

### International

#### India and France sign MoU for new National Museum



##### About News:-

India and France signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Thursday (December 19, 2024) for the development of the new National Museum, which will be modeled after the Louvre in Paris, at the historic North Block and South Block in the national capital.

##### Key Points:-

- ❖ The museum, named Yuga Yugeen Bharat, would be the largest in the world when completed.
- ❖ The museum is part of the Central Vista Redevelopment Project.
- ❖ The site will span approximately 1,55,000 square meters across the North and South Blocks in Delhi and have 8 segments showcasing 10,000 years of history of India.
- ❖ As part of this agreement, India and France will collaborate on a comprehensive feasibility study, encompassing museum case studies, interpretive planning, and building programming.
- ❖ The Yuga Yugeen Bharat National Museum was first introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the International Museum Expo in May 2023.
- ❖ The Yuga Yugeen Bharat National Museum will redefine the museum experience, offering a platform that celebrates India's heritage while embracing contemporary narratives. Through this collaboration, India and France continue to strengthen their cultural bonds, setting a benchmark for international partnerships in heritage preservation.

- ❖ The museum will be developed through Adaptive Reuse, a method France is known for in projects like the Louvre, Grand Palais, and Hôtel de la Marine.

##### About France:-

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

### National

#### Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addresses the 72nd Plenary meeting of the North Eastern Council (NEC) in Agartala, Tripura

##### About News:-

- ❖ Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addressed the 72nd Plenary Session of the North Eastern Council (NEC) in Agartala, Tripura on 21 December 2024.
- ❖ Union Minister Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Governor, Tripura, Shri Indrasena Reddy Nallu, Chief Minister, Tripura, Professor (Dr.) Manik Saha and Union Home Secretary, Shri Govind Mohan were present on the occasion.
- ❖ The meeting was also attended by the Governors of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Sikkim, as well as the Chief Ministers of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Sikkim, along with the Minister of Community and Rural Development of Meghalaya, and several other dignitaries.



### Key Points:-

- ❖ The government stands with the northeastern states to resolve their all problems.
- ❖ NEC is working to identify the needs and challenges of various sectors and provide effective solutions, playing a crucial role in determining the direction of development
- ❖ The goal of the Modi government is to accelerate the pace of development in the Northeast and bring this region to par with the rest of India
- ❖ Modi government is implementing the mantra of 'Act East, Act Fast, and Act First'
- ❖ Efforts should be made to change the approach, training, and focus of the police in every state of the Northeast, transforming the culture and direction of the police force
- ❖ In the last 10 years, a 71% reduction in violent incidents and an 86% decrease in civilian deaths in the Northeast has been registered and 10,574 insurgents have surrendered
- ❖ government has achieved success in establishing peace in the Northeast through various peace agreements
- ❖ The time has come for every citizen of the Northeast to be given their constitutional rights of protection of property, dignity, and family, which are imbibed in the three new criminal laws
- ❖ government has attracted investors and worked towards opening global markets for the region, to accelerate the development of the Northeast

### State

**The Uniform Civil Code will be implemented in Uttarakhand from January 2025**



### About News:-

- ❖ CM Pushkar Singh Dhami-led Uttarakhand government will implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the state in January 2025.
- ❖ The BJP-ruled hill state will become the first state to implement the UCC.

### Key Points:-

- ❖ The state government said a portal and mobile app have also been prepared as it believes the digital measures would make registration, appeal, and other services through the online medium convenient for the people.
- ❖ On March 11 this year, the President signed the UCC Bill, paving the way to make it a law. Thereafter, the state government formed a nine-member committee to prepare the rules related to the procedures and other matters related to the implementation of the UCC Act.
- ❖ The bill has seven schedules and 392 sections, focusing on four key areas marriage, divorce, inheritance, and live-in relationships. In addition, there are provisions for ending practices of polygamy, polyandry, halala, and iddat, besides giving equal inheritance rights to males and females.
- ❖ The UCC includes provisions that make it mandatory for couples to register their marriages within six months.

### Maharashtra

### Maharashtra portfolio allocation



### About News:-

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis retained the Home Department and Law and Judiciary Department, while Deputy Chief Ministers Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar got Urban Development Department and Finance

Department respectively, in the portfolio allocation among the cabinet ministers in Maharashtra on Saturday (December 21, 2024). The full list of ministers & their portfolios in Maharashtra

#### **BJP ministers portfolios**

- ❖ Chandrashekhar Bawankule – Revenue
- ❖ Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil - Water Resources- Krishna and Godavari Valley Development Corporation
- ❖ Chandrakant Patil - Higher and Technical Education, Parliamentary Affairs
- ❖ Girish Mahajan - Water Resources- Vidarbha, Tapi, Konkan Development Corporation and Disaster Management
- ❖ Ganesh Naik – Forests
- ❖ Mangal Prabhat Lodha - Skill Development, Employment, Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- ❖ Jaykumar Raval - Marketing and Protocol
- ❖ Pankaja Munde - Environment and Climate Change, Animal Husbandry
- ❖ Atul Save - OBC Welfare, Dairy Development and Renewable Energy
- ❖ Ashok Uike - Tribal Development
- ❖ Ashish Shelar - Cultural Affairs and Information Technology
- ❖ Shivendrasinh Bhosale - Public Works
- ❖ Jaykumar Gore: Rural Development and Panchayati Raj
- ❖ Sanjay Savkare – Textiles
- ❖ Nitesh Rane - Fisheries and Ports
- ❖ Akash Fundkar – Labour
- ❖ Madhuri Misal (Minister of State) - Urban Development, Transport, Social Justice, Medical Education, Minorities Development and Aukaf
- ❖ Pankaj Bhoyar (Minister of State) - Home (Rural), Housing, School Education, Cooperation and Mining
- ❖ Meghana Bordikar (Minister of State) - Public Health and Family Welfare, Water Supply and Sanitation, Energy, Women and Child Development, Public Works (Public Enterprises).

#### **Shiv Sena ministers' portfolios**

- ❖ Gulabrao Patil - Water Supply and Sanitation
- ❖ Dadaji Bhuse - School Education
- ❖ Sanjay Rathod - Soil and Water Conservation
- ❖ Uday Samant - Industries and Marathi language, Shambhuraj Desai - Tourism, Mining, Ex-servicemen Welfare
- ❖ Sanjay Shirsat - Social Justice
- ❖ Pratap Sarnaik – Transport
- ❖ Bharat Gogawale - Employment Guarantee, Horticulture, Salt Pan Lands Development
- ❖ Prakash Abitkar - Public Health and Family Welfare
- ❖ Ashish Jaiswal (Minister of State) - Finance and Planning, Agriculture, Relief and Rehabilitation, Law and Judiciary and Labour

#### **NCP ministers**

- ❖ Hasan Mushrif - Medical Education
- ❖ Dhananjay Munde - Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection
- ❖ Dattatreya Bharne - Sports, Youth Welfare and Minority Development and Aukaf
- ❖ Aditi Tatkare - Women and Child Development
- ❖ Manikrao Kokate – Agriculture
- ❖ Narhari Zirwal - Food and Drug Administration, Special assistance
- ❖ Makrand Patil - Relief and Rehabilitation
- ❖ Babasaheb Patil – Cooperation

#### **Economic**

**\$350 Million Loan signing between the Government of India and ADB**



#### **About News:-**

- ❖ The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) today signed a \$350 million policy-based loan under the second subprogram of the Strengthening Multimodal and Integrated Logistics Ecosystem (SMILE) program.



- ❖ The signatories to the loan agreement were the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), the Ministry of Finance; the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry; and the ADB.

**Key Points:-**

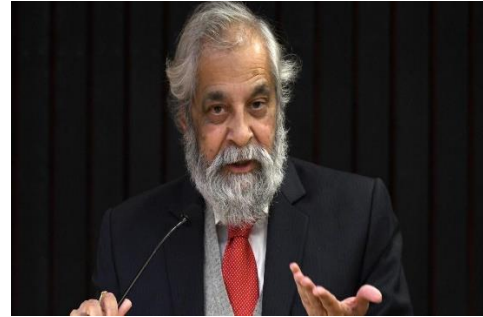
- ❖ The SMILE program is a programmatic policy-based loan (PBL) to support the government in undertaking wide-ranging reforms in the logistics sector in India. The programmatic approach comprises two subprograms, which aim to expand India's manufacturing sector and improve the resilience of its supply chains.
- ❖ The program establishes and operationalizes a comprehensive policy framework to enhance logistics efficiency through
  - (i) strengthening the institutional bases for multimodal logistics infrastructure development at the national, state, and city levels;
  - (ii) standardizing warehousing and other logistics assets to strengthen supply chains and incentivize greater private sector investment;
  - (iii) improving efficiencies in external trade logistics; and
  - (iv) adopting smart systems for efficient and low-emission logistics.
- ❖ The development of India's logistics sector is vital to enhancing the competitiveness of its manufacturing sector. Through strategic policy reforms, infrastructure development, and digital integration, ongoing reforms are poised to transform the logistics landscape. This transformation is expected to reduce costs, improve efficiency, generate substantial employment opportunities, and promote gender inclusion—driving sustainable economic growth.
- ❖ The collaboration between the Government of India and ADB reflects a shared commitment to fostering growth and innovation in the logistics sector, supporting India's broader economic development goals.

**About Asian Development Bank:-**

- ❖ Headquarters:- Manila, Philippines
- ❖ President :- Masatsugu Asakawa

**Appointment**

**Former Supreme Court judge Justice Madan Lokur was appointed chairperson of the U.N. Internal Justice Council**



**About News:-**

- ❖ Former Supreme Court judge Justice Madan B. Lokur was appointed Chairperson of the United Nations Internal Justice Council for a term ending on November 12, 2028.

**Key Points:-**

- ❖ In a communication to Justice Lokur, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the retired top court judge would head the council which also comprises other distinguished jurists.
- ❖ The other members of the Council (in alphabetical order) are: Ms. Carmen Artigas (Uruguay), distinguished external jurist nominated by staff; Ms. Rosalie Balkin (Australia), distinguished external jurist nominated by management; Mr. Stefan Brezina (Austria), staff representative; and Mr. Jay Pozenel (United States of America), management representative.
- ❖ Born in 1953, Justice Lokur was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court on June 4, 2012. He demitted office on December 30, 2018, upon attaining the age of superannuation.
- ❖ In 2019, Justice Lokur was appointed to the Supreme Court of Fiji as a judge of its non-resident panel. He was the first Indian judge to be appointed as a judge in the Supreme Court of another country.

## Sport

### New Delhi to host Para Athletics World Championships 2025



#### About News:-

- ❖ The world's largest single Para sport event will take place from 26 September to 5 October 2025 at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, which will also host a World Para Athletics Grand Prix for the first time next March.
- ❖ Next year's Para Athletics World Championships will be held in New Delhi, marking the first time the event will be hosted in India, World Para Athletics (WPA) announced on Thursday (December 19).

#### Key Points:-

- ❖ The Para Athletics World Championships, the world's largest single Para sport event, will be held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium from 26 September to 5 October 2025.
- ❖ New Delhi 2025 will mark the 12th edition of the championships and the fourth time it is hosted in Asia, following Doha in 2015, Dubai in 2019, and Kobe in 2024.
- ❖ Over 1,000 athletes from more than 100 nations participated in the last edition of the World Championships in Kobe, Japan, in May.
- ❖ China topped the medals table with 33 gold and 87 podium finishes, while India finished in the top six for the first time.
- ❖ We are delighted to announce that the first major championships of the new Paralympic cycle towards Los Angeles 2028 will be hosted in New Delhi.
- ❖ The 2025 Para Athletics World Championships will be the largest international Para sports event ever to take

place in India, representing a massive opportunity to grow our sport, expand our fan base, and impact society's perception of persons with disabilities in the world's most populous nation.

## Important Day

### Kisan Diwas – 23 December



#### About Day:-

- ❖ Kisan Diwas, also known as Farmers' Day in India, is observed every year on December 23. It is celebrated to honor the contributions of farmers and commemorate the birth anniversary of Chaudhary Charan Singh, India's fifth Prime Minister.
- ❖ He is known as the "Champion of India's Farmers," for addressing the welfare and rights of Indian farmers and significantly impacting the nation's agricultural policies.
- ❖ Kisan Diwas 2024 aims to recognize the crucial role of farmers in sustaining India's economy and promoting awareness about their contributions and challenges.

#### History

- ❖ Kisan Diwas was first celebrated in 2001 by the Government of India to honor Chaudhary Charan Singh, who played a pivotal role in shaping agricultural policies and empowering farmers.
- ❖ Known for his simplicity and understanding of rural India's challenges, Singh introduced several policies to improve the lives of farmers and ensure sustainable agricultural development.
- ❖ He believed in empowering rural communities and fostering a self-reliant agrarian economy.

