

Bihar Special

Khelo India Games 2025

Why in the news?

Bihar will host the Khelo India Youth Games 2025 in April, 2025.

- ❖ With this, Bihar will be a new addition to the Khelo India map of the country.

Khelo India Para Games:

- ❖ For the first time and in the lines of the Summer Olympics, the Khelo India Para Games will also be held in Bihar.
- ❖ The Para Games will follow the youth games and there will be a 10 to 15 days gap between the two Games.
- ❖ The first edition of the Para Games was held in Delhi in 2023.
- ❖ Khelo India Youth Games 2025 is going to happen in Bihar: Mansukh Mandiviya



'Mahila Samwad' programme

Why in the news?

The Bihar Cabinet gave its nod for allocation of Rs 225 crore for 'Mahila Samwad' programme.

About the programme:

- ❖ It is an ambitious programme under which CM Nitish Kumar, ministers and top officials would visit districts to inform women about the ongoing policies of the state government for their empowerment.
 - The interaction programme will be held at district and block level with the chief minister, likely to attend a number of these, while his cabinet colleagues and top officials would chip in at other places.
- ❖ Efforts will also be made to find out expectations and aspirations of women from the government during the dialogue programme.

International Relations

Air-to-Air refueling agreement

Why in the news?

India and Australia have signed an arrangement allowing the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and the Indian armed forces to conduct air-to-air refueling.

- ❖ Under the agreement:
 - The RAAF's KC-30A Multi-Role Tanker Transport will be able to refuel Indian aircraft that have entered airspace near Australia.
- ❖ It remains unclear whether Australian aircraft will receive the same courtesy when they enter the eastern Indian Ocean.
- ❖ The Indian Air Force currently refuels from ageing Ilyushin-78 airborne tankers, which may not be interoperable with the RAAF's more modern fighters.

Science And Technology

AroTrack

Why in the news?

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B) have unveiled "AroTrack".

- ❖ It is a compact and affordable device designed to detect harmful pollutants like phenol, benzene, and xylenols in water.
- ❖ Significance:
 - It offers a groundbreaking solution to global water pollution challenges.

- With a price tag of under ₹5,000, the device promises to revolutionize water quality monitoring, particularly in rural and resource-limited areas.

About the device:

- ❖ It leverages a key biosensor module, MopR, derived from bacteria that thrive in polluted environments.
 - This protein reacts selectively to aromatic xenobiotics, triggering a colour change in the sample solution when pollutants are present.
- ❖ The reaction is measured using a light-emitting diode (LED) — phototransistor assembly within the device.



India's 1st AI data bank

Why in the news?

The Ministry of Science and Technology has launched India's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) data bank.

- ❖ It was launched by Minister of Science and Technology Minister (Independent Charge) Jitendra Singh at the 7th Edition of the ASSOCHAM AI Leadership Meet 2024.

About the AI Data Bank:

- ❖ It will provide researchers, startups, and developers access to high-quality, diverse datasets essential for creating scalable and inclusive AI solutions.
- ❖ It will enhance national security through real-time analytics of satellite, drone, and IoT data.
- ❖ It also aligns with the country's goal to utilise AI for predictive analytics in disaster management and cyber security.

Schemes In News

VISION Portal

Why in the news?

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the "Viksit Bharat Initiative for Student Innovation and Outreach Network" (VISION) portal on 21st November, 2024.

Objective of the portal:

- It is aimed at nurturing education, skill development, and innovation among underprivileged children.



Awards and Honors

The Order of Excellence of Guyana

Why in the news?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been conferred with the highest national award of Guyana, "The Order of Excellence of Guyana".

- ❖ Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana conferred this award to India's PM.

Why was he awarded?

- ❖ He has been awarded for his visionary statesmanship, for championing the rights of developing countries on the global stage, for exceptional service to the global community and for his commitment to strengthening India-Guyana relations.

- ❖ He is only the fourth foreign leader to be conferred with the highest National award of Guyana.



Dominica Award of Honour

Why in the news?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been conferred with the highest National Award "Dominica Award of Honour".

- ❖ Sylvanie Burton, President of the Commonwealth of Dominica conferred this award to India's PM.

Why was he awarded?

- ❖ He has been awarded for his statesmanship, support to Dominica during the Covid 19 pandemic and his commitment to strengthening India and Dominica ties.



Index and Report

Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI 2025)

Why in the news?

India has been ranked 10th out of 63 countries assessed in the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI 2025).

- ❖ The 63 countries, along with the European Union, assessed in the CCPI are responsible for 90 per cent of global emissions.

About the CCPI 2025:

- ❖ The index leaves the first three places empty followed by Denmark (fourth place) and the Netherlands while the largest two emitters, China and the US, remain very low at 55th and 57th place, respectively.
 - The report leaves the first three places empty, as no country performed well enough across all index categories to achieve an overall very high rating.
- ❖ It is published by think tanks Germanwatch, New Climate Institute, and Climate Action Network International.

- ❖ It tracks the progress of the world's largest emitters in terms of emissions, renewables, and climate policy.

CCPI Rank		2025
Country	CCPI 2024	CCPI 2025
▼ India	7	10

Important Days/ Dates

World Fisheries Day

Why in the news?

World Fisheries Day is observed annually on November 21st.

- ❖ **History of this day:**
 - It originated in 1997 when the "World Forum of Fish Harvesters & Fish Workers" convened in New Delhi.
 - During this meeting, representatives from 18 countries came together to establish the "World Fisheries Forum" and signed a declaration advocating for adopting sustainable fishing practices and policies worldwide.



- ❖ **Theme 2024:**
 - India's Blue Transformation: Strengthening Small-Scale and Sustainable Fisheries.
- ❖ **Important initiatives launched on World Fisheries Day:**
 - These included the launch of the 5th Marine Fisheries Census for data-driven policymaking, the National Plan of Action on Sharks for sustainable shark management and India's endorsement to the Regional Plan of Action on IUU (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated)

India is the 3rd largest fish producer, 2nd largest aquaculture nation in the world after China and the largest producer of shrimp.

News in Short

- ❖ The International Criminal Court has issued arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, his former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant and Hamas officials.
 - They had been accused of war crimes and crimes against humanity over their 13-month war in Gaza and the October 7, 2023 attack on Israel, respectively.

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the 'United Nations International Year of Cooperatives 2025' at International Cooperative Alliance's (ICA) global conference to be held in New Delhi from 25th-30th November, 2024.
 - For the first time in the 130 years long history of the ICA, the premier body for the global cooperative movement, with the initiative of IFFCO, the ICA General Assembly and Global Cooperative Conference will be hosted by India.
- ❖ Reserve Bank of India and the Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a framework for promoting the use of local currencies Indian Rupee and Maldivian Rufiyaa in cross-border transactions.

- ❖ Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi has been conferred the rank of Honorary General of the Nepali Army by President Ram Chandra Poudel.
- ❖ Armenia has become the 104th full member of the International Solar Alliance.
- ❖ For the first time ever, a Ladakhi Film "Ghar Jaisa Kuch" has opened the non-Feature category in 55th IFFI in Goa.
 - It is a short film directed by an independent director, Shri Harsh Sangani.
 - The film explores the perpetual conflict between a person's will to adhere to his inherited traditions and pursuing his future aspirations.



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