

### International Relations

#### India-Japan Agreement on UNICORN Mast Development

##### Why in the news?

A Memorandum of Implementation was signed at the Embassy of India, Tokyo on 15 Nov 24 between Govt of India and Govt of Japan, for the co-development of the UNICORN mast for fitment onboard Ships of the Indian Navy.

- ❖ The MOI was signed and exchanged between the Ambassador of India to Japan, H.E. Shri Sibi George and Mr. Ishikawa Takeshi, Commissioner of Acquisition Technology and Logistics Agency (ATLA) under Japan MoD in a ceremony at Tokyo.
- ❖ The Unified Complex Radio Antenna (UNICORN) is a mast with Integrated Communication systems that will help improve the stealth characteristics of Naval Platforms.
- ❖ Co-development by Bharat Electronics Limited (India) and Japanese counterparts.



### Science And Technology

#### Operation Dronagiri

##### Why in the news?

Operation Dronagiri, a pilot project under National Geospatial Policy 2022 to demonstrate the potential applications of geospatial technologies and innovations in improving the quality of life of citizens and ease of doing business, at the Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT), Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, New Delhi launched by Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Professor Abhay Karandikar.

- ❖ "In the first phase, Operation Dronagiri will be implemented in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Assam, Andhra Pradesh & Maharashtra, where pilot projects will be run and use cases will be demonstrated to showcase the potential applications of integration of geospatial data and technology in 3 sectors --Agriculture, Livelihoods, Logistics and Transport.
- ❖ Operation Dronagiri is part of the numerous efforts of DST in liberalising geospatial data, developing geospatial infrastructure, geospatial skill and knowledge as well as standards in implementing the policy.



## SpaceX to launch India's GSAT-20 satellite

### Why in the news?

Elon Musk's SpaceX will launch India's heavy communication satellite GSAT-20 from Cape Canaveral in the US on 19 Nov 2024.

- ❖ SpaceX's Falcon-9 will launch ISRO's GSAT-20, also called GSAT N-2.
- ❖ The satellite is expected to remain in operation for 14 years. It will provide vital services across India, including internet connectivity for remote areas.
- ❖ Weighing 4,700 kg, GSAT-20 is one of India's heaviest communication satellites.
- ❖ The GSAT-20 is too heavy for India's rocket LVM-3, popularly known as 'Bahubali' to carry, so SpaceX was chosen for the launch.
- ❖ SpaceX's heavy-lifter Falcon-9 rocket can launch payloads of 8,300 kg or 8.3 tonnes to geostationary transfer orbit.

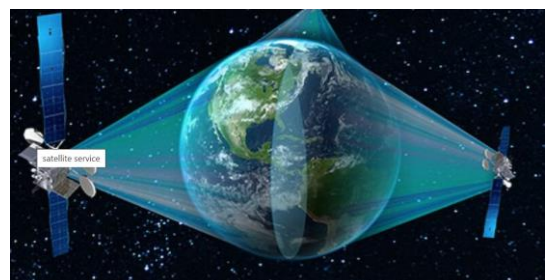
### Miscellaneous

## Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)

### Why in the news?

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has launched India's first satellite-to-device service, ensuring seamless connectivity in the country's most remote areas.

- ❖ Developed in collaboration with Viasat, a California-based communications technology firm, and the Indian Department of Telecommunications (DoT), the service aims to provide uninterrupted network access in regions with limited or no cellular coverage.



## 'Tsunami Ready'

### Why in the news?

Twenty-four coastal villages in Odisha were recognised by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO as 'Tsunami Ready'.



- ❖ The recognition was given during the 2nd Global Tsunami Symposium held in Indonesia on 11 November 2024.
- ❖ These villages are located in the Balasore, Bhadrak, Kendrapada, Jagatsinghpur, Puri and Ganjam districts.

### Awards and Honors

## Nigeria's Highest Honour 'Grand Commander of the Order of Niger'

### Why in the news?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with the national honor of Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger (GCON) recognizing his leadership in positioning India as a global powerhouse.

- ❖ Nigerian President Bola Tinubu presented the honor.
- ❖ Shri Narendra Modi is the first foreign leader to be conferred with this award since 1969.



### Sports

## FISU World University Championship Shooting 2024

### Why in the news?

The Indian shooters finished their campaign at the 2024 FISU World University Championship Shooting with a rich haul of 24 medals, including 9 gold, 9 silver, and 6 bronze.

- ❖ Held at - the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range in Tughlakabad, New Delhi, from 9-13 November 2024.
- ❖ Organised by - the International University Sports Federation, known by its French acronym FISU and hosted by India.
- ❖ Mascot of the game was - Trunky, an elephant.



### International University Sports Federation (FISU)

- ❖ Established in 1949 to promote University sports worldwide.
- ❖ The FISU organises world-class sports and educational events for the university students.
- ❖ Members: 164 National University Sport Federation members,
- ❖ President: Leonz Eder
- ❖ Headquarters: University of Lausanne, Switzerland

### News in Short

- ❖ External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar presided over the inauguration of Symbiosis International University's first overseas campus at Dubai Knowledge Park.
- ❖ Princess Mikasa the oldest member of the Japanese royal family passed away at the age of 101.
- ❖ Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurated the famous Jauljibi Mela-2024 in Pithoragarh, calling it the state's "priceless heritage."
- ❖ The Inter-State Bus Terminal (ISBT) bus stand in Delhi's Sarai Kale Khan will be renamed after Bhagwan Birsa Munda.

- ❖ Victoria Kjaer Thilvig of Denmark has been crowned Miss Universe 2024. This is Denmark's first win in an international beauty pageant.
- ❖ Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake reappointed Harini Amarasuriya as the prime minister of the Indian Ocean island nation.
- ❖ Thomas E. Kurtz, a Creator of BASIC Computer Language, Dies at 96.
- ❖ Recently Australia's University of Wollongong (UOW) inaugurated its India campus in Gujarat International Finance Tech (GIFT) City Gandhinagar, with the courses of Master of Financial Technology, Master of Financial Technology (Extension), and a Graduate Certificate in Financial Technology.
- ❖ Karnataka Bank Ltd. has launched two financial products – 'KBL Peak', an education loan with the financing of up to ₹2 crore and comprehensive coverage, and 'KBL Genius', a student savings account featuring free cyber insurance.

- ❖ Galaxy Health Insurance has introduced its inaugural product, *Galaxy Promise*, which offers a variety of health insurance plans specifically formulated to cater to the needs of families in search of cost-effective and comprehensive coverage.
- ❖ Jannik Sinner became the first Italian to win the ATP Finals title following a dominant 6-4 victory over American Taylor Fritz on November 17, 2024 in Tunin, Italy.

- ❖ The Dubai Sports Council has appointed ex-Indian cricket player *Harbhajan Singh* and women's Tennis player *Sania Mirza* as the Sports Ambassador.



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