



Russia's BRICS summit:2024

Russian President Vladimir Putin is hosting the annual BRICS summit, 2024 in Russia's southwestern city Kazan.

The three-day (22 to 24 Oct) conclave will be the largest gathering of world leaders in Russia in decades.

- ❖ BRICS stands for Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- ❖ The group started in 2006, and Brazil, Russia, India and China convened for the first BRIC summit in 2009. South Africa joined a year later.
- ❖ The aim of the alliance is to challenge the economic and political monopoly of the West. The group sets priorities and has discussions once every year during the BRICS summit, which members take turns hosting. The summit is the 16th held.
- ❖ In 2023, BRICS extended invitations to include Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates after these countries applied for membership. Saudi Arabia has yet to formally join, but the others have.

- ❖ NATO member Turkey also formally requested to join BRICS in September.

India, Pakistan renew Kartarpur Corridor agreement

India, Pakistan renew Kartarpur Corridor agreement until 2029. India and Pakistan agreed to renew their agreement to operate the Kartarpur Corridor to facilitate pilgrims from India to visit Gurudwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur, Narowal, Pakistan for another five years. Originally signed on October 24, 2019, for a five-year term.

The agreement continues to offer visa-free access to pilgrims from India enabling them to visit the sacred site of Gurudwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur, where Baba Guru Nanak, the revered founder of Sikhism, spent his final days,"

India launch: 4th nuclear-missile submarine

India launched its fourth nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) referred to as S4* at the Ship Building Center (SBC) in Visakhapatnam.

This submarine is bigger and more capable than the first, INS Arihant (S2), which is essentially a technology demonstrator developed under the Advanced Technology Vessel programme.

**President Droupadi Murmu confers
5th National Water Awards; Odisha
bags first prize in state category**

President Droupadi Murmu conferred the 5th National Water Awards 2023 in New Delhi.

- ❖ The awards were presented to 38 winners in nine categories.
- ❖ This includes Best State, Best District, Best Village Panchayat, Best Urban Local Body, Best Water User Association and Best Civil Society.

- ❖ The government has provided tap water connections to over 78 percent rural households across the country under the Jal Jeevan Mission.
- ❖ When the Mission was launched in 2019, only 17 per cent rural households have access to safe water.



PW Web/App: <https://smart.link/7wwosivoicqd4>

For more such content, subscribe to our Telegram Channel https://t.me/pw_upsc