

# Daily Current Affairs

## 18 July 2024

### ‘Wings To Our Hopes, Volume I,’

- The book ‘Wings to Our Hopes, Volume I,’ which compiles **75 significant speeches** from the first year of **President Droupadi Murmu’s** tenure, will be released in New Delhi.



- Union Agriculture Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** will release the e-book in the presence of Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. The Publication Division has published this book. The book will be released in Hindi and English.

### Reservation And Age Relaxation For Agniveers

- **Haryana government** will provide **10 percent horizontal reservation** to Agniveers in recruitment to certain posts in police, mining and jail departments. Announcing this in a press conference said that Agniveers will also be given **age relaxation of 3 years** in recruitment to group D and for the first batch this relaxation **will be five years**.
- He also announced **five percent horizontal reservation** to Agniveers in group C and one percent in group B posts. The Chief Minister said that Agniveers seeking deployment in government departments, boards and corporations will be given priority in matrix scores.



- The Chief Minister said that if **Agniveers are given more than 30 thousand rupees per month salary** in any industrial unit, then the government will give an **annual subsidy of 60 thousand rupees** to that industrial unit.
- Apart from this, the Chief Minister also announced that if any Agniveer sets up his own enterprise, he will be given an **interest-free loan of up to 5 lakh rupees**.
- He said, Agniveers will also be given **arms license on priority** basis. If someone meets with an accident, compensation will also be given under the Road Transport Highway Scheme of the Government of India and free treatment will be provided.



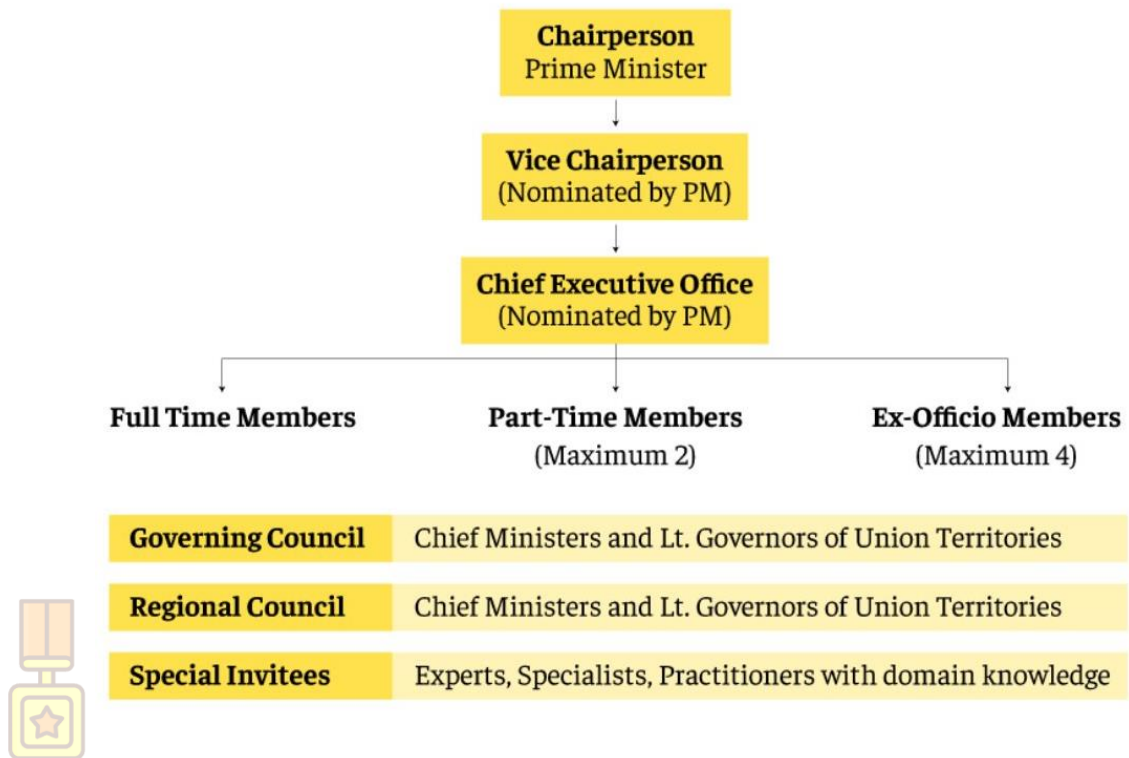
## NITI Aayog

- Government has revised the **composition of NITI Aayog**. **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** has been included as an Ex-Officio Member along with Home Minister Amit Shah, Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.



- A government Notification said the **Special Invitees** are Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda, Steel Minister H D Kumaraswamy, MSME Minister Jitan Ram Majhi, Panchayatiraj Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Dr Virendra Kumar, Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu, Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram, Women and Child Development Minister Annapurna Devi, Food Processing Minister Chirag Paswan and Minister for Planning Rao Inderjit Singh.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** remains the chairperson of NITI Aayog while **Suman Bery will** continue to hold the Vice President post. The Full Time Members are V K Saraswat, Prof. Ramesh Chand, Dr V K Paul, and Anand Virmani.

# Composition of NITI Aayog



## “Pre-Clinical Network Facility”

- Minister Of State For Science And Technology, **Dr. Jitendra Singh** Inaugurated Asia’s First Health Research-related “**Pre-clinical Network Facility**” At The Translational Health Science & Technology Institute” (THSTI), **Faridabad**.



- The Ministry Of Science And Technology Said That The **Facility Will Be The 9th Such Network** Laboratory Across The Globe And The **First Such Laboratory In The Whole Of Asia**.
- Facility includes **one of India's largest small animal housing** capacities, supporting research on **immune-compromised mice** and various species.
- Dr Singh Inaugurated The Genetically Defined Human Associated Microbial Culture Collection (**Ge- Hemic**) Facility To Act As A Repository For Providing Microbial Cultures To Research Institutes, Universities, And Industries For Research And Development.
- The Minister Also Signed More Than A Dozen Agreements And Mou With Private Sector For Vaccine Development By Department Of Biotechnology Under The Ministry.

## 'One Scientist, One Product'

- **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** is set to unveil a groundbreaking initiative that promises to revolutionize the landscape of agricultural and animal husbandry research in India.
- The '**One Scientist-One Product**' programme, marks a significant milestone in the organization's commitment to advancing agricultural science and technology.



- **ICAR Director-General Himanshu Pathak** explained that each of **ICAR's 5,521 scientists** will be tasked with developing a product, technology, model, concept, or notable publication.



- **Scientists will identify their project** at the start of each year, with progress monitored quarterly at the institute level and biannually at the headquarters. This program will **run for five years**, with an initial focus on high-yielding oilseeds and pulses.
- **ICAR's Ambitious 100-Day Action Plan**, Development of 100 new seed varieties, Creation of 100 new farm technologies. These goals are to be achieved within a tight timeframe of 100 days, demonstrating ICAR's commitment to rapid innovation and development in the agricultural sector.

## UGC's ASMITA Project

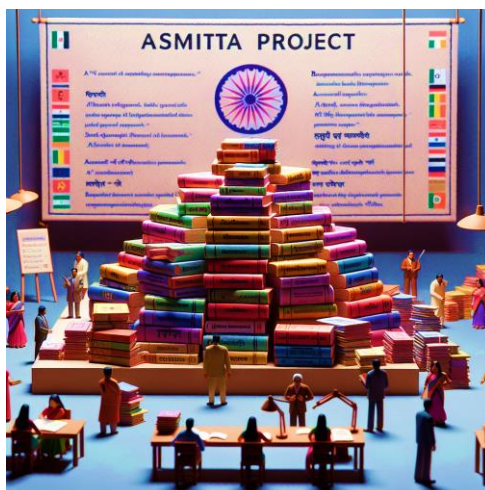
- **Ministry of Education and the University Grants Commission (UGC)** unveiled an ambitious project aimed at enriching the landscape of Indian language literature in higher education.



- This groundbreaking initiative, known as **ASMITA (Augmenting Study Materials in Indian Languages through Translation and Academic Writing)**, sets out to

develop an impressive **22,000 books in Indian languages** over the next five years.

- ASMITA represents a collaborative effort between the UGC and the **Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti**, a high-powered committee under the Ministry of Education.



- **The project's primary objective** is to promote Indian languages in education, addressing the long-standing need for quality academic resources in regional languages.
- Alongside ASMITA, the ministry launched the **“Bahubhasha Shabdakosh”**, a comprehensive multilingual dictionary serving as a single-point reference for words in all Indian languages and their meanings.
- This initiative will be developed by the **Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL)** in collaboration with the Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti.

## International Biology Olympiad

- **Indian team, which participated at the 35th International Biology Olympiad (IBO) 2024** achieved remarkable success, with one student winning a **GOLD medal** and three students securing **SILVER medals**.
- **Vedant Sakre from Mumbai**, Maharashtra won a gold medal while **Ishan Pednekar** from Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, **Shrijith Sivakumar** from Chennai, Tamil Nadu and **Yashashwi Kumar** from Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh bagged a silver medal each.
- The 35th IBO was held at **Astana, Kazakhstan**. The team was led by **two distinguished leaders**, Prof. Sasikumar Menon from TDM Lab, Mumbai, and Dr. Mayuri Rege from Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE), TIFR and

two Scientific Observers, Dr. Rajesh Patkar from IIT Bombay, and Dr. Devesh Suthar from M. S. University, Baroda.



## Commonwealth Junior And Cadet Championship

- Prominent ace fencer of Jammu and Kashmir, **Shreya Gupta**, has set the ball rolling in **fencing by winning her first-ever individual medal** at the international level by clinching the **Sabre category bronze medal** in the ongoing Commonwealth Junior and Cadet Championship 2024 in **Christchurch, New Zealand**.



- Shreya has already won **two bronze medals** in the team events of the Commonwealth Cadet and Junior **Fencing Championship held at Newcastle** and London in the 2018 and 2022 editions of the championships.
- Besides, she secured a junior bronze medal in the team event at the Asian **Championship in Uzbekistan** and has participated in about 15 prestigious international fencing events.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. 'Wings To Our Hopes, Volume I,' Is Speech Compilation Of

- A. Narendra Modi
- B. Droupadi Murmu
- C. Ajit Doval
- D. S Jai Shankar

**ANSWER: B**

2. Asia's 1<sup>st</sup> Health Research-related "Pre-clinical Network Facility Inaugurated at

- A. New Delhi
- B. Kolkata
- C. Bhubaneswar
- D. Faridabad

**ANSWER: D**

3. Project ASMITA Launched By

- A. UGC
- B. CSIR
- C. ISRO
- D. DRDO

**ANSWER: A**

4. Scientists Found A 'Rare Vampire Squid' In Deep Waters Of Which Sea

- A. Black Sea
- B. Red Sea
- C. South China Sea
- D. Arabian Sea

**ANSWER: C**

5. Kalamkari Art Form, Is Mainly Practised In Which State

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Assam
- D. Nagaland

**ANSWER: A**

**6. Habrocestum Swaminathan, Belongs To Which Species**

- A. Frog
- B. Fish
- C. Spider
- D. Crocodile

**ANSWER: C**

**7. Vizhinjam International Seaport, Is Located In Which State**

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Maharashtra
- C. West Bengal
- D. Kerala

**ANSWER: D**

**8. Which Organization Has Approved \$1.5 Billion Loan To India To Develop The Country's Low-carbon Energy Sector**

- A. World Bank
- B. IMF
- C. ADB
- D. NATO

**ANSWER: A**

**9. Which Country Secured Their Second Consecutive Copa America Championship By Defeating Colombia**

- A. Argentina
- B. Peru
- C. Venezuela
- D. Chile

**ANSWER: A**

**10. Who Won Men's Single Title At 2024 Wimbledon Tennis Championships**

- A. Roger Federer
- B. Novak Djokovic
- C. Carlos Alcaraz
- D. Max Purcell

**ANSWER: C**

**11. Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli Has Become PM Of Which Country**

- A. Nepal
- B. Bhutan
- C. Myanmar
- D. Bangladesh

**ANSWER: A**

**12. India Will Host 1<sup>st</sup> World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit In Which State**

- A. Kerala
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Gujarat
- D. Goa

**ANSWER: D**

**13. Project 2025, Is Related To Which Country**

- A. Australia
- B. Japan
- C. USA
- D. India

**ANSWER: C**

**14. Minamitorishima Island, Is Located In Which Ocean**

- A. Atlantic Ocean
- B. Indian Ocean
- C. Pacific Ocean
- D. Arctic Ocean

**ANSWER: C**

**15. What Is 'Snowblind'**

- A. Exoplanet
- B. Asteroid
- C. Malware
- D. Drugs

**ANSWER: C**

**16. Researchers From Which State Developed A Method To Produce Activated Carbon For Supercapacitors From Coconut Husks**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**17. Gandhi Sarovar, Originates From Which Glacier**

- A. Dokriani Glacier
- B. Chorabari Glacier
- C. Milam Glacier
- D. Namik Glacier

**ANSWER: B**

**18. Which Ministry Recently Approved Rs 56 Crore For Conservation Of Great Indian Bustard And Lesser Florican**

- A. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Ministry of Tourism

**ANSWER: A**

**19. What Is 'Stablecoin'**

- A. Android Malware
- B. Cryptocurrency
- C. Currency of Ireland
- D. None of the Above

**ANSWER: B**

**20. Which Among Following Places, Twenty Third Jain Tirthankara Was Associated**

- A. Vaishali
- B. Kausambi
- C. Varanasi
- D. Sravasti

**ANSWER: C**