bhide will be continuing as the MMRC chief.
- ❖ At present, the CM secretariat is headed by additional chief secretary Vikas Kharge. Fadnavis has also appointed Shrikar Pardeshi as secretary.

**Key Points:-**

- ❖ Bhide, an IAS officer of the 1995 batch, has been largely working on the urban infrastructure of Mumbai for many years now.
- ❖ Bhide (55) headed the MMRC from January 5, 2015, to January 23, 2020. The MMRC has been given the task of completing Metro 3 from SEEPZ to Navy Nagar.
- ❖ She was transferred to the Mumbai civic body with the change in the government but was brought back to head the MMRC with the change in the government in June 2022.
- ❖ Bhide also worked in MMRDA as an additional commissioner from 2008 to 2014, where she got her first lessons on infra development.

### Defence

**Navy's latest survey ship INS Nirdeshak to be commissioned at Vizag on Dec 18**



#### About News:-

- ❖ The Indian Navy is all set to commission its latest survey ship, Nirdeshak, at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam, on 18 Dec 24. The ceremony will be presided over by the Hon'ble Raksha Rajya Mantri, Shri Sanjay Seth, as the Chief Guest.
- ❖ The ceremony will be hosted by the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, and attended by distinguished guests, including senior naval officials and GRSE representatives.
- ❖ The Navy unveiled the crest of INS Nirdeshak and described it as "the Pathfinder of the Seas, the second ship of the Survey Vessel (Large) project, a beacon of excellence, precision, and India's maritime pride".

#### Key Features Of INS NIRDESHAK

- ❖ The naval ship was built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE) in Kolkata and around 80 percent of its components were made in India.
- ❖ The 110-meter-long ship has a displacement of approximately 3,800 tons and is powered by two diesel engines, enabling it to achieve a top speed of over 18 knots.
- ❖ It is equipped with state-of-the-art hydrographic and oceanographic equipment, it can conduct hydrographic surveys, aid navigation, and support various maritime operations.
- ❖ The vessel has an endurance of over 25 days at sea, allowing it to operate effectively in both domestic and international waters.

#### Sport

#### Mumbai Indians announce Carl Hopkinson as fielding coach



#### About News:-

- ❖ Mumbai Indians (MI) appointed former English cricketer Carl Hopkinson as their new fielding coach ahead of the next Indian Premier League (IPL) season next year.

#### Key Points:-

- ❖ The 43-year-old comes in with a pool of experience, leading the fielding unit of the England men's cricket team for the past seven years. He played an instrumental role in their triumphant ODI World Cup 2019 and T20 World Cup 2022 campaigns.
- ❖ Nicknamed Hoppo, he was also Three Lions' head fielding coach for the ICC Under-19 World Cup 2022, where they finished as the runners-up after reaching the final for the first time since 1998.
- ❖ With this change in personnel, the long-serving fielding coach James Pamment bids adieu to the franchise after seven years of invaluable contributions where he won two trophies in 2019 and 2020.
- ❖ The last season was not memorable for MI as they could win only four out of 14 matches under Hardik Pandya's captaincy.

#### Miscellaneous

#### PM Modi launches multiple development projects worth ₹5500 crores in prayagraj



#### About News:-

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated several development projects totaling ₹5,500 crore in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh. These initiatives are part of preparations for Mahakumbh 2025.
- ❖ During his visit, he participated in religious ceremonies at various sacred sites. These included performing rituals at the Sangam, Akshay Vata Vriksh, Hanuman Mandir, and Saraswati Koop.

- ❖ Among the projects inaugurated are various infrastructure works, including rail and road improvements such as 10 Road Over Bridges, permanent ghats, and riverfront roads. These projects aim to enhance travel convenience in the area.

**Key Points:-**

- ❖ Highlighting the significant infrastructural advancements, Modi praised the crucial role of over 15,000 sanitation workers responsible for keeping the Kumbh clean. He expressed his appreciation for the dedication of more than 6,000 boatmen, shopkeepers, and workers supporting religious rituals, who will also benefit from increased employment opportunities due to the surge in activity.
- ❖ PM Modi also launched the 'Kumbh Sahayak' chatbot, an AI-powered tool that will assist in 11 languages, marking a first for the Kumbh.
- ❖ With the Mahakumbh set to take place from January 13 to February 26, 2025, the Uttar Pradesh Police will integrate advanced AI technology into their CCTV systems to enhance security for the massive influx of devotees. The main bathing festivals, known as the Shahi Snan, will be held on January 14 (Makar Sankranti), January 29 (Mauni Amavasya), and February 3 (Basant Panchami).

**About Uttar Pradesh**

- ❖ Capital:- Lucknow
- ❖ Governor :- Anandiben Patel
- ❖ Chief minister:- Yogi Adityanath

