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55th IFFI Concludes

Saule Biluvaite directorial Toxic bagged the prestigious Golden Peacock Award
at the 55th International Film Festival of India 2024. In the closing ceremony at
Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium at Panaji Goa, the team was
awarded 40 lakhs cash prize, a golden peacock trophy, and a certificate.



- Clement Faveau bagged the Best Actor Male award for his stellar performance and Vesta Matulyte and Leva Repuikaite jointly won the Best Actor Female honor for their roles in film Toxic.
- In the Indian section, Navjot Bandiwadekar was recognized as the Best Debut Director of an Indian Feature Film for Gharat Ganpati while, the Best Web Series OTT award went to Lampan.
- The festival honoured **Vikrant Massey as the Indian Film Personality** of the Year, celebrating his acting talent and diverse characters portrayed on screen.



Indian Chemical Council

- Indian Chemical Council (ICC) was awarded the prestigious 2024 OPCW-The
 Hague Award at the 29th Session of the Conference of the States Parties (CSP)
 of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) held in
 The Hague.
- This is the first time that the award has been conferred upon a chemical industry body, marking a milestone in India's commitment to chemical safety and compliance with the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).



 OPCW-The Hague Award is presented to individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the goals of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).

- **ICC** is the first industry body to receive this recognition, underscoring its vital role in the global chemical safety community.
- India is an original signatory to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC),
 which came into force in 1997 and has 193 States Parties.
- National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC) is responsible
 for implementing the CWC in India. India's commitment to the CWC was
 highlighted when OPCW was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2013 for its
 efforts to eliminate chemical weapons. ICC represents over 80% of the Indian
 chemical industry, valued at \$220 billion.

'One Health' Pavilion

- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's Health Pavilion, themed 'One Health', received the Special Appreciation Medal at the 43rd India International Trade Fair (IITF) in New Delhi.
- The Pavilion featured **39 dynamic and informative stalls**, showcasing the Ministry's major milestones in healthcare.
- Over the course of fourteen days, the visitors had the opportunity to learn about a wide range of programs, from life-course health initiatives to innovative solutions addressing communicable and non-communicable diseases.
- The **Pavilion also provided free counseling**, diagnostics, and consultations, making healthcare accessible to all attendees.



Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat

- Government launched a national campaign, 'Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat', in New Delhi. The primary agenda of the campaign is to make India a child marriagefree nation.
- Launching the campaign, **Women and Child Development Minister** Annpurna Devi said the government has identified **130 districts where this campaign** will be run in a focused manner.



- She highlighted that child marriage is not just a criminal offence but also a human rights violation.
- Minister said that the Bal Vivah Mukt Bharat campaign is not just a 10- or 15day event but a non-stop effort that will continue till India is free from the evil of child marriage.
- During the event, Women and Child Development Minister Annpurna Devi also unveiled the Child Marriage-Free Bharat portal. The online platform has been developed to support the campaign's mission of raising awareness, preventing child marriage, and effectively reporting incidents of child marriage.

International Tourism Mart

Union Ministry of Tourism is organising the 12th edition of the International
 Tourism Mart at the UNESCO World Heritage site Kaziranga National Park and
 Tiger Reserve to highlight the tourism potential of the North Eastern region for
 both domestic and international audiences.



- This event serves as a vital platform, bringing together tourism businesses and entrepreneurs from the eight North Eastern States-Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, and Sikkim-to foster collaboration and interactions among buyers, sellers, media, government agencies, and other stakeholders as this event is being held rotationally across these states highlighting the unique cultural, historical and ecological wealth of this region.
- To highlight the tourism potential of the eight northeastern states, Union
 Ministry of Tourism organises the International Tourism Mart at Kohora Range
 of the Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve.
- Around 400 participants including international and domestic tour operators, hoteliers and homestay owners, tourism service providers, influencers and opinion makers, senior government officials, Media and International students are attending the event.

India Is Largest Producer Of Milk

- Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Rajiv Ranjan Singh said that the government is working towards making the country Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) free by 2030.
- Addressing the National Milk Day Celebrations in New Delhi, the Minister said that Animal Husbandry contributes greatly to the economy of the country.



- Mr Singh further highlighted that India is the largest producer of milk in the world. National Milk Day is celebrated annually on November 26 in India to honor the significant contributions of milk and the dairy industry to the country's development.
- The day also marks the birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien, known as the "Father of the White Revolution" in India, who was instrumental in making India the world's largest producer of milk.

India Signs Riyadh Design Law Treaty

- India has signed the **final Act of the Riyadh Design Law Treaty** to reaffirm its commitment to fostering **inclusive growth and ensuring equitable access** to intellectual property protection.
- The treaty seeks to **harmonise the procedural frameworks** for industrial design protection, improving the efficiency and accessibility of registration processes across multiple jurisdictions.



- Commerce and Industry Ministry said, by standardising procedural requirements, the Design Law Treaty reduces administrative burdens to promote global creativity in design.
- Its goal is to **ensure that the benefits of streamlined design protection** are accessible to all stakeholders, with particular emphasis on small and medium-sized enterprises, startups, and independent designers.
- Over the past decade, the design registrations in India have tripled, with domestic filings increased by 120 per cent in the last two years alone.

Govt Approves ₹1,115 Crore For Disaster Mitigation

- Central Government has approved over ₹1,115 crore rupees for disaster mitigation and capacity building projects for fifteen States.
- A High-Level Committee, under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister Amit Shah has approved this fund. The Committee approved 378 crore rupees for eight North East States, 139 crore rupees each for Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, one hundred crore rupees for Maharashtra, 72 crore rupees each for

Karnataka and Kerala, and **50 crore rupees each** for Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.



- The High-Level Committee has also approved another project for training and capacity building of civil defence in all States and Union Territories at a total outlay of over 115 crore rupees.
- The Home Ministry said, to fulfill Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of disaster resilient India, the Ministry has taken several initiatives to ensure effective management of disasters in the country.



• It said, a number of steps have been taken to prevent any extensive loss to life and property during disasters by strengthening the disaster risk reduction system in India. The Ministry highlighted that more than 21 thousand 476 crore rupee has already been released to the States during this year.

Masato Kanda Elected As ADB President

- Asian Development Bank (ADB) Board of Governors has unanimously elected Masato Kanda as ADB's 11th President. Kanda currently serves as Special Advisor to Japan's Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.
- Mr Kanda will assume office in February next year, **succeeding Masatsugu Asakawa**. He will complete the unexpired term of President Asakawa, which ends on 23 November 2026.





- ADB is a regional development bank established in 1966, which is headquartered in Manila, Philippines.
- The bank also maintains **31 field offices** around the world to promote social and economic development in Asia.
- The bank admits the members of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and non-regional developed countries. Starting with 31 members at its establishment, ADB now has 68 members.

World Para Poomsae Taekwondo Championships

- Rinchen Youdol, a para-athlete from Bodhkharboo, Kargil in the Union Territory of Ladakh, has created history by winning the Bronze Medal at the 1st World Para Poomsae Taekwondo Championships held in Manama, Bahrain.
- Competing in the Senior Female (No Age Bar) category against 140 athletes from 23 countries, Rinchen's exceptional performance has brought immense pride to Ladakh and India.



• She is the first athlete from Ladakh to achieve the milestone in Taekwondo, marking a new chapter in the region's sporting history. The event featured paraathletes from five continents, showcasing remarkable talent and competition.

India's First Space AI Lab

- Hyderabad-based space tech company TakeMe2Space (TM2Space) is set to launch MOI-TD (My Orbital Infrastructure – Technology Demonstrator), India's first Al laboratory in space, aboard ISRO's PSLV C60 rocket in mid-December 2024.
- This mission will enable real-time in-orbit data processing, drastically reducing data transmission costs and opening space research to a broader audience.



 TM2Space, known for its advancements in nano-satellites, aims to democratize space technology and accelerate India's role in cutting-edge space innovation.
 Development and testing of MOI-TD were facilitated by IN-SPACe Technical

Centre, Ahmedabad, the government's single-window agency for private space activities.

- The platform's evaluation highlights the role of state-of-the-art satellite testing facilities in fostering private space research in India.
- TM2Space's platform, OrbitLab, allows users—ranging from researchers to school students—to upload AI models for applications such as environmental monitoring, deforestation tracking, and greenhouse gas detection.
- Early partners include a **leading Malaysian university and Indian school students,** reflecting the initiative's potential to democratize space research.

Network Readiness Index 2024

- Network Readiness Index (NRI) 2024 report, released marks a significant milestone for India, as it climbs 11 spots to secure 49th position globally.
- The **NRI ranks 133 economies** based on their readiness to leverage networks for economic growth, technological innovation, and digital transformation.



- India's impressive rise from 60th rank in 2023 to 49th in 2024 underscores the country's progress in network infrastructure, digital capabilities, and technological advancements.
- India improved its score from 49.93 in 2023 to 53.63 in 2024.
- India ranked 1st in several key indicators, Al Scientific Publications, Al Talent Concentration, ICT Services Exports.

• **2nd in**, FTTH/Building Internet Subscriptions, Mobile Broadband Internet Traffic, International Internet Bandwidth

India's	– China – 17th
Neighbouring Countries	- India - 49th
	– Bangladesh – 89th
	– Sri Lanka – 95th
	– Pakistan – 97th

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. Name Of Innovative Digital Platform Launched By Ministry Of Education To Empower Educators In India
- A. TeacherApp
- B. TeachNow
- C. LearnSmart
- D. EduTech Hub

ANSWER: A

- 2. Yamandu Orsi Has Been Elected As New President Of Which Country
- A. Paraguay
- B. Uruguay
- C. Venezuela
- D. Guyana

ANSWER: B

- 3. Primary Objective Of The "One Nation One Subscription" Scheme
- A. To Provide Universal Access To Medical Facilities
- B. To Offer Country-wide Access To Scholarly Research Articles And Journals
- C. To Promote International Collaborations For Research
- D. To Fund Private Research Institutions

ANSWER: B

4. Tato-i Hydro Electric Project (HEP) Is Located In Which Northeastern State

- A. Arunachal Pradesh
- B. Assam
- C. Mizoram
- D. Nagaland

ANSWER: A

- 5. Which Country Has Recently Declared Food-borne Illnesses A National Disaster
- A. China
- B. South Africa
- C. India
- D. France

ANSWER: B

- 6. Name Of The Campaign Launched In India To Eliminate Gender-based Violence
- A. Beti Bachao
- B. Shakti Abhiyan
- C. Ab Koi Bahana Nahi
- D. Nirbhaya Initiative

ANSWER: C

- 7. Kyasanur Forest Disease, Has Emerged In Which State
- A. Karnataka
- B. Odisha
- C. Bihar
- D. Maharashtra

ANSWER: A

- 8. Hojagiri Folk Dance Is Associated With Which Tribe
- A. Santhal
- B. Reang
- C. Gond
- D. Khasi

ANSWER: B

9. Maia Sandu Has Been Elected As The President Of Which Country

- A. Belgium
- B. Moldova
- C. Czechia
- D. Spain

ANSWER: B

- 10. Which Bank Becomes First Indian Bank To Offer Real-time Tracking For Crossborder Payments Through Swift GPI
- A. IDFC FIRST Bank
- B. HDFC Bank
- C. Axis Bank
- D. ICICI Bank

ANSWER: A

- 11. Which Country Developed PyPIM Platform, A Software That Allows
 Computers To Process Directly In Memory, Bypassing CPU
- A. Israel
- B. China
- C. Russia
- D. India

ANSWER: A

12. Which Ministry Has Implemented The PM Internship Scheme

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Urban Development
- D. Ministry of Corporate Affairs

ANSWER: D

13. Name Of The World's Most Powerful Rocket Tested By Spacex

- A. New Shepard
- B. Starship
- C. Falcon 9
- D. Atlas V

ANSWER: B

14. MeerKAT Radio Telescope, Is Located In Which Country

- A. New Zealand
- B. South Africa
- C. Australia
- D. India

ANSWER: B

15. Who Has Been Appointed As New President Of Federation Of Indian Chambers Of Commerce And Industry

- A. Jyotsna Suri
- B. Harsha Vardhan Agarwal
- C. Subhrakant Panda
- D. Uday Shankar

ANSWER: B

16. Department Of Investment And Capital Asset Management (DIPAM) Comes Under Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
- C. Ministry of MSME
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs

ANSWER: A

17. Which Organization Recently Introduced The Single Girl Child Merit Scholarship Scheme

- A. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)
- B. National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)
- C. University Grants Commission (UGC)
- D. Ministry of Education

ANSWER: A

18. Narasapuram Lace Craft, Which Was Recently Secured Geographical Indication Tag, Is From Which State

- A. Odisha
- B. Karnataka
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Maharashtra

ANSWER: C

19. Which Organization Released The Report Titled "Choosing Our Future: Education For Climate Action"

- A. World Bank
- B. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- C. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- D. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

ANSWER: A

20. Who Among The Following Scholars Is Associated With Law Of Rent

- A. Richard Jones
- B. Thomas Robert Malthus
- C. David Ricardo
- D. Adam Smith

ANSWER: C