

Daily Current Affairs

19 September 2024

‘One Nation, One Election’

- Government accepted the recommendations of the High Level Committee constituted for exploring the **idea of One Nation, One Election**, paving the way for **simultaneous elections across** the country.
- Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said a high-level committee constituted under the chairmanship of former **President Ram Nath Kovind** held extensive deliberations with stakeholders, including political parties and experts.
- He said it will be implemented in **two phases**. **First phase, Lok Sabha and Assembly elections** will be held simultaneously, **while local bodies’s elections like panchayats and municipalities** will be conducted within **100 days of general elections**.



- Minister informed us that the government has approved the **Chandrayaan-4 Mission and the Venus Orbiter Mission** to give a boost to the country’s science and technology sector. Cabinet has approved a **mission to Venus**, named the Venus Orbiter Mission, for scientific exploration and for better understanding of Venus atmosphere. The mission is expected to **launch in March 2028**.

- He said the total fund approved for the **Venus Orbiter Mission** is **one thousand 236 crore rupees**, out of which **824 crore rupees** will be spent on the spacecraft.



- Minister said the government has also approved the continuation of schemes of **Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)** to provide remunerative prices to farmers and to control price volatility of essential commodities for consumers. He said the total financial outgo will be **35 thousand crore rupees**.
- Mr. Vaishnaw said this will promote self-sufficiency in the production of pulses, oilseeds, and other essential agri-horticulture commodities.



- The Union Minister informed that the government has approved **Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gramme Abhiyan** with a total outlay of 79 thousand 156 crore rupees. He said this scheme will improve the socio-economic condition of

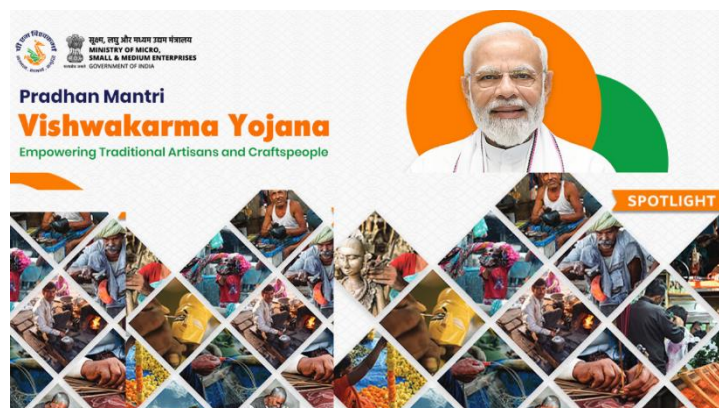
tribal communities by developing enabling infrastructure, ensuring economic empowerment, and providing access to quality education and health.

- Mr. Vaishnaw said this will cover around 63 thousand villages, benefiting more than five crore tribal people. It will cover 549 districts and two thousand 740 blocks spread across all tribal majority villages across 30 states and Union Territories.



‘PM Vishwakarma’ Program

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Wardha, Maharashtra. He will participate in the National ‘PM Vishwakarma’ Program there, marking one year of progress under PM Vishwakarma.
- During the programme, Mr. Modi will release certificates and loans to PM Vishwakarma beneficiaries.



- **PM Vishwakarma, a Central Sector Scheme**, was launched on 17th September, 2023 by the Prime Minister to provide end-to-end support to artisans and craftspeople who work with their hands and tools. The Scheme covers artisans and craftspeople engaged in 18 trades, viz.
- Mr. Modi will lay the foundation stone of **PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Park** at Amravati, Maharashtra. The 1,000-acre park is being developed by Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation as the State Implementation Agency. The government of India had approved setting up seven PM MITRA parks for the textile industry. PM MITRA Parks are a major step forward in realising the vision of making India a global hub for textile manufacturing and exports. It will help in **creating world-class industrial** infrastructure that would attract large-scale investment, including foreign direct investment, and encourage innovation and job creation within the sector.



- The Prime Minister will launch the “**Acharya Chanakya Skill Development Centre**” scheme of the Government of Maharashtra. Skill development training centres will be established in renowned colleges across the state to provide **training to youth aged 15 to 45**, enabling them to become self-reliant and access various employment opportunities. Around one lakh 50 thousand youths across the state will receive free skill development training each year.
- The Prime Minister will also launch **the “Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Women Startup Scheme.”** Under the scheme, early-stage support will be given to women-led startups in Maharashtra. Financial assistance up to 25 lakh rupees will be provided. **25 percent of the total provisions** under this scheme will be reserved for women from backward classes and economically weaker sections

as specified by the government. It will help women-led startups become self-reliant and independent.

अर्थसंकल्प २०२४-२५ ठळक वैशिष्ट्ये
पुण्यश्लोक अहिल्यादेवी
होळकर स्टार्टअप योजना

महिला लघुउद्योजक महिलांसाठी पुण्यश्लोक अहिल्यादेवी होळकर स्टार्टअप योजना

स्टार्टअपच्या अनुषंगाने अखिल भारतीय स्तरावर महासंमेलनाचे आयोजन करणार

येत्या आर्थिक वर्षापासून योजनेची अंमलबजावणी करणार

महिला सक्षमीकरण, महायुती चे धोरण

Windfall Tax On Crude Petroleum

- Government has scrapped the **windfall tax on domestically produced** crude oil with effect from September 18. The **windfall tax on domestically produced** crude oil will be zero, the government said in a notification.
- It is a tax levied by governments against certain industries when economic conditions allow those industries to experience significantly above-average profits. **The term “windfall” refers to an unexpected rise in profits**, and the tax on windfall gains is known as the windfall tax.

WINDFALL TAX ON CRUDE OIL

First implemented on July 1, 2022;
Windfall tax of **Rs 23,250 per tonne**

Revised every fortnight based on movement in global crude prices

- When **the government notices a sudden increase** in an industry's revenue, they impose this tax. However, these revenues cannot be linked to anything the company actively pursues, such as its business strategy or expansion.
- Rather, it is related to a one-off external event for which the business is not responsible. **Consequently, a Windfall Tax is imposed** on an industry's profits when it experiences a sharp increase in revenue due to unrelated external events.



- **Purpose** : Redistribution of unexpected gains when high prices benefit producers at the expense of consumers, To fund social welfare schemes, As a supplementary revenue stream for the government, As a way for the Government to narrow the country's widening trade deficit.
- **The most common industries that fall target** to windfall gains tax include oil, gas, and mining.

Global Renewable Energy Expo

- **4th Global Renewable Energy Investors Meet and Expo** was held in Gujarat, making it the first time the event took place outside Delhi.
- **Gujarat stood out as the top-performing state**, winning the most awards for its contributions to renewable energy. Gujarat ranked among the **top three Indian states** in several renewable energy areas.
- The state excelled in **total renewable energy capacity** and was a leader in wind power.



- In solar power capacity, **Gujarat came in second**, with Rajasthan taking the top spot. Other states like Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka were also recognized for their contributions to renewable energy. **Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand** received awards for their progress in hydropower development.

Commonwealth Games

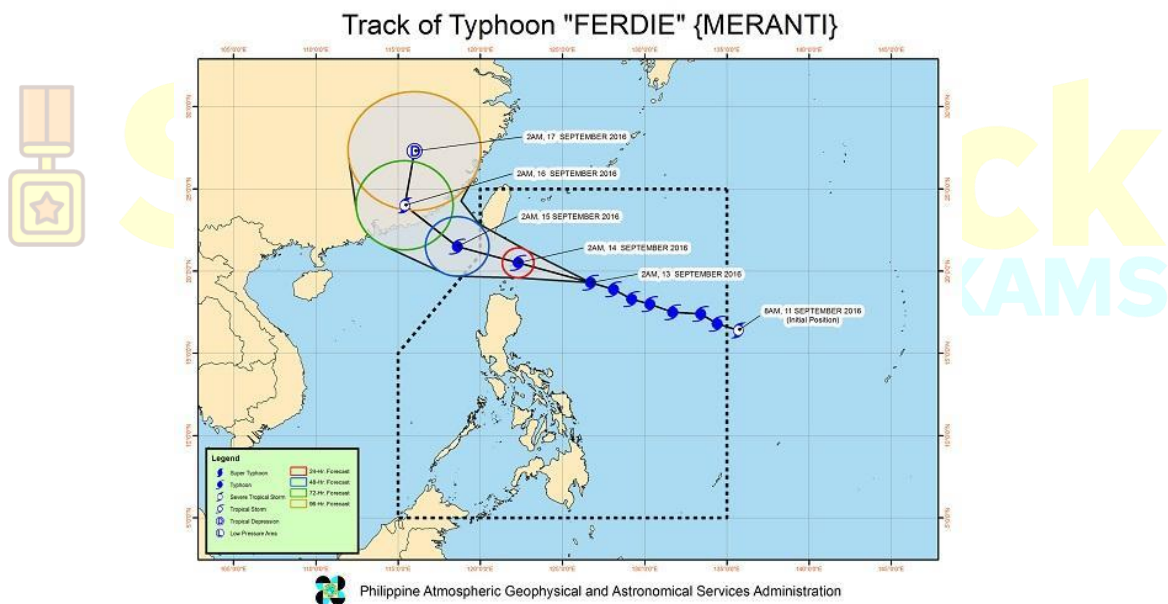
- **Scotland will host the Commonwealth Games in 2026** after Victoria, Australia, withdrew due to rising costs.
- **Glasgow, which hosted the Games in 2014**, will once again welcome athletes from around the world, but the event will be on a smaller scale this time. Victoria, Australia, decided not to host the 2026 Games because the costs were becoming too high.



- **A later investigation found** that their cost predictions had been overstated, leading to their decision to withdraw. The Scottish government has committed to hosting the event without needing extra public money.
- **Health Secretary Neil Gray confirmed** that the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) would provide £20 million in funding. Of this, £5 million will go towards upgrading the facilities needed for the Games.
- **In addition to the funding from the CGF**, the UK government is prepared to provide £2.3 million as a backup in case costs go over the expected budget. This extra support is to ensure the Games are held sustainably and cost-effectively.

Tropical Cyclones Ferdie And Gener

- **In Philippines**, at least 20 people have died, and 14 are missing due to the combined effects of the southwest monsoon as well as two recent tropical cyclones Ferdie and Gener.



- Since last week, some parts of the Philippines, including Palawan province, have experienced flooding due to foul weather.
- The inclement weather affected almost six lakh people in 12 regions across the country, and the storms have damaged 930 houses and infrastructure.
- **An average of 20 typhoons** lash the Philippines every year. The archipelago is prone to tropical cyclones which trigger heavy rains, flooding, and strong winds, resulting in casualties and destruction of crops and properties.

Bhartiya Kala Mahotsav

- **Rashtrapati Nilayam in collaboration** with the **Ministry of Development of North-East Region** and the **Ministry of Culture** will host the first edition of Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav from September 29 to October 6, 2024.
- The eight-day long celebration will showcase the rich and diverse cultural heritage of our North-Eastern states.
- Visitors will get acquainted with the art, culture, crafts, and culinary diversity of the North-Eastern states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura.



- More than 300 artists and artisans from these states would be participating in the event.
- The honorable President Shrimati. Droupadi Murmu Ji will inaugurate the Mahotsav on September 28, 2024.
- **Rashtrapati Nilayam is one of the 3 Presidential retreats in India** and the only one present in Southern India.
- It was constructed in 1860 with a total land area of 90 acres and was taken over by the Nizam of Hyderabad after independence.
- The President of India currently visits Nilayam every year in December.
- 3 Presidential Retreats In India : Rashtrapati Nilayam, Hyderabad, The Retreat Building, Shimla, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Windfall Tax Imposed In India In

- A. 2020
- B. 2021
- C. 2022
- D. 2023

ANSWER: C

2. What Is The Primary Objective Of 'NPS Vatsalya Scheme'

- A. To Help Parents & Guardians Plan For Their Children's Future Financial Needs
- B. To Offer Education Loans To Students For Higher Education
- C. To Provide Health Insurance To Tribal Families
- D. None Of The Above

ANSWER: A

3. What Is The Theme Of "8th INDIA WATER WEEK 2024"

- A. Water Cooperation – Coping With 21st Century Challenges
- B. Water Security For Sustainable Development With Equity
- C. Partnership And Cooperation For Inclusive Water Development And Management
- D. Water And Energy For Inclusive Growth

ANSWER: C

4. "Subhadra Scheme", Is Largest Women Centric Scheme Of Which State

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

ANSWER: B

5. PM Of India Inaugurated "Tuticorin International Container Terminal" In

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

ANSWER: C

6. Which Country's Ship, BRP Teresa Magbanua Left The Disputed Sabina Shoal In The South China Sea

- A. Vietnam
- B. Philippines
- C. Japan
- D. China

ANSWER: B

7. Which Team Did Indian Men's Chess Team Defeat To Clinch A Vital Win In The Chess Olympiad

- A. Hungary
- B. Russia
- C. USA
- D. Azerbaijan

ANSWER: D

8. Which State Is Planning To Establish A Rs 2 Lakh Crore Semiconductor Park

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Gujarat
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: B

9. Which Country Deployed Army To Protect Medical Staff From Violent Attacks

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

ANSWER: D

10. Which City In Uttar Pradesh Attracts The Most International Tourists

- A. Prayagraj
- B. Varanasi
- C. Agra
- D. Lucknow

ANSWER: C

11. Who Completed The First Private Spacewalk At A Record-setting Height

- A. Michael Collins
- B. Pavel Vinogradov
- C. Jared Isaacman
- D. Fyodor Nikolayevich Yurchikhin

ANSWER: C

12. Which Location Experienced A Landslide That Triggered A Mega-tsunami, Causing A Mysterious 9 day Seismic Vibration

- A. Greenland
- B. Iceland
- C. Antarctica
- D. Alaska

ANSWER: A

13. What Is The Date Observed Annually As World Ozone Day

- A. September 10
- B. September 12
- C. September 14
- D. September 16

ANSWER: D

14. Which Bank Is Aiming To Boost Income Of 5 Lakh Marginal Farmers By 2025 Under Its 'Parivartan' Initiative

- A. ICICI Bank
- B. HDFC Bank
- C. Axis Bank
- D. SBI

ANSWER: B

15. Where Did India Participate In The G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting

- A. Japan
- B. United States
- C. Germany
- D. Brazil

ANSWER: D

16. Gabon Which Was Seen In The News, Is Located In Which Region

- A. Africa
- B. Europe
- C. Australia
- D. Asia

ANSWER: A

17. On Which Date Is Engineer's Day Celebrated In India Every Year

- A. September 10
- B. September 15
- C. September 20
- D. September 25

ANSWER: B

18. In Which City Did The Fourth Edition Of Global Bio India 2024 Successfully Conclude

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

ANSWER: B

19. Which Country Will Host 2026 Commonwealth Games

- A. Scotland
- B. Australia
- C. France
- D. India

ANSWER: A

20. Frank Rubio, Is Associated With Which Profession

- A. Sports person
- B. Business person
- C. Astronaut
- D. Scientist

ANSWER: C