

Daily Current Affairs

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NITI GearShift Challenge'

- **NITI Aayog** has announced the launch of the '**NITI GearShift Challenge**' as part of the **e-FAST India initiative**.
- This **pioneering hackathon** aims to foster innovative business models for the adoption of **zero-emission trucks in India**, addressing the nation's pressing economic and environmental challenges.



- **NITI Aayog has also invited students**, transport service practitioners, academics, and researchers to develop innovative business models that address financial, technical, and operational challenges in the adoption of electric trucks.
- The program has garnered participation from **e-FAST India knowledge partners**, financial institutions, and industry forums. The '**NITI GearShift Challenge**' is being organised in collaboration with IIM Bangalore, Smart Freight Centre India, WRI India and other institutions.



- NITI Aayog said that the hackathon will unfold in two rounds. It said that the **GearShift Challenge marks a pivotal move towards sustainable freight transportation in India.**
- **e-FAST India (Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport – India)** is the country's first platform to facilitate collaboration between government stakeholders and private sector partners — Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), Logistic Service Providers (LSPs), financiers, producers, and Charge Point Operators (CPOs) — to shape strategies and actions that support freight electrification at scale.

‘Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas’

- Government has decided to observe the **25th of June every year** as ‘**Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas**’. On this day in **1975, former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi** imposed an Emergency in the country.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that the decision is intended to honor the spirit of millions who struggled to **revive democracy despite facing inexplicable persecution** at the hands of an oppressive government.



- The observance of ‘**Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas**’ will help keep the eternal flame of individual freedom and the defense of the country’s democracy alive in every Indian.
- Mr Shah said that On June 25 the then PM Indira Gandhi, in a brazen display of a dictatorial mindset, strangled the soul of Indian democracy by imposing the Emergency on the nation.

- Mr Modi said that this day is also a day to pay homage to each and every person who suffered due to the excesses of the Emergency, a Congress unleashed dark phase of Indian history.

SDG India Index 2023-24

- **NITI Aayog released SDG India Index 2023-24** and said India is progressing towards the **Sustainable Development Goals** despite global headwinds.
- **SDG India Index** is the country's principal tool for measuring national and subnational progress on the Sustainable Development Goals.
- The Index was launched by NITI Aayog Vice Chairperson Suman Bery in the presence of NITI Aayog CEO BVR Subrahmanyam among others.
- Mr Subrahmanyam said the **composite score for India improved** from 57 in 2018 to 66 in 2020-21 to further to **71 in 2023-24**.
- SDG India Index measures and tracks national progress of all States and UTs on **113 indicators**.
- It computes **goal-wise scores on the 16 SDGs** for each State and UT. These scores range between zero to hundred. If a state or UT achieves a score of 100, it signifies that it has achieved the targets.
- The Index not only highlights achievements, but also encourages States and UTs to learn from each other to close outcome-based gaps.



- Since 2018, India has witnessed **substantial progress in several key SDGs**. Significant progress has been made in the areas of alleviating poverty, health, providing clean water and sanitation and affordable and clean energy.

- The NITI Aayog CEO said **government's focus on ensuring food and nutrition** security, health, education, electrification, housing for all, sanitation, clean cooking fuel and energy has significantly contributed to the improvements.
- A Key interventions facilitating SDG achievements include over **four crore houses under the PM Awas Yojana**, and eleven crore Toilets and 2.23 lakh Community Sanitary Complexes in rural areas. Mr Subrahmanyam also cited ten crore LPG connections under PM Ujjwala Yojana and tap water connections in over 14.9 crore households under Jal Jeevan Mission as initiatives which led to SDG achievements.
- **Significant progress in Goals 1 (No Poverty), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 13 (Climate Action) and 15 (Life on Land)** Goal 13 (Climate Action) records highest increase in score from 54 in 2020-21 to 67 in 2023-24 followed by Goal 1 (No Poverty) from 60 to 72
- **32 States and UTs in the front-runner category** with 10 new entrants - Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.
- **Between 2018 and 2023-24**, fastest moving States are Uttar Pradesh (increase in score by 25), followed by J&K (21), Uttarakhand (19), Sikkim (18), Haryana (17), Assam, Tripura and Punjab (16 each), Madhya Pradesh and Odisha (15 each)

 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**



Wimbledon

- In Wimbledon Tennis, **Carlos Alcaraz** Of Spain Has Clinched The Men's Singles Title Defeating Novak Djokovic Of Serbia. **Barbora Krejcikova** Of The Czech Republic Defeated Jasmine Paolini Of Italy To Win Her Maiden Wimbledon Women's Singles Title.



Shotgun Junior World Cup, Italy

- In Shooting, India's Sabeera Haris has bagged the **bronze medal** in women's trap event at the **International Shooting Sport Federation, ISSF Junior World Cup in Porpetto, Italy**.



- Sabeera shot 29 out of 40 targets in the final yesterday. Carey Garrison of the US won the gold, shooting down 40 out of 50 targets. While Sofia Gori of Italy claimed the silver with 39 hits out of the full quota of 50 targets.
- In the junior women's trap event, another Indian, **Bhavya Tripathi**, concluded her campaign in 26th place with a score of 102, while compatriot Rajkuwar Ingle finished in 33rd position with 100 points.

International Honour For Andhra Pradesh

- **Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming Program, Led By The Government Of Andhra Pradesh, Awarded The Prestigious Gulbenkian Prize For Humanity 2024.**
- The Announcement Was Made By **Dr. Angela Merkel**, Chair Of The Jury And Former Federal Chancellor Of Germany, During A Ceremony In Lisbon, Portugal On July 11th.



International Honour For Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming

- **APCNF Shares The EUR1 Million Prize** With Dr. Rattan Lal, A Renowned Soil Scientist From The USA, And SEKEM, An Egyptian Network Promoting Biodynamic Farming.
- **Gulbenkian Foundation Recognized Their Collaborative** Efforts In Advancing Sustainable Agriculture. APCNF, A State-wide Program Recognized For Its Significant Contributions To Global Food Security, Climate Resilience, And Ecosystem Protection.
- This Initiative Supports Smallholder Farmers, With A Focus On Empowering Predominantly Women Farmers.
- 2024 Prize Emphasizes The Interconnected Nature Of Climate-related Challenges, Highlighting How They Lead To Systemic Crises. APCNF Programme Was Launched In 2016 To Support Smallholder Farmers In Transitioning From Chemically Intensive Agriculture To Natural Farming.

- **This Transition Includes Practices** Such As Using Organic Residues, Minimizing Tillage To Improve Soil Health, Reintroducing Indigenous Seeds, And Diversifying Crops, Including Trees.
- APCNF Is Implemented By The **Rythu Sadhikara Samstha**, Also Known As The **Farmers Empowerment Corporation**, A Non-profit Entity Established By The Government Of Andhra Pradesh.
- It Is Recognized As The **World's Largest Agroecology Programme** In Terms Of The Number Of Practicing Farmers.
- Over A Million Smallholder Farmers Are Enrolled In The APCNF Programme, Practicing Natural Farming **Across 500,000 Hectares** In Andhra Pradesh.

SCALING NATURAL FARMING: Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming Program India

APCNF's community-managed Natural Farming methodology is a replicable and widely scalable regenerative farming approach that significantly increases:

- Productivity and Farmer Income
- Community Health and Local Economic Development
- Soil Health, Food and Water Security
- Biodiversity and Environmental Benefits
- Carbon Sequestration and Climate Resilience.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. World Audio Visual And Entertainment Summit 2024 Will Be Organised By

- A. France
- B. Spain
- C. India
- D. Greece

ANSWER: C

2. 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas' Will Be Observed On

- A. 24 June
- B. 25 June
- C. 26 June
- D. 27 June

ANSWER: B

3. SDG India Index 2023-24 Released By

- A. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. Ministry Of Consumer Affairs
- D. Ministry Of Home Affairs

ANSWER: B

4. Naavu Manujaru Programme Is Associated With Which State

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

ANSWER: C

5. What Is The Focus Of PM's 'NAMO Drone Didi' Scheme

- A. Empowering women in the healthcare sector
- B. Training women in digital marketing
- C. Providing financial support to women entrepreneurs
- D. Empowering women in the agriculture sector

ANSWER: D

6. Which Country Approved A Plan To Build A New Orbital Space Station By 2033

- A. United States
- B. Russia
- C. China
- D. India

ANSWER: B

7. Until Which Date Has Smart Cities Mission In India Been Extended

- A. June 30, 2025
- B. December 31, 2025
- C. January 31, 2025
- D. March 31, 2025

ANSWER: D

8. Which Country Is Preparing To Host 57th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting

- A. Indonesia
- B. Laos
- C. Thailand
- D. Vietnam

ANSWER: B

9. Who Is Author Of Book "Manoj Bajpayee: The Definitive Biography"

- A. Manoj Bajpayee
- B. Anupama Chopra
- C. Piyush Pandey
- D. Rajeev Masand

ANSWER: C

10. Headquarters Of Food & Agriculture Organization Located

- A. Geneva
- B. Vienna
- C. Rome
- D. Paris

ANSWER: C

11. Who Has Been Appointed As Principal Spokesperson Of Central Government

- A. Dhirendra Ojha
- B. Sheyphali B Sharan
- C. Hariharan
- D. Pradhap Singh

ANSWER: A

12. Who Was Oscar Winning Screenwriter Known For Crafting Screenplay Of "Chinatown"

- A. Robert Towne
- B. Steven Spielberg
- C. Quentin Tarantino
- D. Francis Ford Coppola

ANSWER: A

13. Who Received Spice Award 2024 From ICAR-Indian Institute Of Spices Research

- A. K Viswanathan
- B. Madhu Subramanian
- C. Chandran K
- D. Sopna Kallingal

ANSWER: D

14. Who Has Been Appointed As Chief Justice Of Jharkhand High Court

- A. Justice Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi
- B. Justice Sanjaya Kumar Mishra
- C. Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya
- D. Justice Ritu Bahri

ANSWER: A

15. When Will Cooperatives Worldwide Celebrate The International Day Of Cooperatives In 2024

- A. June 30
- B. July 1
- C. July 6
- D. July 10

ANSWER: C

16. Where Was Fourth Case Of Amoebic Meningoencephalitis Reported Recently

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

ANSWER: C

17. Which Institution Did IRA Mumbai Sign An MOU With To Develop A Ship Trajectory Prediction Tool

- A. IIT Delhi
- B. IIT Madras
- C. IIT Kharagpur
- D. IIT Bombay

ANSWER: D

18. Which Bangalore Based Firm Supplied Indigenous Chip-based 4G Mobile Base Station To The Indian Army

- A. Signaltron
- B. ASM Technologies
- C. Micron Technology
- D. Moschip Technologies

ANSWER: A

19. Which Community Is The Third Largest Scheduled Tribe In India

- A. Santhals
- B. Gonds
- C. Bhils
- D. Mundas

ANSWER: A

20. Who In Akbar's Court Translated Atharva Veda Into Persian

- A. Haji Ibrahim Sarhindi
- B. Abdul Qadir Badayuni
- C. Naqib khan
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: A