

# Daily Current Affairs

## 06 September 2024

### First International Solar Festival

- India's solar energy capacity has **increased 32-fold in the last 10 years**, and this speed and scale will help the country achieve **500 gigawatt non-fossil capacity** by 2030.
- This was stated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi while addressing the two-day **first International Solar Festival** through video conferencing, being held in New Delhi.
- The Prime Minister said the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**, established in 2015, is growing into a giant tree inspiring policy and action, and within a short time, its **membership has reached a milestone of 100 countries**.



- Highlighting that the growth of this organisation is important for the vision of one world, one sun
- Prime Minister highlighted that the **International Solar Festival** brings the whole world together to celebrate the sun's impact and will help build a better planet.
- Speaking on the occasion, **Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi** emphasised uniting efforts to move towards a solar-powered future.
- India has been harnessing solar energy for centuries, and this has evolved with the introduction of new technologies.

- **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** is an international organisation that works with governments to improve energy access and security worldwide and promotes solar power as a sustainable pathway to transition to a carbon-neutral future.



- **International Solar Festival** is intended to celebrate the transformative impact of solar energy on communities in the ISA member countries.
- **The festival aims at highlighting** and celebrating the transformative power of solar energy and its role in powering new opportunities across the globe, leading the way to universal energy access, and advancing the Sustainable Development Goals. This festival will convene youth, women, communities, policymakers, and the private sector in a vibrant celebration of solar energy and its transformative power.
- **During the two-day event, there will be technical sessions led by industry experts.** Exhibition booths and pavilions have also been set up by the **International Solar Alliance member countries at Bharat Mandapam**, along with experience zones displaying solar technologies and culture. Performances by acclaimed artists and musical concerts have also been planned to make this international event memorable.

## CBSE's First Regional Office In Dubai

- In a historic move to strengthen Indian education in the UAE, the **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** has launched its first Regional Office (RO) and Centre of Excellence (CoE) outside India, **situated in Dubai**.
- The milestone was marked with a **special orientation session on Teachers' Day** between CBSE officials, representatives from the Indian Mission in Dubai, and principals from 78 schools across Dubai and the Northern Emirates.



- The session provided a platform to discuss the new office's goals, scope, and its expected impact on the region.
- Prime Minister of India announced the opening of the **CBSE RO & CoE in Dubai on February 13, 2024**, during his visit to the UAE, and operations of this office officially **commenced on July 2, 2024**, at the Consulate General of India, Dubai, UAE.
- **Board's key objectives**, particularly its role in promoting learning outcome-based education and fostering new dimensions in teaching. He emphasised that CBSE would adopt a model focussing on outcome-based learning and offer subjects at multiple levels to meet varying student capabilities.

## UAE & India

- **Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the UAE Accountability Authority during a bilateral meeting with the **President of the UAE Accountability Authority**.
- During the signing ceremony, **CAG Girish Chandra Murmu** said that this MoU is a testament to the shared values and goals of our institutions and reinforces the strong ties between India and the UAE.



- He said that the agreement would **create opportunities for greater collaboration** and learning between the **Supreme Audit Institutions**.
- MoU aims to foster collaboration between the two Supreme Audit Institutions, focussing on areas such as knowledge exchange, capacity building, and best practices in public sector auditing.
- By sharing expertise and experiences, both countries seek to strengthen their **respective audit methodologies and improve overall governance**.
- Cooperation would contribute to improved **governance and accountability** in both countries. The MoU marks a significant step forward in strengthening public sector audit cooperation between India and the UAE, paving the way for greater transparency, efficiency, and accountability in government operations.

## World's Largest Low Carbon Hydrogen Facility

- The race to lead the **global energy transition** has taken a significant leap forward with the announcement of a partnership between **Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC)** and **ExxonMobil** to develop the world's largest low-carbon hydrogen facility.
- Witnessed by **Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan**, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, the agreement will see ADNOC acquire a 35% equity stake in the ambitious project, set to be located in Baytown, Texas.



- Once operational, the facility will convert **U.S.-produced natural gas** into virtually **carbon-free hydrogen**, utilising advanced carbon capture and storage technologies to remove approximately **98% of the associated CO2 emissions**.
- The facility is expected to produce up to **1 billion cubic feet** of low-carbon hydrogen daily, along with **more than 1 million tonnes** of low-carbon ammonia annually, making it the largest of its kind globally.
- This landmark project is poised to play a crucial role in **decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors** such as industry, energy, and transportation, while also boosting U.S. competitiveness in the **emerging low-carbon hydrogen market**.
- The final investment decision is anticipated in 2025, with the facility expected to commence operations by 2029.
- **ExxonMobil's Chairman and CEO, Darren Woods**, highlighted the partnership's importance in creating a new global energy value chain, emphasising ADNOC's expertise and market insights as critical to the project's success. In addition to

its environmental benefits, the facility is expected to bring significant economic advantages to the Baytown area, creating jobs and supporting local community development.

- **ADNOC has committed to supporting ongoing community** initiatives in line with its broader strategy to ensure that its projects deliver both social and economic benefits.

## National Blockchain Framework

- Indian Government launched a new blockchain initiative called **the Vishvasya-Blockchain Technology Stack**. This project, led by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**, provides a platform for using **Blockchain-as-a-Service (BaaS)**.



- It allows people to use blockchain technology easily through a large, distributed system across the country. The **goal is to support secure, efficient, and permissioned blockchain** applications.
- **Vishvasya-Blockchain Technology Stack**: This is a broad platform for developing various blockchain applications.
- **NBFLite**: A smaller, lightweight version of blockchain for startups and academia. It helps them quickly build and test blockchain applications.
- **Praamaanik**: A special blockchain tool to verify the authenticity of mobile apps, ensuring they come from trustworthy sources.
- **National Blockchain Portal**: This is a one-stop website for all blockchain initiatives and updates under MeitY.

## Biplab Sarma Commission

- Assam Cabinet has approved **the implementation of 57 out of 67 recommendations** made by the Justice (Retd) Biplab Sarma Commission.
- This commission was formed by the Ministry of Home Affairs to implement **Clause 6 of the Assam Accord**.
- The **Assam Accord was signed in 1985** after long protests against illegal immigration into Assam. The Accord says that all foreigners who came to Assam after **March 24, 1971**, should be deported, no matter their religion.



- **Clause 6 of the Accord focuses on protecting the rights** and identity of the people of Assam by giving them constitutional, legislative, and administrative safeguards.
- **Justice Biplab Sarma Commission** was set up in Assam in 2019 to look into issues like corruption and misconduct in the state's police force. It aimed to make law enforcement more accountable.
- **Justice Sarma, a retired High Court judge**, has worked in various important judicial roles. The commission's findings emphasized problems like poor training and supervision in the police force. The report also sparked conversations about the need for police reforms to improve transparency and public trust in Assam's law enforcement agencies.

## Paris Paralympics

- India's JudoKa **Kapil Parmar won bronze medal** in Para Judo men's -60kg J1 category beating Brazil's Elielton de Oliveira .This is the first medal in this event in India's history of Paralympics.



### REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which State Government Passed 'Aparajita Women And Child Bill 2024'
  - A. Gujarat
  - B. Uttar Pradesh
  - C. West Bengal
  - D. Assam

**ANSWER: C**

2. Which Organization Released "India Development Update: India's Trade Opportunities In A Changing Global Context" Report
  - A. World Bank
  - B. International Monetary Fund
  - C. United Nations Development Programme
  - D. International Labour Organization

**ANSWER: A**



**3. Who Appointed As Chairman Mastercard India**

- A. Shreya Mittal
- B. Dinesh Kumar
- C. Soma Sankara
- D. Rajnish Kumar

**ANSWER: D**

**4. Bandipur Tiger Reserve, Is Located In Which State**

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Bihar
- C. Karnataka
- D. Telangana

**ANSWER: C**

**5. Name Of Cyclone That Recently Formed Over Kutch Coast In Gujarat**

- A. Cyclone Gulabi
- B. Cyclone Jawar
- C. Cyclone Asna
- D. Cyclone Satrang

**ANSWER: C**

**6. Pilibhit Tiger Reserve, Is Located In Which State**

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

**ANSWER: A**

**7. Uri-II Hydroelectric Power Plant, Is Located On Which River**

- A. Jhelum River
- B. Chenab River
- C. Ravi River
- D. Tawi River

**ANSWER: A**

**8. Which State Government Launched The ‘Mahtari Vandana Yojana’**

- A. Gujarat
- B. Chhattisgarh
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Kerala

**ANSWER: B**

**9. India Post Payments Bank Operates Under Which Ministry**

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Commerce
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Ministry of Communication

**ANSWER: D**

**10. Saora Tribe, Primarily Resides In Which State**

- A. Haryana
- B. Bihar
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Odisha

**ANSWER: D**

**11. Which Organization Released “South-east Asia Regional Status Report On Road Safety” Report**

- A. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- B. World Health Organization (WHO)
- C. World Bank
- D. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

**ANSWER: B**

**12. Which Institution Opened Its First International Campus In Abu Dhabi, UAE**

- A. IIT Delhi
- B. IIT Kanpur
- C. IIT Bombay
- D. IIT Roorkee

**ANSWER: A**

**13. How Much Fund Has Been Approved For The Digital Agriculture Mission**

- A. Rs 500 Crore
- B. Rs 2,500 Crore
- C. Rs 2,817 Crore
- D. Rs 1,500 Crore

**ANSWER: C**

**14. Nambike Nakshe' Scheme, Is Introduced By Which State**

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

**ANSWER: B**

**15. What Is 'Drug Repurposing'**

- A. Modifying the chemical structure of drugs
- B. Using an existing drug for a new treatment or medical condition
- C. Increasing the dosage of drugs in treatment
- D. Combining different drugs for a new treatment

**ANSWER: B**

**16. where was the national-level workshop on the "Indian Ocean Biodiversity Information System (IndOBIS)" conducted**

- A. National Institute of Oceanography, Goa
- B. Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services, Hyderabad
- C. Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology (CMLRE), Kochi
- D. Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi

**ANSWER: C**

**17. 'Na Anka Famine', Was Associated With Which State**

- A. Haryana
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Bihar
- D. Odisha

**ANSWER: D**

**18. Which Ministry Has Launched The 'Vishvasya-blockchain Technology Stack'**

- A. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- B. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- C. Ministry of Urban Development
- D. Ministry of Defence

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Digital Bus Initiative, Is Launched By Which Two Organizations**

- A. National Digital India Mission and NIIT Foundation
- B. Ministry of Education and Infosys Foundation
- C. NITI Aayog and Department of IT
- D. Digital India Mission and Tata Consultancy Services

**ANSWER: A**

**20. President Of India Inaugurated The 'Vishwashanti Buddha Vihar' In Which District Of Maharashtra**

- A. Kolhapur
- B. Raigad
- C. Latur
- D. Gondia

**ANSWER: C**