

### Bihar Special

#### Mukhyamantri Vahan Chalak Kalyan Yojna-2024

##### Why in the news?

The Bihar cabinet has approved a proposal from the state transport department about the launch of the Mukhyamantri Vahan Chalak Kalyan Yojna-2024.

- ❖ **Objective of the scheme:** For the welfare of commercial vehicle drivers who are natives of Bihar and have obtained driving licenses from the state.

##### Key provisions of the scheme:

- ❖ Under the scheme:
  - Commercial vehicle drivers will be insured and will get several other benefits, like training, regular health checkups, etc.
  - They will have to first get themselves registered and will be provided unique identification numbers.
- ❖ In case of fatalities, their next of kin will get financial benefits and other facilities.

### Economy

#### Monetary Policy Committee

##### Why in the news?

The Reserve Bank of India has reconstituted the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) as per section 45ZB of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

##### About the Committee:

- ❖ As per the provisions of the RBI Act, the committee consists of six members: three Members from RBI, and three are appointed by the Central Government.
- ❖ The MPC will have the following members:
  - **Chairperson:** Governor of the Reserve Bank of India.
  - **Member:** Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, in charge of Monetary Policy.
  - One officer of the Reserve Bank of India to be nominated by the Central Board.
  - **Member:** Prof. Ram Singh, Director, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.

- Member: Saugata Bhattacharya, Economist
- Member: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director and Chief Executive, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi.

❖ **Appointment of members:**

- The RBI appoints three representatives, including the governor, while the remaining three members are external appointees.
- A selection panel comprising RBI Governor, Cabinet Secretary, and Economic Affairs Secretary is responsible for choosing the external members of the MPC.
- The final approval for these positions lies with the Prime Minister's office.

❖ **Tenure of Members:**

- The members of the committee appointed by the Central Government shall hold office for a period of four years, with immediate effect or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

❖ **Inflation Targeting by committee:**

- It follows a CPI-based inflation targeting framework and is currently aiming to keep inflation at 4 percent, allowing for a tolerance range of  $\pm 2$  percentage points.

### Environment And Geography

#### New species of invasive flatworm

##### Why in the news?

A new species of invasive flatworm has been discovered in the United States and has been found in several states of the south USA.

##### About the species:

- ❖ The species, named *Amaga pseudobama*, was discovered by an international team of researchers and first spotted in 2020 in North Carolina.
- It is thought to be native to South America.
- Apart from North Carolina, the species is also present in Florida and Georgia and may have already invaded other states

- ❖ **Significance:** This new species joins other invasive flatworm species discovered in the southern United States, including *Platydemus manokwari*.



### Defence And Security

#### Navika Sagar Parikrama II

##### Why in the news?

The Indian Naval Sailing Vessel (INSV) *Tarini* sailed for the second edition of a landmark global circumnavigation mission named *Navika Sagar Parikrama II*.

- ❖ The expedition was flagged off from the Naval Ocean Sailing Node at *INS Mandovi, Goa* on **2nd October 2024**.
- ❖ **Significance:**
  - This landmark event marks a significant milestone in Naval Ocean sailing history as the first ever circumnavigation of the globe onboard a sailing vessel by Indian women in double-handed mode.

- ✓ *Lt Cdr Dilna* and *Lt Cdr Roopa* will carry forward a legacy established by Captain *Dilip Donde*, the first Indian to circumnavigate the globe in 2009-10, and *Cdr Abhilash Tomy*, who became the first Asian skipper to complete the prestigious *Golden Globe Race* in 2022.

##### History of this mission:

- It was first conceived in **2017** when an all-women crew of six Indian Navy officers successfully circumnavigated the globe.

##### About the mission:

- ❖ It will cover more than **21,600** nautical miles (approx **40,000 km**) and will unfold in five legs with stopovers at four ports for replenishment and maintenance, as required. The broad contour of voyage will be as follows:
  - *Goa to Fremantle, Australia*
  - *Fremantle to Lytteton, New Zealand*
  - *Lytteton to Port Stanley, Falkland*
  - *Port Stanley to Cape Town, S Africa*
  - *Cape Town to Goa*

- ❖ INSV Tarini is a 56 foot sailing vessel built by M/s Aquarius Shipyard Ltd was inducted in the Indian Navy on 18 Feb 2017



### Miscellaneous

#### World's oldest eyeliner

##### Why in the news?

Archaeologists have unearthed the oldest eyeliner from the ruins of a prehistoric city in Turkey.

- ❖ **Significance:** It has proved that humans were using makeup more than 8,000 years ago.

##### About the eyeliner:

- ❖ The kohl stick, which is a kind of eyeliner still popular among people, was found in Yeşilova Höyük which is an ancient settlement in western Turkey.
  - It is made using green serpentine stone and there are traces of black paint on its tip, more than 8,200 years after it was used.

- It is nearly 10 cm long and a centimeter thick and is among various artefacts developed by the people of Yeşilova Höyük in ancient times.



### Sports

#### Kho Kho World Cup, 2025

##### Why in the news?

India will host the first-ever Kho Kho World Cup in 2025 as per an announcement by the Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI) and the International Kho Kho Federation.

##### About the event:

- ❖ It will witness the participation of 24 countries from six continents, featuring 16 men's and 16 women's teams.

##### Significance:

- ❖ The Kho Kho World Cup aims to elevate this indigenous Indian sport to an international stage.
  - Kho Kho has its roots in India, and the World Cup will highlight the rich cultural heritage and competitive spirit of the sport.

- The sport that started in the mud and now gone to the mat has a global presence with 54 countries playing the sport across the world.



### Important Days/ Dates

#### International Day of Non-Violence

#### Why in the news?

It is celebrated annually on October 2 and marks the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

- ❖ **History of this day:**
  - It was proclaimed by the United Nations in 2007 and serves as a reminder of the power of non-violence in shaping societies.
- ❖ **Significance of this day:**
  - It serves as a global reminder of Mahatma Gandhi's enduring philosophy of peace and non-violence.

#### ❖ Celebrating Gandhi's legacy:

- Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission), launched in 2014, stands as one of the most significant initiatives reflecting Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of cleanliness as essential to nation-building.
- The Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2024 campaign, with its theme of 'Swabhaav Swachhata, Sanskaar Swachhata', was held from 17th September, 2024 to 1st October, 2024.
  - ✓ The campaign culminated with Gandhi Jayanti on 2nd October, 2024 marking the 10th anniversary of the Swachh Bharat Mission.
- On September 11, 2024, Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, inaugurated a special Railway Coach dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi at Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat, Delhi.



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