

International

India to host 28th CSPOC with focus on AI and social media

About News:-

- ❖ India will host the 28th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of Parliaments of Commonwealth Countries (CSPOC) in 2026, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla announced at the CSPOC Standing Committee Meeting in Guernsey.
- ❖ The event will focus on the use of artificial intelligence and social media in parliamentary processes.

Key Points:-

- ❖ In his address, Birla highlighted India's economic progress and technological advancements, including its growing role in sectors like agriculture, fintech, artificial intelligence, and research. He invited attendees to experience the blend of India's cultural heritage with modern development during the upcoming conference.
- ❖ Birla discussed the role of parliaments in tackling global challenges like climate change, terrorism, and cybercrime. He emphasized the need for inclusive and transparent parliamentary practices and highlighted the importance of dialogue among parliamentary leaders to address shared issues.
- ❖ The CSPOC platform was described as a space for enhancing cooperation and exchanging parliamentary practices among member countries. Birla said that India's role as host is an opportunity to reflect the country's traditions and its focus on inclusivity.
- ❖ Quoting Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, a concept that means "the whole world is one family," Birla called for cooperation among nations to address issues such as poverty, inequality, and malnutrition. He also discussed the role of parliaments in shaping policies and allocating resources for sustainable development and governance.



- ❖ The Standing Committee set the agenda for the 2026 CSPOC and discussed challenges facing parliaments globally. Birla highlighted India's history of hosting the conference in 1970-71, 1986, and 2010, and invited presiding officers from Commonwealth nations to join the 2026 event in New Delhi.

National

PM Modi inaugurates Z-Morh tunnel in Sonamarg, Jammu and Kashmir

About News:-

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the newly constructed Z-Morh tunnel in Sonamarg, Jammu and Kashmir, on Monday.
- ❖ The event was attended by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, and Jammu and Kashmir LG Manoj Sinha.



Key Points:-

- ❖ The Sonamarg Tunnel, approximately 12 km in length, has been built at a cost of over Rs 2,700 crore. It includes the 6.4 km Sonamarg main tunnel, an egress tunnel, and approach roads.

- ❖ Situated at an altitude of over 8,650 feet above sea level, the tunnel will improve all-weather connectivity between Srinagar and Sonamarg, providing a safer and uninterrupted route to Leh, bypassing areas prone to landslides and avalanches. This will also benefit the strategically critical Ladakh region.
- ❖ The newly inaugurated tunnel is expected to boost tourism by turning Sonamarg into a year-round destination, particularly enhancing winter tourism, adventure sports, and local livelihoods.
- ❖ When combined with the Zojila Tunnel, which is expected to be completed by 2028, the Z-Morh Tunnel will reduce the route length from 49 km to 43 km and increase vehicle speed from 30 km/h to 70 km/h.
- ❖ This will ensure seamless NH-1 connectivity between the Srinagar Valley and Ladakh, driving economic growth and fostering socio-cultural integration across Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

State

CM launches Swami Vivekananda Yuva Shakti Mission

About News:-



- ❖ Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, while launching the Swami Vivekananda Yuva Shakti Mission on Sunday, announced a goal of achieving a 100% pass rate for students in the 10th and 12th board exams by 2030.
- ❖ He expressed joy over the mission's launch, coinciding with National Youth Day, celebrated on Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary.

Key Points:-

- ❖ CM inaugurated the programme by lighting a lamp and paying floral tribute to the portrait of Swami Vivekananda and also unveiled the logo of Yuva Shakti Mission based on the mission's motto of 'Atma Deepo Bhava: Samvad, Samarthyaa, Samridhhi'.
- ❖ The initiative aims to foster youth-oriented activities and consolidate them into a coordinated platform for the socio-economic development of the state's youth.
- ❖ He administered an oath to the youth to become skilled and self-reliant and to guide society.
- ❖ The Swami Vivekananda Yuva Shakti Mission has outlined three key goals to empower the youth. The first goal is to ensure that the income level of every youth meets or exceeds the rate of a minimum-skilled category worker.
- ❖ The second is striving to ensure that every youth completes education up to Class 12. The third goal is to encourage youth participation in social initiatives for the betterment of society. The mission aims for 70 percent participation by the year 2030.

About Madhya Pradesh:-

- ❖ Capital:- Bhopal
- ❖ Governor:- Mangubhai C. Patel
- ❖ Chief minister:- Mohan Yadav

Maharashtra

PM to visit Maharashtra on 15th January

About News:-



- ❖ Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will visit Maharashtra on 15th January.
- ❖ At around 10:30 AM, the Prime Minister will dedicate three frontline naval combatants INS Surat, INS Nilgiri, and INS Vaghsheer to the nation on their commissioning at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai.

- ❖ Thereafter, at around 3:30 PM, he will inaugurate the ISKCON Temple at Kharghar, Navi Mumbai.

Key Points:-

- ❖ The commissioning of three major naval combatants marks a significant leap forward in realizing India's vision of becoming a global leader in defense manufacturing and maritime security.
- ❖ INS Surat, the fourth and final ship of the P15B Guided Missile Destroyer Project, ranks among the largest and most sophisticated destroyers in the world.
- ❖ It has an indigenous content of 75% and is equipped with state-of-the-art weapon-sensor packages and advanced network-centric capabilities.
- ❖ INS Nilgiri, the first ship of the P17A Stealth Frigate Project, has been designed by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau and incorporates advanced features for enhanced survivability, seakeeping, and stealth, reflecting the next generation of indigenous frigates.
- ❖ INS Vaghsheer, the sixth and final submarine of the P75 Scorpene Project, represents India's growing expertise in submarine construction and has been constructed in collaboration with the Naval Group of France.

About Maharashtra:-

- ❖ Capital:- Mumbai
- ❖ Governor:- C. P. Radhakrishnan
- ❖ Chief Minister :- Devendra Fadnavis

Economic

India's retail inflation falls to 4-month low of 5.22% in December

About News:-

- ❖ India's retail inflation rate, based on the Consumer Price Index, fell to a 4-month low of 5.22 percent in December as prices of vegetables, pulses, and sugar eased during the month bringing respite to household budgets, according to figures released by the Ministry of Statistics on Monday.



Key Points:-

- ❖ The easing of inflation reflects a steadily declining trend after having touched a 14-month high of 6.21 percent in October. CPI inflation had declined to 5.48 percent in November.
- ❖ The decline in retail inflation in December was attributed to the easing of the price spiral in key food items.
- ❖ "During December, a significant decline in inflation is observed in vegetables, pulses, sugar and confectionary, cereals and personal care & effects," according to a Ministry statement.
- ❖ The year-on-year housing inflation rate for the month of December is 2.71 percent, down from 2.87 percent in November. The housing index is compiled for the urban sector only.
- ❖ The RBI during its last policy review slashed the cash reserve ratio (CRR) for banks by 0.5 percent to make more funds available for lending to spur economic growth but kept the key policy repo rate unchanged at 6.5 percent with an eye on inflation.
- ❖ The CRR has been reduced from 4.5 per cent to 4 per cent which will infuse Rs 1.16 lakh crore into the banking system and bring down market interest rates.
- ❖ The monetary policy decision maintains a delicate balance between controlling inflation and pushing up the growth rate in a slowing economy,

Appointment

Devajit Saikia was elected as BCCI secretary & Prabhtej Singh Bhatia is the treasurer



About News:-

- ❖ Former first-class cricketer Devajit Saikia has been announced as the new secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), replacing Jay Shah, who assumed the role of ICC Chairman last year. The announcement was made during the BCCI Special General Meeting (SGM) on Sunday.
- ❖ Prabhtej Singh Bhatia was elected as the Treasurer of the Indian Cricket Board.
- ❖ Confirming the appointments, BCCI Vice President Rajeev Shukla said, "Devajit Saikia elected new BCCI secretary, and Prabhtej Singh Bhatia elected as BCCI treasurer."

About BCCI:-

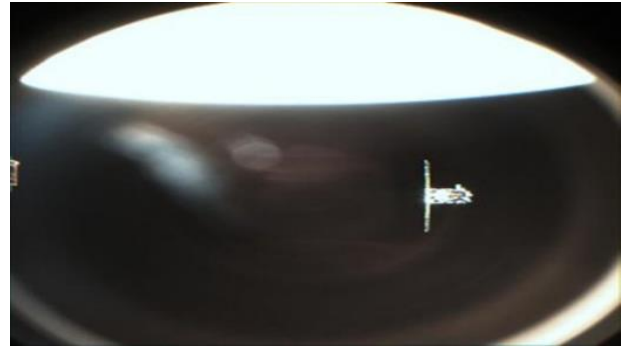
- ❖ Board of Control for Cricket in India
- ❖ Founded:- 1 December 1928
- ❖ Headquarters:- Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ❖ President :- Roger Binny

Science & Technology

ISRO successfully brings satellites to a 3-meter range under SpaDex

About News:-

- ❖ ISRO on Sunday said the two satellites launched to perform space docking experiments were brought within three meters and then moved safely back in a trial attempt. The space agency also said the docking process would be done after analysing the data further.
- ❖ The Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX) project has missed two announced schedules for docking experiments on January 7 and January 9.



- ❖ ISRO launched the mission on December 30.
- ❖ The PSLV C60 rocket, carrying two small satellites -- SDX01 (Chaser) and SDX02 (Target) -- along with 24 payloads, lifted off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. About 15 minutes later, the two small spacecraft weighing about 220 kilogrammes each were launched into a 475-kilometer circular orbit, as intended.
- ❖ The SpaDeX project is a cost-effective technology demonstrator mission for the demonstration of in-space docking using small spacecraft, according to ISRO.
- ❖ A successful demonstration of SpaDeX will make India the fourth nation to master the complex technologies that are crucial for its future missions, such as the Bharatiya Antariksh Station and landing an astronaut on the moon.
- ❖ In-space docking technology is essential when multiple rocket launches are required to achieve common mission objectives.

About ISRO:-

- ❖ Indian Space Research Organisation
- ❖ Formed:- 15 August 1969
- ❖ Headquarters:- Bengaluru, Karnataka
- ❖ Chairman :- V Narayanan

Defence

DRDO's multi-layer clothing system 'HIMKAVACH' clears user trials, set to aid military operations

About News:-

- ❖ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed the 'HimKavach' clothing system to protect soldiers operating in extreme cold conditions.



- ❖ The system, designed to function in temperatures ranging from 20°C to -60°C, has passed all user trials in operational settings.

Key Points:-

- ❖ The HimKavach system is made up of multiple layers, each tailored for insulation, breathability, and comfort.
- ❖ The modular design allows soldiers to add or remove layers depending on the weather.
- ❖ This feature is seen as critical for troops operating in the Himalayas, where temperatures can drop sharply.

About DRDO:-

- ❖ Defence Research and Development Organisation
- ❖ Formed:- 1958
- ❖ Headquarters:- DRDO Bhavan, New Delhi.
- ❖ Chairman :- Sameer V. Kamat

Miscellaneous

New Guna Post Office and Passport Seva Kendra Inaugurated

About News:-

- ❖ The Union Minister of Communications and Minister for Development of North Eastern Region, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, inaugurated the newly expanded building of the Guna Head Post Office and Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK) on 11th January 2025, this building has been constructed in an area of 1154 square feet for Rs. 43.18 lakhs.



Key Points:-

- ❖ He gave detailed information about the history and importance of the Department of Posts, Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana, the technology-based India Post Payments Bank as well as the upcoming projects including the complete technology base modernisation of the Department.
- ❖ The Union Minister, while explaining the importance of the Postal Department, mentioned the transformation of the Postal Department done by him while being the Minister of State in the year 2008.

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