

# Daily Current Affairs

## 05 February 2024

### Torchbearer For The 2024 Paris Olympics

- **Ancient tradition of Olympic Torch Relay** continues its journey towards Paris 2024, with the flame set to cross the Mediterranean and embark on a 68-day adventure across France.
- **Abhinav Bindra, India's first individual Olympic gold medalist** and an IOC Athletes' Commission member, is **among the 11,000 torchbearers** chosen to carry the iconic symbol. Following its ceremonial lighting in Olympia, Greece, on April 16.



- This unique mode of **transport carries special significance**, echoing the ancient tradition of transporting athletes and officials to the Games by sea.
- On May 8, the flame arrives in Marseille, marking the start of the French Torch Relay. Over the next 68 days, it will travel across 65 territories, carried by 11,000 torchbearers representing diverse backgrounds and communities.
- This nationwide celebration aims to connect the entire country with the spirit of the Games.
- Abhinav Bindra, a shooting legend and the first Indian athlete to win an individual Olympic gold medal, has been selected as one of the torchbearers. His inclusion **reflects the unifying power of the Olympics** and the celebration of sporting excellence on a global stage.

## **GHAR Portal**

- **Ministry of Women and Child Development** has pioneered the development of two pivotal portals: the **Track Child Portal** and the **GHAR – GO Home and Re-Unite Portal**.
- These platforms play a crucial role in **tracking missing and found children**, enhancing **restoration and repatriation processes**, and safeguarding the welfare of vulnerable minors under the purview of the Juvenile Justice system.
- The Track Child Portal, a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, serves as a **centralized hub for tracking missing and found children nationwide**.



- Developed in collaboration with stakeholders such as the Ministry of Home Affairs, CCTNS (Crime and Criminal Tracking & Network Systems), and various State Governments/UT Administrations, this platform empowers authorities and citizens alike to monitor the whereabouts of missing children effectively.
- Seamlessly integrated with the CCTNS, the Track Child Portal **enables real-time matching** of FIRs with the database to expedite the tracing of missing children.
- Through the **“Khoya-Paya” feature**, citizens are encouraged to report sightings or information about missing children, fostering community involvement in child protection efforts.
- Complementing the Track **Child Portal**, the **GHAR – GO Home and Re-Unite Portal** is a digital platform designed to facilitate the restoration and repatriation of children in accordance with the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

## Bharat Ratna

- On the announcement of **conferring Bharat Ratna** to Mr LK. Advani said ever since he joined the **Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh** as its volunteer at the age of fourteen, he sought reward in dedicated and selfless service of India.
- Mr Advani remembered two persons with whom he had the honour of working closely - Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya and former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- He thanked President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for bestowing the honour on him. He expressed gratitude to the party workers, swayamsevaks and others with whom he worked throughout his journey in public life.



- **On September 25, 1990**, L K Advani commenced his Rath Yatra from Somnath, Gujarat. He planned to traverse across the country on a rath (a chariot, or in Advani's case, a modified Toyota made to look like a chariot), building momentum for the Ram Janmabhoomi movement, and ultimately arriving at Ayodhya to stake claim to the Babri Masjid site.
- Thronged by thousands of 'activists', Advani's procession was marked by songs and slogans, all with a singular aim to galvanise pan-Hindu support for the temple. As historian Ramachandra Guha noted, "the imagery of the yatra was religious, allusive, militant, masculine, and anti-Muslim."
- **Advani gave way to Vajpayee in the aftermath of the Babri demolition**, to allow the party to be helmed by a more "moderate" face. He would never be able to meet his prime ministerial aspirations. Nonetheless, his role in the rise of the BJP to its current, seemingly infallible position, remains undeniable.

## Unified Payments Interface At Eiffel Tower

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said it is great to see UPI being **formally launched at the iconic Eiffel Tower** at India's Republic Day Celebration in Paris, France.
- Mr Modi said it marks a significant step towards taking **UPI global**. He said this is a wonderful example of encouraging digital payments and fostering stronger ties.



- Making the announcement, the Indian Embassy in France termed it as part of **Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of taking UPI, global**.
- The UPI is India's mobile-based payment system developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in 2016. It allows people to make round-the-clock payments through a virtual payment address created by the customer.

**MoU has been signed between NPCI, International and Lyra Network of France for 'Acceptance of UPI & Rupay Card in France'.**

**RuPay**

**UPI**  
UNIFIED PAYMENTS INTERFACE



- UPI is a system that powers multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application of any participating bank, merging several banking features, seamless fund routing and merchant payments into one hood.
- During his visit to France in July last year, Prime Minister Modi announced the **agreement between India and France to use the UPI payment mechanism**. He had said that it will begin from the iconic Eiffel Tower. Prime Minister Modi had said that Indian tourists in France will now be able to make payments in rupees.

## BHU Launched Human DNA Bank

- Banaras Hindu University (BHU) has initiated two groundbreaking endeavors: the establishment of the **Human DNA Bank** and the imminent completion of the **Wildlife DNA Bank**.
- These initiatives, powered by **cutting-edge technologies** such as the Automated DNA Extractor Machine, epitomize India's commitment to innovation and indigenous manufacturing under the Make in India initiative.



- BHU's Human DNA Bank and Wildlife DNA Bank represent pivotal milestones in genetic research. The Automated **DNA Extractor Machine**, a testament to Indian ingenuity, expedites the extraction of genetic material from diverse biological sources, facilitating comprehensive studies in personalized medicine, wildlife conservation, and beyond.
- Emulating Estonia's esteemed Genome Bank, BHU's DNA banks **aim to collect and analyze genetic data from diverse populations**.
- By harnessing the power of genetic data, BHU's DNA banks empower healthcare professionals to deliver personalized medical interventions. **Early detection of**

**hereditary diseases** and tailored treatment plans are made possible, ushering in a new era of proactive healthcare management.

- The integration of genetic data into epidemiological models enhances our understanding of **disease transmission dynamics and population susceptibility**.
- BHU's DNA banks play a crucial role in preemptive healthcare, equipping researchers with invaluable insights to combat epidemics effectively.
- In parallel, **BHU's commitment to wildlife conservation** is exemplified by the imminent completion of the Wildlife DNA Bank.
- Spearheaded by **the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI)**, this initiative underscores the importance of genetic diversity in safeguarding endangered species and their habitats.

## Gaon Chalo Abhiyan

- BJP has launched the **Gaon Chalo Abhiyaan** to **bridge the gap between urban and rural areas**.
- Under the campaign, **party workers** will go to **seven lakh villages** and all urban booths will take the work done by Narendra Modi government to the last person.
- Over 30 lakh party workers will participate in the Abhiyaan. The launch marked an auspicious beginning for the initiative, starting from the **Palampur Assembly constituency** in the Himachal Pradesh.

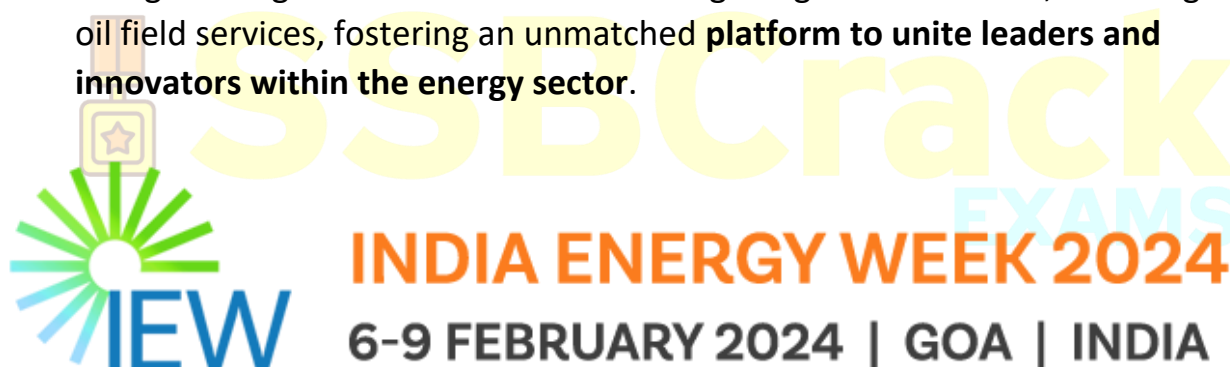


- During the campaign kick-off, BJP National President Nadda engaged with the local community, conducting a booth meeting and interacting with members of a self-help group, showcasing his commitment to grassroots-level engagement.

- He also held a **booth meeting with the villagers** and interacted with the women of the self-help group. The programme is being run at the **national level under the leadership of Kisan Morcha**.
- Union Minister Anurag Singh Thakur and other senior party leaders were present on the occasion. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) launched the Gaon Chalo campaign in Uttar Pradesh also.
- During this campaign, party workers will stay for **24 hours at the village level** in rural areas and the booth level in urban areas. They will also undertake a **door-to-door campaign** to send the message of Viksit Bharat to the last person in the society.

## India Energy Week 2024

- The **India Energy Week 2024 anticipates** drawing over 35,000 attendees, 350 exhibitors, and 400 speakers across 80 conference sessions, with 4,000 delegates from 120 countries.
- This gathering will showcase a diverse range of global exhibitors, including core oil field services, fostering an unmatched **platform to unite leaders and innovators within the energy sector**.



- Building upon India's growing prominence in the global energy landscape, IEW 2024 promises to surpass its inaugural edition, graced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Bengaluru last year.
- Prime Minister Modi's vision for India's role in the **evolving energy arena** set the stage for a highly successful 2023 event, affirming India's status as a global energy hub.
- The picturesque **coastal state of Goa will host this international congregation** from February 6-9 at the IPSHEM-ONGC Training Institute.
- Organized by the **Federation of Indian Petroleum Industry (FIPI)** under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India, IEW 2024 will

facilitate crucial discussions, knowledge exchange, and collaborations among industry leaders, policymakers, academia, and entrepreneurs.



- **Key themes explored during the event** will include energy transition in the global south, building a resilient energy framework, fostering alternate fuels for energy flexibility, and examining the impact of localization and globalization on energy-related industries.
- India has made significant strides in ensuring **energy security while transitioning to cleaner energy sources**. Measures such as increasing domestic oil and gas exploration, boosting ethanol blending, and scaling up renewable energy capacity have contributed to this success. IEW provides a platform for global stakeholders to learn from India's adaptive strategies in ensuring accessible, affordable, and sustainable energy solutions. The event also underscores India's leadership in combating climate change and facilitates the exchange of ideas and opportunities across the energy spectrum. In India's balanced approach to energy security and transition lies a blueprint for global sustainability. IEW 2024 in Goa presents an opportunity for the global energy community to glean insights and develop innovative strategies for a prosperous future.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. Who Is Selected As Torchbearer From India For Paris Olympics 2024**

- A. Abhinav Bindra
- B. Neeraj Chopra
- C. Karnam Malleswari
- D. PV Sindhu

**ANSWER: A**

**2. GHAR Portal Is Launched By**

- A. Ministry Of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry Of Housing & Urban Affairs
- C. Ministry Of Women And Child Development
- D. Ministry Of Railways

**ANSWER: C**

**3. Unified Payments Interface Formally Launched In Which European Country**

- A. Germany
- B. Italy
- C. Spain
- D. France

**ANSWER: D**

**4. Where Is Pixxel's State-of-the-art Spacecraft Manufacturing Facility, Megapixxel, Located**

- A. Mumbai
- B. Delhi
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Hyderabad

**ANSWER: C**

**5. On Which Date Was Thiruvalluvar Day Celebrated In 2024**

- A. January 14
- B. January 15
- C. January 16
- D. January 17

**ANSWER: C**

**6. Which Country Become Third Largest For Foreign Portfolio Investments In India, Surpassing Mauritius**

- A. Luxembourg
- B. Singapore
- C. United States
- D. United Kingdom

**ANSWER: A**

**7. Global Firepower Military Strength Rankings 2024, Which Position India Claim**

- A. Fifth
- B. Second
- C. Fourth
- D. Sixth

**ANSWER: C**

**8. Which State Government Partnered With IndoSpace For A Rs 2000 Crore Investment In Industrial Real Estate**

- A. Karnataka
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Gujarat
- D. Maharashtra

**ANSWER: B**

**9. In Which Indian State Will World's 1<sup>st</sup> Health Tech & Life Sciences-focused Centre For 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution Be Established**

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Telangana
- C. Haryana
- D. Karnataka

**ANSWER: B**

**10. Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary Is Located In Which State**

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Karnataka
- D. Maharashtra

**ANSWER: A**

**11. C- CARES Web Portal Is Associated With Which Sector**

- A. Petroleum sector
- B. Renewable energy sector
- C. Coal sector
- D. Agriculture sector

**ANSWER: C**

**12. Company Launched 'ALT ID' Solution For Guest Checkout Transactions**

- A. Paytm
- B. PhonePe
- C. Mastercard
- D. VISA

**ANSWER:C**

**13. Mesolithic Era Rock Paintings Recently Been Discovered In Which State**

- A. Telangana
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Gujarat
- D. Uttar Pradesh

**ANSWER: A**

**14. What Is Fentanyl, Recently Mentioned In The News**

- A. A Type Of Drug
- B. Invasive Plant
- C. Artificial Intelligence Tool
- D. Asteroid

**ANSWER: A**

**15. Digital Detox' Initiative In News, Is Associated With Which State**

- A. Kerala
- B. Karnataka
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Maharashtra

**ANSWER: B**

**16. Which Company Was Recognized For Its Outstanding Cargo Services At The Wings India Awards**

- A. Blue Dart Aviation
- B. SpiceXpress
- C. Skyways Air Services
- D. Delhivery

**ANSWER: C**

**17. Where Did Union Ayush Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal Laid The Foundation Stone For The 'Ayush Diksha Centre**

- A. Bhubaneswar
- B. Delhi
- C. Guwahati
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: A**

**18. In Which City Five New Galleries Inaugurated At The 'Salar Jung Museum**

- A. Mumbai
- B. Delhi
- C. Kolkata
- D. Hyderabad

**ANSWER: D**

**19. Where Does The 'Gole Mela' Festival Take Place**

- A. Udhampur
- B. Jaipur
- C. Varanasi
- D. Ujjain

**ANSWER: A**

**20. Samalei Project Is Associated With Which State**

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Gujarat
- D. Odisha

**ANSWER: D**