

19TH December 2024

Kisan Kavach

Science and Technology Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on 17 December launched India's first-of-its-kind anti-pesticide bodysuit, Kisan Kavach in New Delhi.



Key Point

- ❖ The manufacturing process involves covalent attachment of a nucleophile on cotton fabric, which is stitched as "Kisan Kavach".
- ❖ This Kisan Kavach fabric can deactivate pesticides upon contact through nucleophilic mediated hydrolysis, thereby preventing pesticide-induced toxicity and lethality.
- ❖ Bodysuit is designed to protect farmers from the harmful effects of pesticide exposure.
- ❖ The washable suit offers protection against pesticide-induced toxicity, which often leads to severe health complications, including breathing disorders, and vision loss.
- ❖ The event also saw the distribution of the first batch of Kisan Kavach suits to farmers, marking a significant step in protecting the 65% of India's population engaged in agriculture

10th International Forest Fair

The 10th International Forest Fair is being organized by the Forest and State Minor Forest Produce (Trade and Development)

Cooperative Union from 17 to 23 December at Lal Parade Ground, Bhopal.



Key Point

- ❖ The programme was presided over by Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav.
- ❖ This seven-day international forest fair is dedicated to women's empowerment, with the theme focusing on "Women Empowerment through Minor Forest Produce."
- ❖ A total of 300 stalls have been set up at the event. Additionally, over 50 traditional healers from across the state will offer free treatment to visitors.
- ❖ This fair started in 2001, and gradually it expanded beyond the state to the country and then became global
- ❖ The state government has increased the honorarium of tendu leaf collectors from Rs 3,000 to Rs 4,000 per standard bag.

Moldova became a 115 th member of ISA

Moldova has joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) becoming the latest member of the organization by signing the ISA Framework Agreement in New Delhi.



Key Point

- ❖ The ISA Framework Agreement was signed between India and Moldova in New Delhi by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, and Moldovan Deputy Prime Minister Mihai Popșoi.
- ❖ It comes after the 114th member, Armenia, joined last month, showing the international expansion of the International Solar Alliance.
- ❖ The International Solar Alliance is an international organisation with 120 Member and Signatory countries.
- ❖ It works with governments to improve energy access and security worldwide and promote solar power as a sustainable transition to a carbon-neutral future.
- ❖ ISA's mission is to unlock US\$1 trillion of investments in solar by 2030
- ❖ With the signing and ratification of the ISA Framework Agreement by 15 countries on 6 December 2017, ISA became the first international intergovernmental organisation to be headquartered in India.

- ❖ Headquarter of ISA is situated in Gurugram, Haryana.

Moldova:

- ❖ **Geographical Location:** A landlocked country located in Eastern Europe, bordered by Romania and Ukraine.
- ❖ **Capital:** Chișinău
- ❖ **Currency:** Moldovan Leu

VIRAASAT

Secretary (Textiles), Government of India, inaugurated the 3rd edition of the Mega



event "Viraasat Sari Festival 2024" at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi

Key Point

- ❖ The Ministry of Textiles, Government of India is organising the Mega event "Viraasat Sari Festival 2024", from 15th – 28th December 2024, at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi.
- ❖ During 2022-23 and 2023-24 "Virasat Sari Festival" was celebrated and was a big hit with an impressive footfall of approx. 20,000 footfalls, across age-groups, brought much-needed attention to the sector.
- ❖ The handloom sector is a symbol of our country's rich and varied cultural heritage, besides being one of the key sectors providing employment to a large number of people, especially women.

- ❖ The handloom sector of India engages more than 35 lakh persons.
- ❖ In continuation to the series of events, the third edition of "Viraasat Sari Festival 2024" will be a special focus for Handloom Saris of various parts of India and will bring together handloom weavers, sari designers, sari lovers and buyers of our country.
- ❖ The event will showcase India's handloom heritage.
- ❖ The event is to recognise and celebrate the tradition as well as the potential of the Handloom Sector in its full strength. The event will likely to put renewed focus on the age-old tradition of Sari weaving and thereby improve earnings of the handloom community.

Ravichandran Ashwin

India's premier spinner Ravichandran Ashwin announced his retirement from international cricket at the end of the third Border-Gavaskar Trophy Test in Brisbane.



Key point

- ❖ He departs as India's second most successful Test bowler with 537 wickets and seventh overall in the annals of Test cricket.
- ❖ Another record borne by Ashwin also reflects by having taken 37 five wicket hauls equal to second position with Shane Warne but lagging behind Muttiah Muralitharan, the top scorer with 67.

- ❖ Additionally, he holds the record for dismissing the most left-handed batters in Test cricket, with 268 dismissals to his name.
- ❖ Player of the Series (POTS) Awards: Joint-most in Test history, with 11 awards shared with Muttiah Muralitharan.
- ❖ Strike Rate: Best strike rate for a spinner in Test cricket (minimum 200 wickets), at 50.7.
- ❖ All-Round Feats: Achieved a century and a five-wicket haul in the same Test match on four occasions, second only to Ian Botham's five.
- ❖ Unbeatable at Home: Has never missed a Test match on Indian soil.
- ❖ Across all formats, Ashwin has claimed 765 international wickets in 287 matches, ranking him second among Indian bowlers, behind Anil Kumble's 956 scalps.

34th Vyas Samman 2024

Hindi writer Suryabala has been awarded the 34th Vyas Samman 2024 for her novel Kaun Des Ko Vasi: Venu Ki Diary.



Key Point

- ❖ It was published in 2018, the novel explores the cultural conflicts and identity challenges experienced by Indian youth in America.
- ❖ Theme of the Novel-Focuses on cultural and ideological conflicts of Indian youth abroad, especially in America.

- ❖ Vyas Samman: Instituted in 1991
- ❖ It is awarded by the K.K.Birla Foundation for any remarkably done work in Hindi literature.
- ❖ It was determined that for a work to be eligible for publication in the journal, it must have been published in the last ten years.

Literature Awards in India	
Award Name	Field
Bharatiya Jnanpith Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ India's highest literary award, recognizing exceptional writing by an Indian citizen. ❖ Established in 1991
Sahitya Akademi Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Given for outstanding books of literary merit in 22 Indian languages (8th Schedule). ❖ Established in 1954
Vyas Samman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Recognizes exceptional literary work in Hindi. ❖ Established in 1991
Rabindra Puraskar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Honors outstanding contributions to Bengali literature.

Saraswati Samman

- ❖ Awarded annually for outstanding literary work in any Indian language, published in the last ten years.
- ❖ Established in 1991

Short News

- ❖ Meanwhile, Israel has recently approved a plan to expand settlements in the Golan Heights, allocating over \$11.13 million to enhance the region's population and infrastructure.
- ❖ According to the Google Year in Search 2024, cricketer Hardik Pandya was the most searched Indian sportsperson across the globe.
- ❖ The Ram temple project in Ayodhya was awarded the 'Sword of Honour' by the British Safety Council, recognizing the outstanding safety measures followed during its construction.
- ❖ Padma Shri awardee and environmentalist Tulsi Gowda passed away at the age of 86, Tulsi Gowda was known as the "Encyclopedia of the Forest" due to her unmatched knowledge of plants and trees.

Important Daily Current Affairs Question

1. Which Hindi writer was awarded the 34th Vyas Samman 2024 for her novel Kaun Des Ko Vasi: Venu Ki Diary?

- A. Kamleshwar
- B. Surender Verma
- C. Suryabala
- D. Nirmal Verma

Answer-C

2. Which of the following countries became the 115 th member of the international solar alliance?

- A. Ukraine
- B. Moldova
- C. Poland
- D. Greece

Answer-B

