

Daily Current Affairs

07 November 2024

Donald Trump Becomes 47th President Of USA

- Donald Trump has secured a decisive victory in the **U.S. presidential election after securing 277 electoral college** votes, defeating Democrat Kamala Harris. A presidential candidate needs to secure **270 to win**.



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi **joined other world leaders** in congratulating Donald Trump on becoming the 47th President of the United States. **In his victory speech in Palm Beach in South Florida**, Trump indicated one of the major policy decisions about working to end wars around the world. He said, he is not going to start wars, but going to stop wars.

PM- Vidyalaxmi scheme

- Government has approved the **PM- Vidyalaxmi scheme to provide financial support to meritorious students**.
- On the decisions taken in the Cabinet meeting, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, **students will be eligible to get collateral-free and guarantor-free loans** to pursue higher education.



PM-Vidyalaxmi

Collateral-free, Guarantor-free Education Loans

Maximising access to quality Higher Education
for **Yuva Shakti**



Total outlay ₹ 3600 Crore



Financial assistance to meritorious students securing
admission in top 860 HEIs of India



Benefitting 22 Lakh+ new students every year

- He said the scheme has been introduced so that financial constraints do not prevent any youth of India from pursuing quality higher education. As per the scheme, loan amount up to **7.5 lakhs rupees will be provided 75 percent credit guarantee** by the government to support banks to expand coverage.
- **Three percent interest subvention** for loans up to 10 lakh rupees will also be provided during the moratorium period for students with an annual family income of upto eight lakh rupees.
- **This scheme is expected to benefit seven lakh students.** To avail the benefit of the scheme, the students can apply on the unified portal PM Vidyalaxmi for an education loan.

'Jal Utsav'

- NITI Aayog has launched the 15-day 'Jal Utsav' to create awareness and sensitivity towards water management, conservation and sustainability. The campaign follows the vision of Prime Minister
- Narendra Modi who mooted the idea of 'Jal Utsav' on the lines of 'Nadi Utsav' during the 3rd Chief Secretaries Conference held in December last year.



- NITI Aayog said, **Jal Utsav is being implemented in 20 Aspirational Districts** and Blocks from today to 24th November.
- This is in partnership with National Jal Jeevan Mission, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti.



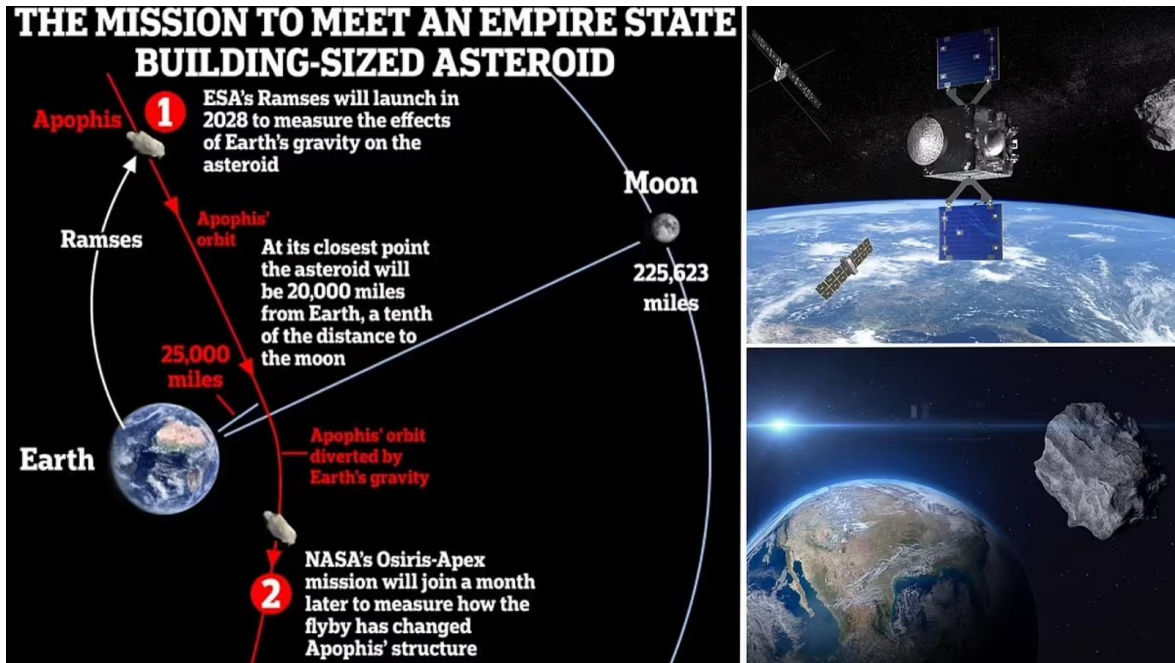
- The Festival being **launched across 20 states**, envisages community participation in preservation and protection of water resources. It seeks to instill a sense of responsibility towards efficient water use among households and water management among utilities and agencies.
- **School students are being enrolled in this initiative** in water management activities, empowering them to act as catalysts for change within their families and communities.
- The fortnight-long festival is being launched with '**Jal Bandhan**' – the **symbolic tying of sacred thread** on water assets by eminent personalities and local leaders. They would also launch "Fact Sheet on Jal Sampada" of their blocks and districts.

Rapid Apophis Mission For Space Safety

- **European Space Agency (ESA)** has started initial planning for a mission to explore a **large asteroid called Apophis**, officially known as asteroid (99942). This mission, named the **Rapid Apophis Mission for Space Safety (RAMSES)**, is designed to reach **Apophis in February 2029**.
- **NASA is also preparing its mission, Osiris-Apex**, to examine Apophis during the same close approach.
- **Apophis was discovered in 2004** and is roughly 340 meters (1,115 feet) in diameter.



- Due to its size, it could cause severe destruction if it hit Earth. Thankfully, it's expected to pass safely by on **April 13, 2029, coming** within about **19,794 miles (31,860 kilometers) of our planet**, which is close enough for detailed study but not a danger to Earth.
- Asteroids are ancient pieces left over from when the Solar System formed. Many are **located in the asteroid belt**, but some are closer to Earth. Earth is at constant risk from these objects, especially from the 35,000 or so near-Earth objects (NEOs). **Of these, about 2,300 are large enough** and close enough to be considered "potentially hazardous."



- **Large asteroids have impacted Earth in the past**, leading to major extinction events. For instance, scientists believe an asteroid impact 66 million years ago was a major factor in the extinction of the dinosaurs. A collision with a large asteroid would release massive energy, potentially as much as several nuclear explosions.



- **Astronomers use various surveys and telescopes** to find and track hazardous asteroids. However, detecting these objects alone isn't enough. It's also

important to develop ways to deflect or redirect them if one is on a collision course with Earth.

- The **RAMSES mission will observe changes in Apophis's orbit**, rotation, and shape as it comes near Earth. **NASA's Osiris-Apex mission** will investigate its surface by disturbing dust to reveal the asteroid's layers underneath. Together, these missions may help scientists develop methods to deflect future asteroids that could pose a threat to Earth.

World Solar Report

- **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** released the **3rd edition of the World Solar Report** series during its 7th Assembly. This event brought to light global solar energy growth, investment trends, and technological advancements.
- **The series includes four new reports:** the World Solar Market Report, World Investment Report, World Technology Report, and Green Hydrogen Readiness Assessment for African Countries. These reports underscore the importance of solar energy in the transition to sustainable energy.

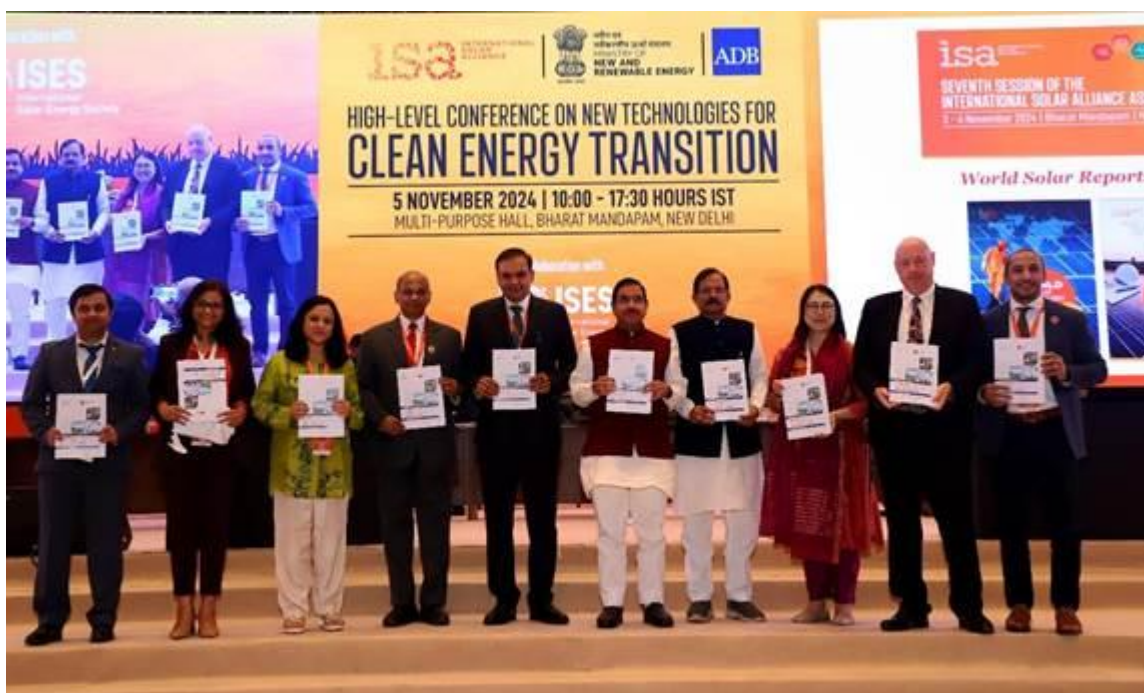


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XAMS

- **World Solar Market Report Highlights**
- **World Solar Market Report** reveals growth in the solar sector.
- **Rise in Capacity:** Global solar capacity increased from 1.22 GW in 2000 to 1,418.97 GW in 2023, marking a 40% annual growth rate.
- **Manufacturing Growth:** By 2024, solar manufacturing is expected to exceed 1,100 GW, surpassing demand.
- **Employment:** The solar industry now supports 7.1 million jobs, a 44% increase from 2022.
- **Future Projections:** Capacity could reach between 5,457 and 7,203 GW by 2030.

- **World Investment Report Insights**

- The World Investment Report indicates a shift in energy investments.
- **Investment Growth:** Global energy investments are projected to rise from \$2.4 trillion in 2018 to \$3.1 trillion by 2024.
- **Solar Investments:** Solar accounts for 59% of renewable energy investments, totaling \$393 billion. –
- **Regional Leaders:** Asia-Pacific (APAC) leads with \$223 billion in solar investments in 2023.



- **World Technology Report Innovations**

- Efficiency Milestones: Solar PV Panels Have Achieved A Record Efficiency Of 24.9%.
- Material Use Reduction: Silicon Usage In Manufacturing Has Decreased By 88% Since 2004.

- **Green Hydrogen Readiness Assessment**

- Decarbonisation Potential: Green Hydrogen Can Replace Fossil Fuels In Industries Like Steel And Fertilizer Production.
- Production Method: It Is Produced Via Renewable-powered Electrolysis.
- Target Countries: The Assessment Includes Egypt, Morocco, And Namibia, Evaluating Their Readiness For A Green Hydrogen Economy.
- **Mr Ashish Khanna from India** was selected as the new Director General. He **succeeds Dr Ajay Mathur**, who has led the Alliance since 2021.

- The ISA focuses on promoting solar energy globally, addressing common challenges faced by member countries.



- The Director General of ISA plays a vital role in advancing the organisation's mandate. This includes supporting member countries in the deployment of solar energy. The role involves engaging in coordinated actions and addressing challenges collectively.

Henley Passport Index

- Henley Passport Index revealed that Singapore holds the title of the world's most powerful passport. Singaporean citizens can travel to **195 countries without needing a visa.**



- This ranking marks the strength of Singapore’s diplomatic relationships worldwide. **Singapore: 1st place, 195 countries.**
- **France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain:** 2nd place, 192 countries.
- **United States:** 8th place, 186 countries.
- **India: 83rd place, 58 countries.** These rankings reflect the ease of travel for citizens of these countries.

Mandeep Jangra Clinches WBF’s World Title

- In Boxing, **Indian pugilist Mandeep Jangra** clinched the **World Boxing Federation’s Super Featherweight world title in the Cayman Islands.**
- He defeated Britain’s **Conor McIntosh** 10-0 in a unanimous decision yesterday. With this, Mandeep became the first Indian pugilist to become a world champion in any pro-boxing event category.



- Mandeep, who won a **Commonwealth Games silver medal** in the 2014 Glasgow edition, has faced only one defeat in his professional career so far. He has won 11 out of his 12 fights with seven being knockout victories.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which Country Elected As President Of International Solar Alliance Until 2026

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

ANSWER: A

2. Which Institution Has Launched The 15-day 'Jal Utsav'

- A. NITI Aayog
- B. Central Institute of Brackish Water Aquaculture
- C. Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- D. Ministry of Jal Shakti

ANSWER: A

3. Main Objective Of The PM- Vidyalaxmi Scheme

- A. To provide grants for students in primary education
- B. To provide financial aid to meritorious students for quality higher education
- C. To build new universities across India
- D. To support technical research in agriculture

ANSWER: B

4. Gobind Sagar Lake, Which Was Seen In The News, Is Located In Which State

- A. Gujarat
- B. Punjab
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Haryana

ANSWER: C

5. Which Indian Table Tennis Player Won The Men's Singles Title At WTT Feeder Caracas 2024

- A. Sharath Kamal
- B. Soumyajit Ghosh
- C. Harmeet Desai
- D. Zathiyan Gnanasekaran

ANSWER: C

6. Kalka Shimla Railway, Connects Which Two States

- A. Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand
- B. Haryana and Himachal Pradesh
- C. Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan
- D. Punjab and Uttarakhand

ANSWER: B

7. Where Was Vietnam-India Bilateral Army Exercise (VINBAX) 2024 Conducted

- A. Ambala, Haryana
- B. Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
- C. Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- D. Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: A

8. In Which Indian State Did 10 Elephants Die After Consuming Contaminated Kodo Millet In The Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve

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

ANSWER: D

9. What Is India's Ranking In The Henley Passport Index 2024

- A. 63rd
- B. 73rd
- C. 78th
- D. 83rd

ANSWER: D

10. In Which Country Were The Inaugural U19 World Boxing Championships Organized By World Boxing Held

- A. United States
- B. Netherlands
- C. Germany
- D. India

ANSWER: A

11. Who Has Been Selected 3rd Director General Of International Solar Alliance

- A. Dr. Ajay Mathur
- B. Rajiv Ranjan
- C. Anil Jain
- D. Ashish Khanna

ANSWER: D

12. Which Day Is Observed As World Tsunami Awareness Day

- A. November 2
- B. November 3
- C. November 5
- D. November 6

ANSWER: C

13. Abhay Prabhavana Museum, A Largest Museum Of Ideas Dedicated To Jain Philosophy, Recently Inaugurated In Which City

- A. Pune
- B. Indore
- C. Visakhapatnam
- D. Varanasi

ANSWER: A

14. Which Ministry Inaugurated TULIP Initiative At The Shilp Samagam Mela 2024

- A. Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- B. Ministry of Rural Development
- C. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- D. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

ANSWER: C

15. Katkari Tribe Is Primarily Found In Which States

- A. Rajasthan and Haryana
- B. Jharkhand and Odisha
- C. Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh
- D. Maharashtra and Gujarat

ANSWER: D

16. Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation Works Under Which Ministry

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

ANSWER: B

17. Primary Objective Of Space Based Surveillance (SBS) Mission

- A. Space Exploration
- B. Better Land & Maritime Domain Awareness For Civilian & Military Applications
- C. Satellite Communication Improvement
- D. Navigation Assistance

ANSWER: B

18. In Which Among Following Sacrifices, Sacrificial Materials Used Was Sura In Vedic Era

- A. Agnistoma
- B. Rajasuya
- C. Sautramani
- D. Vajapeya

ANSWER: C

19. Which Act Was Known As The Anarchical And Revolutionary Crime Act 1919

- A. Indian Arms Act
- B. Pitts India Act
- C. Ilbert Bill
- D. Rowlatt Act

ANSWER: D

20. In Context Of Mauryan Administration, Who Was Regarded As The 'Chief Treasury Officer'

- A. Samaharta
- B. Paura
- C. Sannidhata
- D. Karmantika

ANSWER: A