

National

First meeting of parliamentary panel on ONOE on January 8



About News :-

- ❖ The first meeting of the 39-member parliamentary panel on 'one nation, one election' is set to be held on January 8, setting the tone for nationwide deliberations on the key poll reform measure of the BJP-led NDA government.
- ❖ The Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill and the Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill were introduced in the Lok Sabha last week and referred to the joint committee of Parliament on Friday, the last day of the Winter Session.

The members of this Panel :-

- ❖ Among the 39 members, 16 are from BJP, five from Congress, two each from SP, TMC and DMK, and one each from Shiv Sena, TDP, JD(U), RLD, LJSP (RV), JSP, Shiv Sena (UBT), NCP (SP), CPM, AAP, BJD and YSRCP.
- ❖ RS members nominated include Ghanshyam Tiwari, Bhubaneshwar Kalita, K Laxman and Kavita Patidar (BJP); Sanjay Kumar Jha (JD(U)); Randeep Singh Surjewala and Mukul Wasnik (Congress); Saket Gokhale (TMC); P Wilson (DMK); Sanjay Singh (AAP); Manas Ranjan Mangaraj (BJD); and V Vijayasai Reddy (YSRCP).
- ❖ From LS, the members include P P Chaudhary, C M Ramesh, Bansuri Swaraj, Parshottambhai Rupala, Anurag Singh Thakur, Anil Baluni, Vishnu Dayal Ram, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Sambit Patra, Vishnu Datt Sharma, Baijayant Panda and Sanjay

Jaiswal (BJP); Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Manish Tewari and Sukhdeo Bhagat (Congress); Dharmendra Yadav (SP), Kalyan Banerjee (TMC), Anil Yeshwant Desai (Shiv Sena-UBT), Supriya Sule (NCP-SP) and Shrikant Eknath Shinde (Shiv Sena).

Amit Shah to inaugurate 10,000 new PACS, dairy and fisheries cooperative societies to strengthen rural economy

About News :-

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate 10,000 newly established multipurpose Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS), along with dairy and fisheries cooperative societies, on Wednesday.



Key Points :-

- ❖ This milestone event comes nearly nine months after Shah unveiled the National Cooperative Database in March, a transformative initiative designed to compile essential data on India's vast cooperative sector. At the launch, Shah emphasized that the database, spearheaded by the Ministry of Cooperation to realize Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "Sahakar se Samridhhi" would serve as a catalyst for advancing the cooperative movement. The ministry underscored the critical need for a comprehensive database to efficiently document and analyze information about cooperatives across the country.
- ❖ The launch of the National Cooperative Database (NCD) marked a significant milestone for the cooperative sector. The growth of cooperatives in rural areas holds the potential to address economic, social, and community challenges, empower individuals, reduce poverty, and contribute to the overall well-being of rural communities.

- ❖ The database's development involved phased data collection from various stakeholders. In the first phase, approximately 2.64 lakh primary cooperative societies in three sectors—Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS), Dairy, and Fisheries—were mapped.
- ❖ In the second phase, data from National Federations, State Federations, State Cooperative Banks (StCB), District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs), Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs), State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (SCARDB), Primary Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARDB), Sugar Cooperative Mills, District Unions, and Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) were collected and mapped.
- ❖ In the third phase, data from over 5.3 lakh primary cooperative societies across remaining sectors were mapped through state and UT RCS and DRCS offices.

State

Uttar Pradesh Receives

₹1598.80 Crores

& Andhra Pradesh Gets

₹446.49 Crores XV

Finance Commission Grants for Rural Development



About News :-

- ❖ The Union Government has released Fifteenth Finance Commission (XV FC) Grants during Financial Year 2024–25, for Rural Local Bodies in Uttar Pradesh, 2nd installment of Untied Grants amounting to Rs.1598.80 crores.
- ❖ These funds are for all eligible 75 District Panchayats, all eligible 826 Block Panchayats and all eligible 57691 Gram Panchayats of the state.
- ❖ While the Fifteenth Finance Commission (XV FC) Grants during Financial Year 2024–25, for Rural Local Bodies in Andhra Pradesh, 2nd installment of Untied Grants of the

Financial Year 2024–25 amounting to Rs.420.9989 crore along with the withheld amount of 1st installment of Untied Grants for Financial Year 2024–25 amounting to Rs.25.4898 crore have also been released.

Key Points :-

- ❖ These funds are for eligible 13097 duly elected Gram Panchayats, 650 duly elected Block Panchayats and all 13 eligible District Panchayats of the State.
- ❖ Government of India through Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Ministry of Jal Shakti (Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation) recommends release of Fifteenth Finance Commission (XV FC) Grants to States for Rural Local Bodies which are then released by Ministry of Finance. The allocated Grants are recommended and released in 2 installments in a Financial Year.
- ❖ The Untied Grants will be utilized by Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)/ Rural Local Bodies (RLBs) for location-specific felt needs, under the Twenty-Nine (29) Subjects enshrined in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution, except for salaries and other establishment costs.
- ❖ The Tied Grants can be used for the basic services of (a) sanitation and maintenance of ODF status, and this should include management and treatment of household waste, and human excreta and fecal sludge management in particular and (b) supply of drinking water, rainwater harvesting and water recycling.

Appointment

Former Supreme Court judge V. Ramasubramanian appointed NHRC chairman



About News :-

- ❖ Former Supreme Court judge V Ramasubramanian has been appointed as the 9th Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) for a tenure of three years until December 2027.
- ❖ The post of NHRC chairperson had been lying vacant since Justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra completed his tenure on June 1.

About Justice (retd) V. Ramasubramanian

- ❖ V. Ramasubramanian was born on June 30, 1958. He graduated in chemistry from Ramakrishna Mission, Vivekananda College, Chennai and then studied Law in the Madras Law College.
- ❖ He enrolled as a member of the Bar on February 16, 1983 and practiced for about 23 years in the High Court of Madras.
- ❖ On July 31, 2006, he was appointed as an additional judge of the Madras High Court and as a permanent judge on November 9, 2009.
- ❖ In 2016, he was transferred on his own request to the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ After the bifurcation and the creation of a separate High Court for Andhra Pradesh in 2019, he was retained as a judge of the High Court of Telangana at Hyderabad.
- ❖ He was sworn in as the Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court on June 22, 2019.
- ❖ On September 23, 2019, he was appointed as judge of the Supreme Court of India.

Award

EAM Jaishankar honoured with Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award for public leadership



About News :-

- ❖ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar was awarded the Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award for Public Leadership by the South Indian Education Society (SIES).
- ❖ he thanked the SIES for the exceptional honour by one of the oldest educational societies of the country.

Key Points :-

- ❖ The contributions of Maha Periyavar to the international fora, Jaishankar highlighted Periyavar's Maithreem Bhajatham, a musical composition that promotes universal brotherhood and compassion.
- ❖ He also noted that Periyavar had connections across the world and moved on to the theme of our national significance on the global platform.
- ❖ On the global stage we have established ourselves as an independent power, one committed to global good, especially the wellbeing of the global south.
- ❖ Jaishankar highlighted India's emergence as a self-governing global force that promotes the common good, particularly the welfare of the global south. During the G20 talks, he brought up India's support for the African Union and its steadfast position on matters like terrorism.

Index

India Rises to 49th Rank in Network Readiness Index 2024



About News :-

- ❖ India has made significant progress in technology and innovation, securing the 49th rank in the Network Readiness Index 2024 (NRI 2024), an improvement of 11 places compared to last year.

- ❖ The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in a social media post on Saturday stated that the Index, published by the Washington DC-based Portulans Institute, evaluates countries on their use of technology to enhance governance, citizen engagement, and overall impact.

Key Points :-

- ❖ The ministry noted that the place of India has improved 11 places, in 2023, India was ranked 60th with a score of 49.93. This year, the country not only climbed the rankings but also improved its overall score to 53.63, reflecting its consistent efforts in advancing technology, research, and digital infrastructure.
- ❖ As per the ministry, India's advancements in fields such as artificial intelligence, mobile networks, and broadband have been instrumental in achieving this growth.
- ❖ The country is not only leveraging these technologies for global research but also using them to enhance the ease of living for its citizens.
- ❖ The Network Readiness Index highlights India's growing role as a global leader in technology adoption and innovation.
- ❖ The government's initiatives to strengthen digital infrastructure and promote research and development are key contributors to this success.
- ❖ India's improved ranking highlights technological progress and sets a strong foundation for further advancements in digital transformation and innovation in the country.

Sport

Shahu Mane wins first senior national title, Rudranksh shatters world record in junior category



About News :-

- ❖ Shahu Tushar Mane clinched the gold medal in the men's 10m Air Rifle event, while Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil set a new world record en route to winning the junior title at the National Shooting Championship for Rifle events here on Monday.
- ❖ Mane of Railways clinched his first senior national title, winning the 24-shot final by the thinnest of margins.

Key Points :-

- ❖ Also hogging the limelight was former world champion Rudranksh of Maharashtra, who shot a sizzling 254.9 to win the junior final, surpassing the existing senior finals world record held by Olympic Champion Sheng Lihao of China, by a margin of 0.4.
- ❖ It was Shahu, who set the ball rolling at the MP State Academy Shooting range, shooting nothing below 10.1 in the final.
- ❖ The 22-year-old from Kolhapur, who began shooting in 2015 and has won an ISSF World Cup gold in the air rifle mixed team as well as an individual silver in the Youth Olympics, managed to hold off a late surge by Dhanush Srikanth.
- ❖ The Telangana shooter was left to rue the 9.8 he logged for his fifth shot, as he finished with 252.2, just 0.1 behind the winner.
- ❖ Both the gold and silver medallists shot identical 10.6 and 10.5 for their final two shots as excitement reached fever pitch in the stands.

Miscellaneous

National Science Drama Festival to be held on 27th and 28th December, 2024

About News :-

- ❖ One of the premier events of the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), the National Science Drama Festival 2024 is set to unfold at the National Science Centre, Delhi on 27th and 28th December 2024.



- ❖ The event is earlier organised at the Block, District and State/UT level in all 28 States and 8 Union Territories of India in which more than 40,000 students actively participate and showcase creative science dramas, in an entertaining and educational format, covering topics from Artificial Intelligence, Climate Changes, Water Conservation to medical breakthroughs.

Key Points :-

- ❖ The two days event shall be inaugurated on 27th December at 9.00 A.M. by the Chief Guest,
- ❖ Prof. Ashok Chakradhar, Eminent Author & Poet, Padma Shri Awardee in the august presence of Ms. Veditha Reddy, I.A.S., Director (Education), Directorate of Education, Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi.
- ❖ The valediction ceremony shall be organised on 28th December at 11.00 AM. The Chief Guest of the ceremony shall be Shri Robin Kumar Das, Eminent Theatre Director & Actor, National Awardee in Scenic Design and Former Professor, National School of Drama, New Delhi.
- ❖ Guest of Honour in the ceremony shall be Dr. Suchitra Gupta, Eminent Theatre & Voice over Artist.
- ❖ It is in respect of the above fact; the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) has embraced innovative tools, with drama being a notable one. Through collaborations with theatre professionals, this medium has successfully conveyed the essence of science, engaging audiences in dynamic and interactive ways. It is hence expected like previous editions, this year's festival shall witness enthusiastic participation, vibrant performances, and compelling plays by talented young students.

Obituary

Renowned filmmaker Shyam Benegal passes away at the age of 90



About News :-

- ❖ Veteran filmmaker Shyam Benegal, known for his remarkable contributions to Indian cinema, passed away at the age of 90 on December 23 in Mumbai.
- ❖ A pioneer of parallel cinema, Benegal's work in both mainstream and art films earned him widespread acclaim for its realism, depth, and storytelling excellence. His passing marks the end of an era in Indian filmmaking.
- ❖ With 18 national awards, he was renowned for his realistic storytelling and insightful social commentary, which set his work apart from mainstream cinema.

Key Points :-

- ❖ Benegal was recognised by the Government of India with the Padma Shri in 1976 and the Padma Bhushan in 1991 for his contributions to Indian cinema.
- ❖ He was honoured with India's highest film award Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 2005.
- ❖ He was also a member of the jury at the 31st Moscow International Film Festival in 2009.
- ❖ Shyam Benegal was renowned for directing iconic films such as Ankur (1973), Nishant (1975), Manthan (1976), Bhumika (1977), Mammo (1994), Sardari Begum (1996), and Zubeidaa (2001), among many others.
- ❖ His work was celebrated for its deep social commentary and realistic portrayal of Indian society.

Important Day

Good Governance Day - 25 December 2024



About News :-

Good Governance Day is celebrated on December 25th, every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

About Good Governance Day

- ❖ First celebrated in 2014, it underscores the government's commitment to providing a transparent and accountable administration and ensuring that the benefits of development reach every citizen.
- ❖ The Good Governance Day on December 25, 2024, holds special significance as it marks the 100th birth anniversary of Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

What is 'Good' Governance?

- ❖ The "Governance" means "the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented)".
- ❖ It encompasses both formal institutions and informal practices.
- ❖ Good governance ensures the exercise of authority to manage a country's resources and affairs with fairness, transparency, and accountability.
- ❖ According to the World Bank, Good Governance is defined as "the manner in which power is exercised in the management of a country's economic and social resources for development".

