

# Daily Current Affairs

## 27 August 2024

### World Audio Visual And Entertainment Summit

- Government is gearing up to host the inaugural **World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES)**, aiming to bolster India's Media and Entertainment industry and extend its global influence.
- The Summit will be being held in **Goa from 20th of November to 25th** of November this year.



- With the Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnaw, launching **25 Challenges under the 'Create in India Challenge – Season 1'** on Friday, WAVES is poised to become a significant platform for icons of the Media and Entertainment fraternity worldwide, focusing on entertainment economics and technology.
- The final selected people from across various challenges will be given an opportunity to participate in some of the **biggest relevant platforms** across the world.
- Waves Challenges aimed at **engaging the entire creator's community throughout the country** over the next few months. These challenges are being

organised in the run up to the main event and aimed at engaging the entire creator's community throughout the country over the next few months.

- By providing a platform for these talented artists to showcase their skills, Prasar Bharti aims to promote the appreciation and preservation of India's classical music traditions.

## Unified Pension Scheme

- Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, today approved the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS). The salient features of the UPS are:
- Assured pension: 50% of the average basic pay drawn over the last 12 months prior to superannuation for a minimum qualifying service of 25 years. This pay is to be proportionate for lesser service period upto a minimum of 10 years of service.



- **Assured family pension:** @60% of pension of the employee immediately after her/his demise.
- **Assured minimum pension:** @10,000 per month on superannuation after minimum 10 years of service.
- **Inflation indexation:** on assured pension, on assured family pension and assured minimum pension
- **Dearness Relief** based on All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (AICPI-IW) as in case of service employees
- **lump sum payment** at superannuation in addition to gratuity. 1/10th of monthly emoluments (pay + DA) as on the date of superannuation for every completed

six months of service this payment will not reduce the quantum of assured pension

- **23 lakh central government employees** would benefit from this scheme. It will be effective from 1st April 2025.

## Bio E3 Policy And Vigyan Dhara

- Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that the Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, also approved the **Bio E3-Biotechnology for Economy, Environment, and Employment** policy to foster **high-performance biomanufacturing**.



- Mr. Vaishnaw said that the policy will provide **innovation-driven support** to research and development and entrepreneurship across thematic sectors. The main objectives of this policy include **innovation-driven support for R&D and entrepreneurship** across thematic sectors.
- It aims to **accelerate technology development** and commercialisation by establishing biomanufacturing, bio-AI hubs, and biofoundries.
- In addition to **prioritising regenerative bioeconomy** models of green growth, this policy will facilitate the expansion of India's skilled workforce and boost job creation.
- Overall, this policy will further strengthen government initiatives such as the Net Zero carbon economy and Lifestyle for the Environment.



- The **Bio E3 Policy will promote** a future that is more sustainable, innovative, and responsive to global challenges.
- The Cabinet also approved the **continuation of three umbrella schemes**, which have been merged into a unified central sector scheme **named Vigyan Dhara**, with an outlay of **10,579 crore rupees**.
- This scheme comprises **three broad components**: Science and Technology Institutional and Human Capacity Building, Research and Development, and Innovation, Technology Development, and Deployment.

## Global Plan To Combat Mpox

- **WHO launched a six-month global strategic** and response plan to stop the deadly outbreak of Mpox. This plan aims to **curtail human-to-human transmission** of Mpox through coordinated global, regional, and national efforts. Starting from September 2024 to February 2025, and **envisions 135 million U.S. dollars** in funding, the plan includes strategic vaccination efforts for people at the highest risk of interrupting transmission chains.





- This includes close contacts of recent cases and healthcare workers. Further, the **WHO outlined that at the global level**, the emphasis is on leadership, timely evidence-based guidance, and access to medical counter-measures for the most at-risk groups in affected countries.



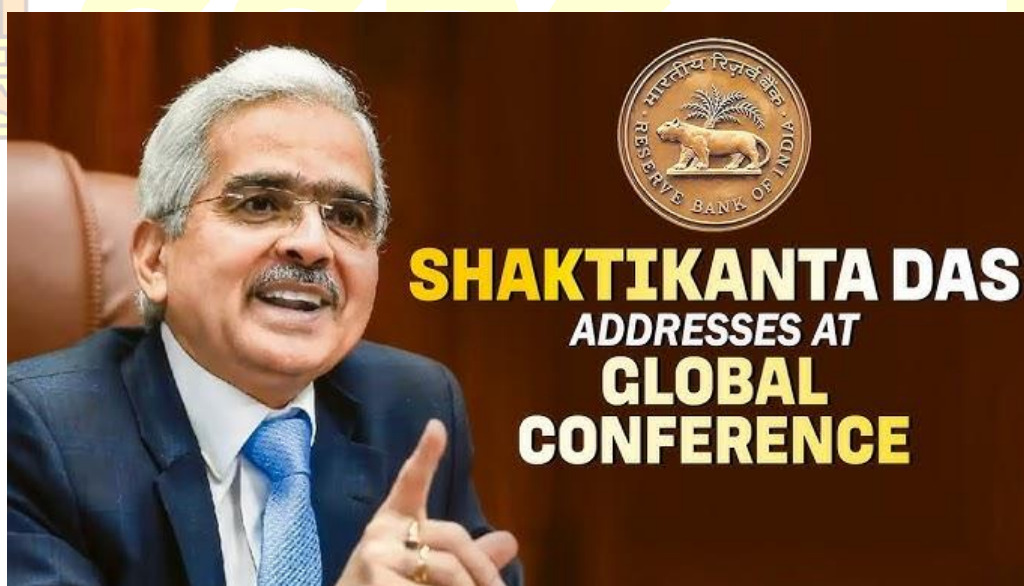
- **WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus** said, the new plan is based on the principles of equity, global solidarity, community empowerment, human rights, and coordination across sectors, international agencies and national and local partners, civil society, researchers and manufacturers, and our Member States.
- **World Health Organization (WHO)** declared Mpox Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 14th August in view of its prevalence and spread across many parts of Africa. According to WHO, globally since 2022, more than 99 thousand cases and 208 deaths from 116 countries, had been reported due to Mpox.

## Global Conference on DPI

- **RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das** has said that the new trinity of GEM, UPI, and ULI represents a revolutionary step forward in India's digital payments. He explained that the **Unified Lending Interface (ULI)** tech platform promoted by RBI will make frictionless credit possible in India.
- RBI Governor addresses Global Conference on DPI and Emerging Technologies in Bengaluru. He was speaking during the inaugural address at the Global Conference on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) and Emerging Technologies in Bengaluru, as part of **RBI@90 initiative**.



- He noted that the **current ecosystem of digital payments offers** quick and safe transfers of funds, Das added.
- He noted that the **Unified Payment Interface (UPI)** launched by the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**, has made monetary transactions easier. Hence, RBI is now ready with a unified lending interface for frictionless credit. ULI was launched as a pilot last year.



- He said this will be rolled out across the country soon.
- RBI governor explained that ULI cuts down time for credit appraisals for small borrowers. It is entirely **consent-based and the data privacy** is protected. It will reduce the complexity of multiple tech integrations and play a similar role in transforming the lending ecosystem in India journey.

## India-Singapore

- The **second India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR)** was held in Singapore today. During the meeting, the leaders of India and Singapore emphasised ways of further **enhancing cooperation between India and Singapore** in emerging and futuristic areas.
- Both sides deliberated upon **six pillars identified** under ISMR, which include digitalisation, skill development, sustainability, healthcare and medicine, and advanced manufacturing and connectivity.



- **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar, Railways, Information and Broadcasting, Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, and Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal** attended the meeting.
- The delegation from Singapore was led by **Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore Gan Kim Yong**. The leaders also discussed plans for commemorating the **60th anniversary of diplomatic relations** between India and Singapore, alongside regional and global cooperation, including **ASEAN and G20** developments.
- The leaders noted that the discussions during the **first round of ISMR** have resulted in the **successful conclusion of MoUs** on healthcare, education, skill development, digital cooperation and semiconductor ecosystem cooperation.
- Earlier, the Indian Ministers called on the **President of Singapore Tharman Shanmugaratnam** and the Prime Minister of Singapore Lawrence Wong in Singapore.



- The leaders conveyed warm greetings of President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the President of Singapore.
- High-level Ministerial mechanism called the India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) was established to chart a roadmap to take bilateral relations to a new level.
- The inaugural meeting of ISMR took place in September 2022 in New Delhi. The focus areas include digital connectivity, Fintech, Green Economy, Green Hydrogen, Skill Development and Food Security. India and Singapore's bilateral trade is continuously rising.
- Bilateral trade expanded from 6.7 billion US dollars in the Financial Year 2004-05 to 30.11 billion US dollars in 2021-22.
- Singapore is India's sixth largest trade partner with a share of 2.9 percent of India's overall trade. Singapore continued to be the largest source of FDI into India.

## Gopichand Thotakura

- Gopichand Thotakura, India's first civilian space tourist, received a warm welcome in Delhi upon his return on August 26, 2024. Thotakura made history by joining Blue Origin's New Shepard-25 (NS-25) mission, founded by Amazon's Jeff Bezos, becoming the second Indian citizen to travel to space after Rakesh Sharma's 1984 mission.
- His trip lasted about ten minutes, reaching a maximum altitude of 105 km. Thotakura's journey marks a significant milestone as the first Indian space tourist.





- **During the NS-25 mission, he and five other crew members** enjoyed a brief yet memorable spaceflight. The experience offered Thotakura a unique perspective on Earth, enhancing his appreciation for space and the need to protect our planet.
- **The NS-25 mission, a testament to Blue Origin's** commitment to advancing space travel, also included Mason Angel, Sylvain Chiron, Kenneth L Hess, Carol Schaller, and former Air Force Captain Ed Dwight.

## Ladakh Gets Five New District

- **Ministry of Home Affairs** has decided to create five new districts in the union territory of Ladakh, said home minister Amit Shah on August 26.

MAP OF UT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND UT OF LADAKH



Ladakh Gets Five New District

- “In pursuit of Narendra Modi’s vision to build a developed and prosperous Ladakh, the MHA has decided to **create five new districts** in the union territory. Amit Shah said the creation of new districts will take the benefits meant for the people to their doorsteps by bolstering governance in every nook and cranny.
- **5 new districts, These districts are** – Zaskar, Drass, Sham, Nubra and Changthang.

## Mission Rhumi 2024

- India launched its **first reusable hybrid rocket, Rhumi-1**, from Thiruvadanthai, Chennai, marking a significant achievement in the country’s space exploration efforts.
- This event, known as Mission Rhumi, not only showcased advanced technology but also aimed to inspire the next generation of space enthusiasts.
- The **‘Edutech for Space’ programme** is an educational initiative designed to involve young students in the field of aerospace.



- A key participant in this program was **13-year-old Satrajit Samy**, who, along with other students, had been preparing for this mission for over a year.
- Mission Rhumi was a collaborative effort between **Space Zone India and Martin Group**.
- The mission featured the Rhumi-1 rocket, which weighs **80 kilograms and stands 3.5 meters tall**.
- During its inaugural flight, **Rhumi-1 successfully** launched three cube satellites to monitor atmospheric conditions and deployed **50 Pico satellites** for various experiments, showcasing its capability to support a range of scientific endeavors.

- **Rhumi-1 uses a hybrid propulsion** system that combines a liquid oxidizer with solid fuel, a technology that represents a major advancement in rocket science.
- This hybrid system allows for **greater flexibility and adaptability**, enabling the rocket to be launched from a mobile launchpad, making it suitable for different launch scenarios.
- **CEO of Space Zone India** emphasized that the reusable nature of Rhumi-1 significantly reduces the costs of space missions. Moreover, the hybrid rocket's design is environmentally friendly, minimizing the impact of space exploration on the planet.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

### 1. Which Country Launched Its First Reusable Hybrid Rocket "RHUMI 1"

- A. India
- B. Nepal
- C. Myanmar
- D. Pakistan

**ANSWER: A**

### 2. Which Ministry Launched "National Medical Register Portal"

- A. Ministry of Science and Technology
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- D. Ministry of Rural Development

**ANSWER: C**

### 3. Who Became The First Female National Racing Champion From India

- A. Bianca Kashyap
- B. Diana Pundole
- C. Aishwarya Pissay
- D. Pippa Mann

**ANSWER: B**

**4. Which Space Organization Launched 'Tanager-1 Satellite' To Track Methane Emissions**

- A. ISRO
- B. ESA
- C. CNSA
- D. NASA

**ANSWER: D**

**5. South Indian Adivasi Knowledge Centre Called 'KAANU' Was Launched In**

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

**ANSWER: B**

**6. India Initiated First Comprehensive Survey Of High-risk Glacial Lakes In**

- A. Arunachal Pradesh
- B. Assam
- C. Uttarakhand
- D. Himachal Pradesh

**ANSWER: A**

**7. Theme Of The First 'National Space Day'**

- A. A New Era of Space Exploration
- B. India's Journey to the Stars
- C. Touching Lives while Touching the Moon: India's Space Saga
- D. None of the Above

**ANSWER: C**

**8. Which Ministry Launched 'Guidelines For Seaplane Operations' In India**

- A. Ministry of Defence
- B. Ministry of Civil Aviation
- C. Ministry of Urban Development
- D. Ministry of Agriculture

**ANSWER: B**



**9. Dumbur Dam Is Located In Which State**

- A. Assam
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Tripura
- D. Sikkim

**ANSWER: D**

**10. Which Ministry Organized World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit**

- A. Ministry of Consumer Affairs
- B. Ministry of Information Broadcasting
- C. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- D. Ministry of Defence

**ANSWER: B**

**11. Which Organization Issued World's First Carbon Removal Bond To Fund Amazon Reforestation**

- A. Shooting
- B. Archery
- C. Steeplechase
- D. Tennis

**ANSWER: C**

**12. Which Organization Issued World's First Carbon Removal Bond To Fund Amazon Reforestation**

- A. World Bank
- B. UNDP
- C. UNEP
- D. UNESCO

**ANSWER: A**

**13. Where Was The 'India-EU Regional Conference' Held**

- A. Hyderabad
- B. Chennai
- C. Bengaluru
- D. New Delhi

**ANSWER: D**

**14. Kakrapar Atomic Power Station Is Located In Which State**

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Gujarat
- D. Haryana

**ANSWER: C**

**15. What Is A 'Waterspout'**

- A. A Rotating Column Of Air And Mist Over Water
- B. A Type Of Waterfall
- C. A Deep-sea Vortex
- D. Technique Of Catching Fish

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Which country will import India's first green ammonia as per the recent agreement**

- A. China
- B. South Korea
- C. Japan
- D. Australia

**ANSWER: C**

**17. Which Country Signed An MoU With India For LNG Infrastructure And Power Development**

- A. Bangladesh
- B. Maldives
- C. Nepal
- D. Sri Lanka

**ANSWER: D**

**18. Which State Launched A School With A Paddy Field As Its Playground To Educate Students About Agriculture**

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Karnataka
- D. Andhra Pradesh

**ANSWER: C**

**19. Which Sport Did India Win Its First Medal At U17 World Championship 2024**

- A. Wrestling
- B. Boxing
- C. Athletics
- D. Swimming

**ANSWER: A**

**20. Which Institution Released The 'Gender Snapshot 2023 Report**

- A. United Nations
- B. IMF
- C. World Bank
- D. WEF

**ANSWER: A**