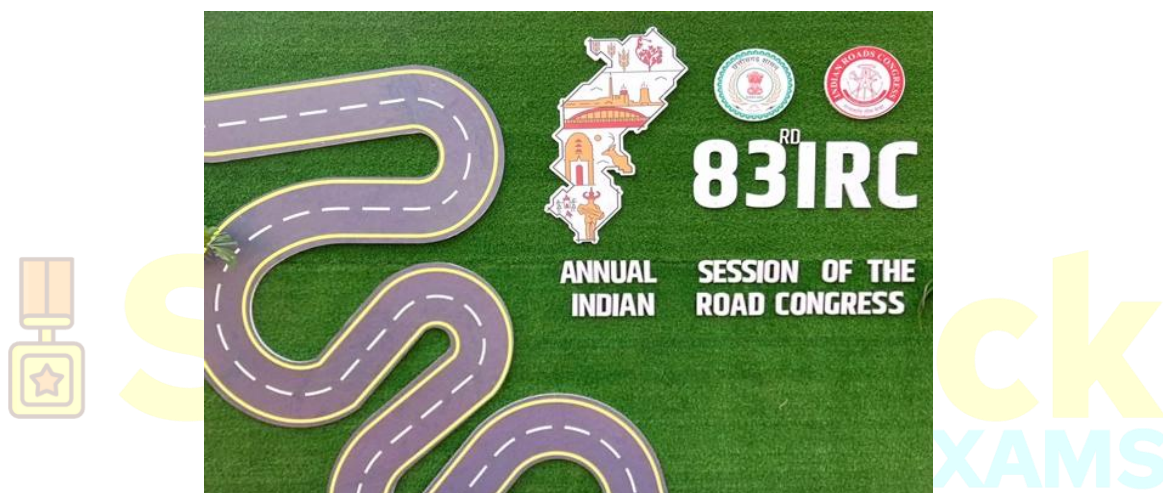


Daily Current Affairs

12 November 2024

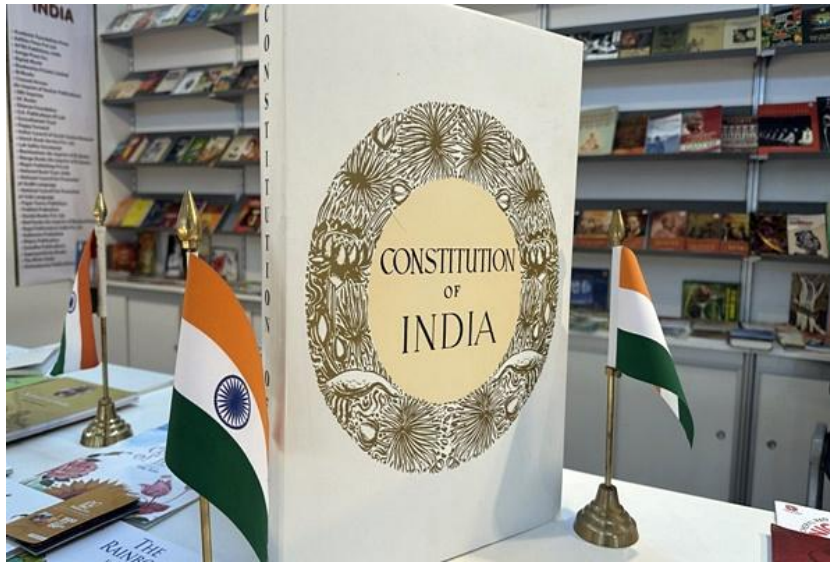
Indian Roads Congress

- The **83rd annual session of the Indian Roads Congress** concluded. Eighteen technical sessions were **organized during the session** in which experts and engineers from the country and abroad gave their presentations. This four-day session was held in **Raipur, the capital of Chhattisgarh**.



Indian Constitution's Original Manuscript

- **National Book Trust (NBT)** of India has showcased a prestigious replica of the **original handwritten Indian Constitution manuscript** at the **43rd Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF)**.
- This **A3-sized copy of the Constitution of India** is certified by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and features superior quality and clarity in the presentation of Acts and Stanzas.



- **Among NBT's featured collections are the PM-YUVA series**, highlighting India's Freedom Movement and Knowledge Systems, alongside the Indian@75 series.
- **India's presence at SIBF is substantial with 52 major publishers** participating. The UAE leads Arab participation with **234 publishers** and the United Kingdom leads international participation with 81 publishers.
- The 43rd edition brings together an impressive array of literary figures, **including 49 international speakers from 14 nations** among a distinguished assembly of 134 guests. Morocco, this year's Guest of Honour, showcased its rich literary and cultural legacy at the event organized by the Sharjah Book Authority.

UN Climate Change Conference, COP29 Begins At Baku

- The annual **U.N. Climate Change Conference (COP29)** kicked off in Baku, Azerbaijan.
- **Dubbed the 'Finance COP,'** the two-week-long event will focus heavily on securing a new climate finance target for countries most vulnerable to climate impacts.
- For India and the Global South, access to finance, technology, and energy resources remains critical to meeting climate targets and protecting communities on the frontlines of climate change.

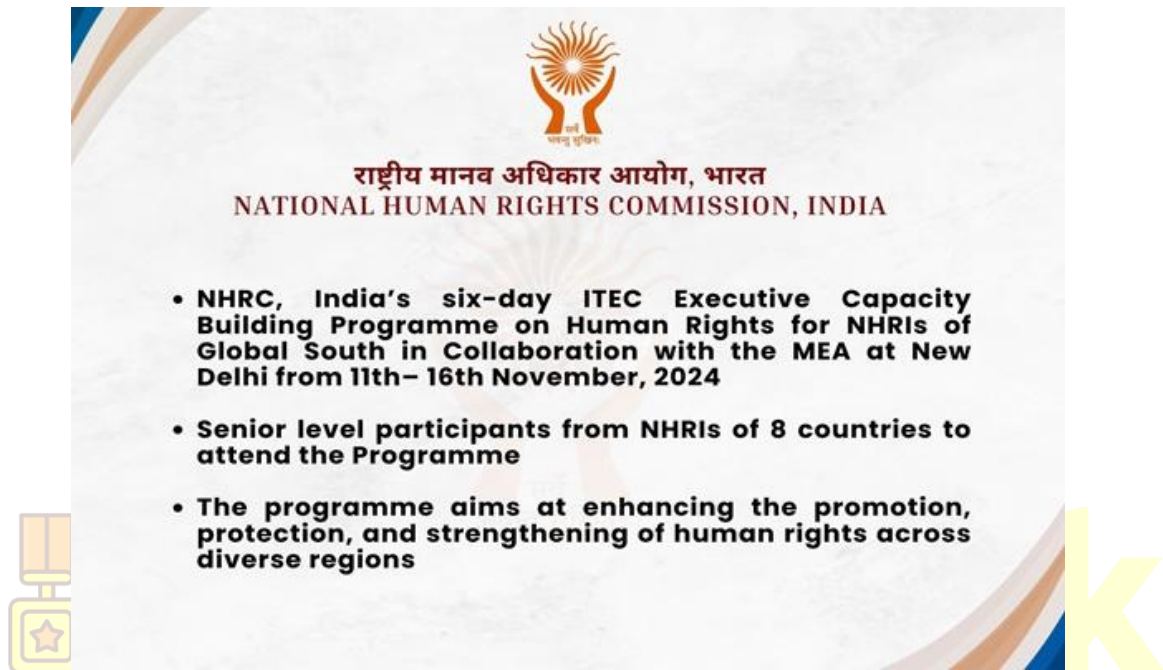


- India has so far played a **key role in shaping global climate finance frameworks** to address the urgent funding needed for both mitigation and adaptation efforts.
- At Baku, India will seek a **New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG)** for climate finance, which is far ahead of the outdated 100 billion dollar annual target set in 2009. India’s Economic Survey 2023-24 indicates that India will need approximately 2.5 trillion dollars by 2030 to fulfil its commitments under the Paris Agreement.

COP29 Summit held in Baku, Azerbaijan (Nov 11-22, 2024)	COP29 focused on climate finance for developing nations, specifically the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) .
COP29 dubbed the “Finance COP”	The primary goal is to secure financial commitments to help vulnerable nations cope with climate impacts.
Climate finance commitment issues	Developed countries committed \$100 billion annually in 2009, but targets have not been met.
Climate finance for developing nations	Estimated \$580 billion needed by 2030 to cover climate-induced loss and damage .
COP29 agenda: carbon markets	Discussions on carbon markets and whether nations can use carbon trading to meet Paris Agreement targets.
US Election Impact	Re-election of US President Donald Trump could impact global climate cooperation.
National emission targets	Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) due in February 2025 for new emission reduction goals.
Host country: Azerbaijan	Capital: Baku
COP29 controversial venue	Critics point to Azerbaijan’s human rights record and its status as a “petro-state” for hosting.

NHRC & MEA

- **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)**, in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs, will organise a **six-day Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Executive Capacity Building** Programme from today to the 16th of November in New Delhi.



- Senior officials of national **human rights institutions from eight countries**, including the Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, among others, will participate in the programme.
- NHRC said that the **programme aims at enhancing the promotion, protection, and strengthening of human rights across diverse regions.**
- It **added that the programme will enrich the participants' knowledge** by offering a platform for sharing best practices, experiences, and ideas related to the promotion and protection of human rights.

Global Sustainability Rankings

- **Hindalco Industries Ltd.**, the metals arm of the **Aditya Birla Group**, has secured the top position as the **world's most sustainable aluminium company** for the fifth consecutive year, according to **the 2024 S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) rankings.**



- The company earned a **total score of 87 points**, improving by 9 points from 2023, and surpassed its closest competitor by 22 points.
- Hindalco's consistent efforts to raise its **environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards** have played a pivotal role in this achievement. Hindalco's ranking reflects its continuous improvements across various sustainability parameters.
- The company achieved the **100th percentile in climate strategy**, waste management, resource consumption, community engagement, and employee development.
- These efforts have made Hindalco a leader in emissions reduction and climate action, including the **establishment of a 100 MW carbon-free power** project for its Odisha smelter.



- Hindalco reduced specific greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by **19.54% compared to its FY 2011-12 baseline**. The company **recycled 85% of its operational waste in FY24** and aims to achieve zero-waste-to-landfill by 2030, with three units already receiving zero-waste-to-landfill certification.



- Hindalco has committed to **sourcing 30% of its energy from renewable sources** by 2030.
- Hindalco led the **social category with a score of 89%, 26 percentage points** ahead of its nearest peer.
- The **company invested ₹154 crore in community programs** in FY24, positively impacting over **2.5 million lives**.
- With a **governance score of 84%**, Hindalco maintained its leadership, outperforming its nearest competitor by 12 percentage points. The company's commitment to **ESG standards is evidenced** through ongoing investments in sustainability projects and its future goal of net-zero emissions. Hindalco continues to raise the bar in environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and corporate governance.

India & BIMSTEC

- **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)** has announced the signing of an agreement to establish the **BIMSTEC Energy Centre in Bengaluru, Karnataka**.
- **Host Country Agreement Signed** : On November 11, 2024, MEA Secretary (East) **Jaideep Mazumder** and **BIMSTEC Secretary General Indramani Pandey** signed a Host Country Agreement in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- The agreement establishes the **BIMSTEC Energy Centre**, aiming to strengthen energy cooperation among member states.
- MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated that the **Energy Centre will foster inter-grid connectivity across** the Bay of Bengal region, promoting energy security and sustainable development.



- Recent BIMSTEC Engagements
- **Raisina Down Under Participation** : On November 5, 2024, Secretary General Indramani Pandey attended the second edition of Raisina Down Under in Canberra, Australia.
- **BIMSTEC highlighted the organization's commitment to sustainable**, inclusive development and proposed a dialogue platform for the Indo-Pacific region.
- **Foreign Ministers' Meeting** : External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar emphasized India's commitment to BIMSTEC during a recent meeting of foreign ministers. Jaishankar highlighted **India's Neighborhood First Policy**, Vision SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region), and Act East Policy as central to India's collaboration with BIMSTEC.

BIMSTEC

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation



Nepal



Bhutan



Bangladesh



India



Thailand



Myanmar



Sri Lanka

7 MEMBER COUNTRIES



Founded in 1997 through **Bangkok Declaration**

Objectives of BIMSTEC

- To enable environment for rapid economic development.
- To collaborate and mutually assist members on matters of common interest.
- To maintain close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organizations.
- To endeavour to eradicate poverty from the Bay of Bengal region.
- To establish multidimensional connectivity, promote synergy among connectivity frameworks in the region.

GM Aravindh Chithambaram

- In Chess, **GM Aravindh Chithambaram** clinched the **Chennai Grand Masters title** after an intense final **against American GM Levon Aronian**. Meanwhile, **GM V Pranav remained** unbeaten throughout the tournament to claim the Challengers title.



- **With the Masters category** witnessing a three-way tie for the top spot, **Aravindh defeated GM Levon Aronian** in the first blitz play-off and then held his nerve to draw the second blitz match with black pieces to clinch the second edition of the competition.
- **Organised by MGD1 and sponsored by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu**, the Chennai Grand Masters 2024 features two categories- Masters & Challengers.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. UN Climate Change Conference, COP29 Begins At

- A. Baku
- B. Paris
- C. London
- D. New Delhi

ANSWER: A

2. BIMSTEC Energy Centre has been established in

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

ANSWER: C

3. Who Appointed As Chairman Mastercard India

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

ANSWER: D

4. Which Government Agency Organized The Anti-Terror Conference-2024 In New Delhi

- A. Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)
- B. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
- C. National Investigation Agency (NIA)
- D. Ministry of Defence

ANSWER: C

5. Where Was 83rd Annual Session Of Indian Roads Congress Held

- A. Raipur
- B. Bhopal
- C. Jaipur
- D. Varanasi

ANSWER: A

6. Which Two Organizations Signed An Agreement To Develop A “Millimeter Wave Transceiver For 5G Rural Connectivity”

- A. C-DOT and IIT-Roorkee
- B. ISRO and IIT-Delhi
- C. DRDO and IIT-Madras
- D. TRAI and IISc-Bangalore

ANSWER: A

7. Which Shipyard Built India’s First Indigenous Aircraft Carrier Named Vikrant

- A. Mazagon Dock Limited
- B. Cochin Shipyard Limited
- C. Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Limited
- D. Hindustan Shipyard Limited

ANSWER: B

8. Equine Piroplasmiasis, Is Caused By Which Agent

- A. Bacteria
- B. Virus
- C. Protozoa
- D. Fungus

ANSWER: C

9. Where Was Bengaluru’s First Digital Population Clock Inaugurated

- A. Bangalore University
- B. Indian Institute of Science (IISc)
- C. National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS)
- D. Institute for Social Economic Change (ISEC)

ANSWER: D

10. Neft Daslari Is Located Off The Coast Of Which Country

- A. Azerbaijan
- B. Kazakhstan
- C. Iran
- D. Russia

ANSWER: A

11. Which Institute Clinched Top Spot In India In QS Asia University Rankings 2025

- A. IIT Delhi
- B. Jawaharlal Nehru University
- C. IIT Kanpur
- D. Jamia Millia Islamia

ANSWER: A

12. Which Ministry Recently Launched The “Scheme For Strengthening The Medical Device Industry”

- A. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- B. Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- C. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- D. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

ANSWER: C

13. Where Was Global Ministerial Conference On Ending Violence Against Children Held

- A. Moscow, Russia
- B. Bogotá, Colombia
- C. Paris, France
- D. New Delhi India

ANSWER: B

14. What Is Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura

- A. A rare, life-threatening blood disorder
- B. A common viral infection
- C. A type of cancer
- D. A heart disease

ANSWER: A

15. Bibek Debroy Committee Was Associated With Which One Of The Following

- A. Road Safety
- B. Indian Railways
- C. Financial Inclusion
- D. Environmental protection

ANSWER: B

16. Ladki Bahin Yojana Is Associated With Which State

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Gujarat
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Tamil Nadu

ANSWER: A

17. Which Indian Hockey Player Won The FIH Player Of The Year For 2024

- A. Sukhjeet Singh
- B. Harmanpreet Singh
- C. Shamsheer Singh
- D. Akashdeep Singh

ANSWER: B

18. Kumbhalgarh Todgarh Raoli Sanctuary Is Located In Which State

- A. Gujarat
- B. Haryana
- C. Uttarakhand
- D. Rajasthan

ANSWER: D

19. Which Tennis Player Has Won The Paris Masters Title 2024

- A. Jannik Sinner
- B. Daniil Medvedev
- C. Alexander Zverev
- D. Andrey Rublev

ANSWER: C

20. Kushans Belongs To Which Tribe

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

ANSWER: A