

10th September 2024

India Makes History At Paris Paralympics 2024 With Record- Breaking Medal Count

A quadrennial extravaganza, Paris paralympics 2024 will conclude late on 8 September. For India, this edition will be remembered as a historic milestone, as the nation achieved its best-ever medal tally. The Indian contingent secured an impressive 29 medals, including seven gold, nine silver, and 13 bronze. India have climbed to the 16th spot in the medal tally.



Key point

- ❖ Gold medal-winning archer Harvinder Singh and sprinter Preethi Pal, will be the country's flag bearers during the closing ceremony.
- ❖ After the flag-bearing athlete parade, Paris will officially pass the baton to Los Angeles, the host of the next Paralympic Summer Games in 2028.
- ❖ **Gold Medalists:**
 - Avani Lekhara – Shooting, Women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1

- Nitesh Kumar – Badminton, Men's Singles SL3
- Sumit Antil – Athletics, Javelin Throw F64
- Harvinder Singh – Archery, Men's Individual Recurve Open
- Dharambir – Athletics, Men's Club Throw F51
- Praveen Kumar – Athletics, Men's High Jump T64
- Navdeep Singh – Athletics, Men's Javelin Throw F41

❖ Silver Medalists:

- Manish Narwal – Shooting, Men's 10m Air Pistol SH1
- Nishad Kumar – Athletics, Men's High Jump T47
- Yogesh Kathuniya – Athletics, Men's Discus Throw F56
- Thulasimathi Murugesan – Badminton, Women's Singles SU5
- Suhas Yathiraj – Badminton, Men's Singles SL4
- Sharad Kumar – Athletics, Men's High Jump T63
- Ajeet Singh – Athletics, Men's Javelin Throw F46
- Sachin Khilari – Athletics, Men's Shot Put F46
- Parnav Soorma – Athletics, Men's Club Throw F51

❖ Bronze Medalists:

- Mona Agarwal – Shooting, Women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1
- Preethi Pal – Athletics, Women's 100m T35
- Rubina Francis – Shooting, Women's 10m Air Pistol SH1
- Preethi Pal – Athletics, Women's 200m T35
- Manisha Ramadass – Badminton, Women's Singles SU5
- Rakesh Kumar / Sheetal Devi – Archery, Mixed Team Compound Open
- Nithya Sre Sivan – Badminton, Women's Singles SH6
- Deepthi Jeevanji – Athletics, Women's 400m T20
- Mariyappan Thangavelu – Athletics, Men's High Jump T63
- Sundar Singh Gurjar – Athletics, Men's Javelin Throw F46
- Kapil Parmar – Judo, Men's – 60kg J1
- Hokato Hotozhe Sema – Athletics, Men's Shot Put F57
- Simran – Athletics, Women's 200m T12

Agni-4 Ballistic Missile

India successfully test-fired the Agni-4 Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile on 6 September from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha, according to defence sources.



Key Point

- ❖ It is the longest-range missile India has tested so far and very crucial for India's nuclear deterrent.
- ❖ Range: approximately 4,000 kilometers
- ❖ This variant is integrated with Multiple Independently Targetable Reentry Vehicles (MIRVs).
- ❖ Number of Warheads: The exact number of warheads the Agni-5 can carry remains classified, but speculation suggests it is unlikely to carry more than three due to technical limitations.
- ❖ Yield of Nuclear Warheads: The yield of the nuclear warheads is likely to be limited due to India's small number of atomic tests.

- ❖ It was conducted under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command, a part of India's Nuclear Command Authority (NCA)

Defence Research and Development Organisation

- ❖ Government of India formed the DRDO in 1958 by combining three organizations:
 - The directorate of Technical Development
 - The Technical Development
 - Defence Science Organization
- ❖ Project Indigo in 1960, was the first project of DRDO which was discontinued without any success.

First Indian President Of OCA

Former Indian shooter and veteran sports administrator Randhir Singh has been elected unopposed as the first Indian President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) during the 44th General Assembly in New Delhi.



Key Points

- ❖ Singh, 77, hails from a sporting family in Patiala, Punjab. He is a former Asian Games gold medalist in trap shooting and has been a key figure in sports administration for decades.
- ❖ His roles include Secretary General of the Indian Olympic Association (1987-2012) and Vice-Chairman of the 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games organizing committee.
- ❖ Singh served as OCA Secretary General from 1991 to 2015 and was later appointed Life Vice President.
- ❖ He became the OCA's Acting President in 2021 before officially taking on the role of President in 2024.

About Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)

- ❖ The Olympic Council Of Asia (OCA) is an independent non-governmental not-for-profit international Asian sport organization for unlimited duration recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).
- ❖ The Association of National Olympic Committee (ANOC) and the 45

member Asian National Olympic Committee (NOCs).

- ❖ The OCA was established in 1982 in New Delhi and was recognised by the IOC in the same year.

YUDH ABHYAS -2024

The 20th edition of India-USA Joint Military Exercise YUDH ABHYAS-2024 commenced today, at Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan.



Key Point

- ❖ The exercise is scheduled to be conducted from 9th to 22nd September 2024.
- ❖ Exercise YUDH ABHYAS has been held annually since 2004, alternating between India and the USA.
- ❖ This edition marks a significant increase in the scope and complexity of the joint exercise in terms of troop strength and equipment. The Indian Army contingent comprising 600 personnel is being represented by a

battalion of the RAJPUT Regiment along with personnel from other arms and services.

- ❖ Aim of the Joint Exercise is to enhance the joint military capability of both sides to undertake counter-terrorism operations in a sub-conventional scenario under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. The exercise will focus on operations in the semi-desert environment.

Other exercise with USA

Exercise Name	Partner Country	Branch of Military
Cope India	United States	Air Force
Red Flag	United States	Air Force
MALABAR	United States, Japan	Navy
Vajra Prahar	United States	Army

Second International Buddhist Media Conclave

International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) and the Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF) are set to organize the 2nd International Buddhist Media Conclave on the theme "Mindful Communication for Conflict Avoidance and Sustainable Development".



Key point

- ❖ Shri Baichung Bhutia, the former captain of the Indian Football Team will be the Guest of Honour.
- ❖ This unique event will be held on 11th September 2024 at the VIF, New Delhi. The event will be attended by the representatives of media from 18 countries.
- ❖ The primary objective of the 2nd International Buddhist Media Conclave will focus on how Buddhist teachings can be assimilated into modern media practices to address global crises and enhance trust in media institutions.
- ❖ The first conclave brought together around 150 delegates, including Buddhist journalists and media personalities from 12 different countries and laid a strong foundation for integrating Buddhist principles into media practices.

Tuhin Kanta Pandey Appointed As Finance Secretary

The government has designated senior IAS officer Tuhin Kanta Pandey as Finance Secretary.



Key Point

- ❖ An officer of the 1987 batch Odisha Cadre, Mr Pandey is currently serving in Finance Ministry as Secretary in charge of two key domains, the Departments of Public Enterprises (DPE), and Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM).
- ❖ The position became vacant after T V Somanathan was appointed Cabinet Secretary last month.
- ❖ Traditionally, the most senior secretary within the Union Finance Ministry is assigned the role of Finance Secretary.

Hathi Mahotsav

The Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve management ensures the well-being of all animals, including tigers. On 7th

September, a seven-day 'Hathi Mahotsav' was inaugurated at the reserve's elephant camp, with PCCF Wildlife Shri V.N. Ambade in attendance.



Key Point

- ❖ The celebration began with the elephants being bathed, adorned, and treated to a variety of fruits, sugarcane, coconut, and jaggery. To prioritize their health, the elephants will not be assigned any work for the entire week.
- ❖ In the daily routine of elephants for seven days, the elephants are given a bath in the morning and then massaged with neem and castor oil. All the elephants are decorated and fed with their favorite dishes. After this, they are fed bread and left free to roam freely in the forest.
- ❖ The Mahotsav aims to provide relaxation to the elephants and their mahouts. Also, it is meant to familiarize the villagers with elephants and their behaviour.

Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve

- ❖ Located between the Vindhyas and the Satpuras in the Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh
- ❖ This region was created as a National Park in 1968 and given Tiger Reserve status in 1993.
- ❖ It is home to valleys, hills, and plains with the famous Bandhavgarh fort as it's well-evident sign.
- ❖ It is said that Lord Rama gave this fort to his brother Lakshmana to keep a watch on Lanka, and so the name Bandhavgarh, which is Sanskrit for 'Brother's Fort'.

Short News

- ❖ Ahead of the International Literacy day, School Education and Literacy Secretary, Sanjay Kumar chaired an international conference on Spectrum of Literacy in New Delhi.
- ❖ The second and final Employment Working Group (EWG) Meeting under Russian Presidency was held in Sochi, Russia
- ❖ England all-rounder Moeen Ali has announced his retirement from international cricket
- ❖ Vinay Goyal has assumed office as the State Mission Director of National Health Mission (NHM).

- ❖ Algeria's President Abdelmadjid Tebboune Wins Second Term With 95% Vote.
- ❖ The Indian Army and Indian Air Force today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya to enhance the skills and capability building of personnel in logistics operations.
- ❖ Mr. Atsushi Mimura, Vice Minister of Finance for International Affairs, Japan, and Mr. Ajay Seth, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, India held the 2nd India-Japan Finance Dialogue in Tokyo on 6th September 2024.



Important Daily Current Affairs Question

1. Who among the following was elected as the president of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)?

- (a) Randhir Singh
- (b) Vijay Kumar
- (c) Narinder Batra
- (d) Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah

Answer -A

2. In which of the following reserves was the recent 'Hathi Mahotsav' celebrated?

- (a) Panna Tiger Reserve
- (b) Kanha Tiger Reserve
- (c) Periyar Tiger Reserve
- (d) Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve

Answer -B

