

Anusandhan National Research Foundation

PM chairs first meeting of the Governing Body of Anusandhan National Research Foundation.

Key Points

- ❖ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired the **first meeting of the Governing Board of Anusandhan National Research Foundation in New Delhi.**
- ❖ **Focused on:** The meeting was focussed on discussion about India's Science and Technology landscape and redesigning of research and development programmes.
- ❖ **Attendees:** The meeting was attended by Union Minister of Education as the Vice-President of Governing Body, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India as Member Secretary, Member (Science), NITI Aayog and Secretary, Department of Science & Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Department of Scientific & Industrial Research and Department of Higher Education as its ex-officio members.

Major Decisions

- ❖ During the meeting, the Governing Body decided to **launch a programme in hub and spoke mode by pairing universities** where research is at nascent stage with top tier established institutions in mentorship mode.
- ❖ **Priority areas:** The ANRF will launch programmes on solution-focussed research in mission mode in select priority areas like Electric Vehicle (EV) mobility, Advanced Materials, Solar Cells, Smart Infrastructure, Health & Medical Technology, Sustainable Agriculture and Photonics. The Governing Body observed that these efforts would impactful supplement our march towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

About Anusandhan National Research Foundation

- ❖ Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) has been established to promote research and development and foster a culture of research and innovation throughout India's Universities, Colleges, Research Institutions, and R&D laboratories.
- ❖ ANRF acts as an **apex body to provide high-level strategic direction of scientific research in the country** as per recommendations of the National Education Policy.
- ❖ ANRF forges collaborations among the industry, academia, and government departments and research institutions.

Parliamentary Affairs- Initiatives

On 11th September 2024, the Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Kiren Rijiju inaugurated six initiatives as part of the 100-day achievements of the ministry in New Delhi.

Key Initiatives:

Among the initiatives to be launched are:

1. **National e-Vidhan Application-NeVA 2.0-** The upgraded version of the National e-Vidhan Application 2.0 (NeVA 2.0) will introduce several advanced features, including a more user-friendly interface and enhanced integration with the legislative processes of State Legislatures.
2. **NeVA Portal 2.0**
3. **Subordinate Legislation Management System (SLMS)**



- 4. Consultative Committee Management System (CCMS):** With the help of this portal, all information/documents of the Committees will be available on real time basis to concerned Member/Ministry thereby ensuring that all are well informed and they can interact digitally with each other.
- 5. NYPS Portal 2.0:** The NYPS Portal 2.0 has been developed by the Ministry so that the number of participants in the portal can be increased exponentially by opening the Portal for all the citizens of the country irrespective of students of recognized educational institutions.
- 6. Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs):** The Ministry is also launching a new scheme of National Youth Parliament Competition for students of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs). The aims and objectives of the scheme are to strengthen the roots of democracy, develop tolerance of divergent views, inculcate healthy habits of discipline and familiarise the tribal students with the workings of Parliament and Parliamentary institutions through organising National Youth Parliament Competitions annually among the EMRSs.

SEMICON India 2024

On 11th September 2024, the Prime Minister of India inaugurated SEMICON India 2024 in Greater Noida.

Key Points

- ❖ It is a three-day event taking place in **Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh from 11th -13th September 2024.**
- ❖ **Theme of the event: “Shaping the Semiconductor Future.”**
- ❖ The conference will showcase India’s semiconductor strategy and policy which envisions making India a global hub for semiconductor.
- ❖ **Participation:** SEMICON India will witness the participation of top leadership of global semiconductor giants. It will bring together global leaders, companies, and experts of the semiconductor industry. The conference will witness the participation of more than 250 exhibitors and 150 speakers.



Way Forward

- ❖ India is committed to building the semiconductor manufacturing ecosystem and is leading the technology revolution with a focus on electronics.

- ❖ Semiconductors have applications in nearly all sectors, including communication, defence, automobiles, and computing devices.
- ❖ India has a big role to play in the growth of the global semiconductor sector, and Semicon India will offer a platform to deliberate on various aspects shaping the semiconductor ecosystem in India.

MPOX

Government is implementing preparatory measures against Mpox.

Key Points

- ❖ The government of India is implementing preparatory measures and public health strategies to address potential Mpox cases.
- ❖ According to the Union Health Ministry, India has been taking proactive measures against Mpox. The country has implemented a comprehensive strategy involving expert consultations, enhanced surveillance, laboratory preparedness, and awareness campaigns.
- ❖ While remaining vigilant, Indian health authorities have assessed a low risk of a large-scale outbreak, demonstrating a balanced approach to public health management in the face of emerging infectious diseases.

What is MPOX?

- ❖ **Causing agent:** Mpox (monkeypox) is a viral illness caused by the monkeypox virus, a species of the genus Orthopoxvirus.

- ❖ **Discovered:** The monkeypox virus was discovered in Denmark (1958) in monkeys kept for research and the first reported human case of mpox was a nine-month-old boy in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC, 1970).
- ❖ **Transmission:** Mpox can spread from person to person or occasionally from animals to people
- ❖ It can be transmitted to humans through physical contact with someone who is infectious, with contaminated materials, or with infected animals.
- ❖ **Symptoms:** Common symptoms of mpox are a skin rash or mucosal lesions which can last 2–4 weeks accompanied by fever, headache, muscle aches, back pain, low energy, and swollen lymph nodes.



- ❖ **Treatment:** It is treated with supportive care. Vaccines and therapeutics developed for smallpox and approved for use in some countries can be used for mpox in some circumstances.

In mid-August 2024, the World Health Organization declared the surge of Mpox cases in several parts of Africa a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. This declaration emphasises the gravity of the situation and calls for increased global cooperation to address the outbreak. Since the 2022 declaration of a Public Health

Emergency of International Concern by WHO, **30 cases have been reported in India**. As per WHO, 121 countries have reported a total of one lakh 3 thousand and 48 Mpox cases and 229 deaths globally between January 2022 to 31st of July this year. As of the 1st of this month, 15 African countries have reported 3 thousand 900 confirmed cases of the disease. Congo, Burundi, and Nigeria are the three countries with the highest number of cases this year.

Pyrethroids Spray

Vulnerable rural populations in 10 UP districts will get a chemical shield against mosquitoes.

Key Points

- ❖ Pyrethroids are chemical synthetic insecticides.
- ❖ Pyrethroids will be sprayed on the walls of homes in around 1,000 villages in 10 Uttar Pradesh districts under a vector-borne disease control programme.
- ❖ **Coverage:** Districts identified for the drive are **Sitapur, Badaun, Bareilly, Lakhimpur, Pilibhit, Shahjahanpur, Sambhal, Khiri, Haidoi and Sonbhadra**.
- ❖ At least 1,000 villages with 21 lakh population will be covered.
- ❖ This is the **first time that this chemical spray** is being used against vectors inside homes.
- ❖ **Replacing DDT:** The chemical will be used in addition to the regular **anti-larva spray but will replace the sprinkling of DDT (dichloro - diphenyl - trichloroethane)**, a synthetic product known to cause health issues among humans.

Arab League

Turkey heads to the Arab League meet for the first time in 13 years.

About Arab League

- ❖ The Arab League was formed in 1945 with initially just six nations.
- ❖ Currently, it has 22 member states, who have pledged to cooperate on economic and military affairs, among other issues.
- ❖ **Founding Members:** Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Transjordan (now Jordan), Saudi Arabia and Yemen.
- ❖ **Other Members:** Libya, Sudan, Tunisia, Morocco, Kuwait, Algeria, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Mauritania, Somalia, the Palestine Liberation Organization, Djibouti and Comoros.
- ❖ **Objective:** To improve coordination among its members on matters of common interest.
 - The league was chartered in response to concerns about postwar colonial divisions of territory as well as strong opposition to the emergence of a Jewish state on Palestinian territory.

Short News- Uttar Pradesh

- ❖ As part of the Certification Scheme for **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)**, **National Test House (NTH)**, **Northern Region, Ghaziabad** has been provisionally approved by the Quality Council of India (QCI) as a Certification Body for type certification of drones.

- This significant milestone aligns with the Government of India's push towards fostering a robust and globally competitive drone ecosystem under the Drone Rules 2021.
- ❖ **Govind Ballabh Pant Social Science Institute (GBPSSI) in Prayagraj celebrated its 44th Foundation Day.** Established in 1980 with the support of Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and Government of Uttar Pradesh, this constituent institute of Allahabad University (AU) is known worldwide for quality research, teaching and social interventions.
- ❖ The chief minister of Uttar Pradesh virtually laid the foundation stone for IKEA store in Noida.

Awards/Titles

National Florence Nightingale Awards 2024



- ❖ On 11th September 2024, President Droupadi Murmu conferred the National Florence Nightingale Awards 2024 to Nurses at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.
- ❖ The National Florence Nightingale Award was instituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in the year 1973.

- ❖ This award is given as a mark of recognition for the meritorious services rendered by the nurses and nursing professionals to society.

Important News- Worldwide

Nepal

It has become the 101st country to join the International Solar Alliance-ISA as a full member.

Miscellaneous

- ❖ India's premier business school under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, the **Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT)** globally ranked **No. 1** in Networking and 51 in LinkedIn's Top 100 MBA Programmes in the world.
- ❖ On 11th September, 2024, the Union Minister of Culture and Tourism inaugurated a **special Railway Coach dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi at Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat.** This unique exhibit, donated by the Ministry of Railways, features a meticulously restored railway coach from the era of Mahatma Gandhi, symbolizing his famous train journeys that were instrumental in his mission to unite the nation and advocate for justice and equality.

