

# Daily Current Affairs

## 02 December 2024

### India To Join 197 Nations At UNCCD COP16 In Riyadh

- **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification's** 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) will begin in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. This is **the first time West Asia is hosting** this crucial environmental conference. India will join representatives from **197 nations at this milestone event**, which coincides with UNCCD's 30th anniversary.



- **It is a legally binding convention** linking development and environment to sustainable land management. The convention was drafted and opened for signing in 1994.
- It became effective in 1996 after receiving 50 ratifications. UNCCD is one of the three **Rio Conventions, the other two being:**
- Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

**Name: United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification**

**Opened for signature: 1994**

**Entered into force: 1996**

**Sector: Combating desertification and droughts**

**Has India ratified UNCCD? Yes (in 1996)**

**Nodal agency in India: Environment Ministry**

## **PM Modi Calls Upon Police To Convert Challenge**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called upon the **police to convert the challenge posed** due to threats like digital frauds, cybercrimes and Artificial intelligence (AI) technology into an opportunity. He asked the police to harness **country's strengths in Artificial Intelligence and 'Aspirational India'**.
- Mr Modi was speaking on the concluding day of All India Conference of Directors General and Inspectors General of Police at **Bhubaneswar in Odisha**.



- The Prime Minister noted that wide ranging discussions were held during the three-day conference, on national and international dimensions of security

challenges. He expressed satisfaction on the **counter strategies which emerged from the discussions.**

- Mr. Modi called upon the police to adopt the mantra of **SMART policing by becoming strategic, meticulous, adaptable, reliable, and transparent.**
- Mr Modi called for the **use of technology to reduce** the workload of the constabulary. He called on the police to align with the **vision of a developed India and modernize its approach.**



- The **Prime Minister distributed President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service** to officers of the Intelligence Bureau during the valedictory session. Discussions during the three-day conference covered issues like counter terrorism, Left Wing Extremism, cyber-crime, economic security, immigration coastal security, and narco-trafficking. Deliberations were also held on emerging security concerns along the border with Bangladesh and Myanmar.

## International Conference on NbS for Sustainability & Climate Change

- **International Conference on Nature-Based Solutions (NbS)** for Sustainability & Climate Change was inaugurated by **Union Minister of Textiles, Giriraj Singh**, in the presence of the Minister of State for Textiles, Pabitra Margherita.
- The Conference has been organized by the **NTTM (National Technical Textiles Mission)** and **IJIRA (Indian Jute Industries Research Association)** under the Ministry of Textiles.



- Minister Giriraj Singh highlighted the importance of **Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in addressing global challenges** such as environmental pollution and climate change. He said, the Government is committed to promoting **sustainable practices in all sectors**, including the textile sector adding that this conference provides an excellent platform for sharing knowledge and best practices.
- He said, we are focused on achieving **carbon neutrality and reducing pollution, and NbS** is a key pathway to this goal. During the conference, the Minister of State, Shri Pabitra Margherita, drew attention to **the unique role of Northeast India in the global sustainability agenda**.
- Shri Margherita urged **local industries, researchers, and community leaders** to actively participate in adopting sustainable solutions that will not only benefit the region but also serve as a model for other parts of the world.

## Cyclone Fengal

- Cyclone Fengal, prevailing over the **South West Bay of Bengal**, made its landfall at coast of **Tamilnadu and Puducherry**. The process of the landfall began **between Mahabalipuram and Puducherry**.
- According to Balachandran, Regional Head of the Met Department, **the Cyclone is moving with a wind speed of 70 to 80 kilometers per hour** and gusting up to 90 kilometers per hour .



- According to **Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services**, heavy rain and high waves, rising up to 3 to 4 meters, are likely to occur along the coast of Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and South Andhra Pradesh. Rain is likely to continue till 3rd December.
- The Cyclone **has brought torrential rains and strong winds** to Puducherry, disrupting daily life. Heavy rainfall for over three hours has left roads and low-lying areas waterlogged, forcing vehicles to wade through the inundation.

## Asthalakshmi Mahotsav

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the **three-day Asthalakshmi Mahotsav 2024** at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.
- The festival will showcase **the cultural, natural and artisanal wealth of all the eight North-East states** – Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura, and Sikkim.



- Addressing a press conference in New Delhi yesterday, Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) Minister, Jyotiraditya Scindia said, the event will bridge the **cultural and economic gap between Northeast India** and the rest of the nation.
- **Asthalakshmi Mahotsav is named after the eight avatars** of Goddess Lakshmi, symbolizing prosperity, wealth, knowledge, dharma, agriculture, and other features.



- The **festival's mascot is Purvi, a young girl representing** the North-East, with elements from each state featured in her attire. The biggest attraction will certainly be the **Rural Haat Bazaar**, showcasing produce and art **from 320 farmers and artisans of the region**.
- Each state will have a dedicated pavilion along with a **GI Pavilion, North-East tourism gallery, and Muga and Eri Silk Galleries**.
- A **special commemorative postal stamp** will be launched during the inauguration.

# ASHTALAKSHMI MAHOTSAV

6th to 8th December 2024

## Key Highlights of the Event:

- **State Pavilion**  
To showcase exquisite crafts of North Eastern States
- **GI Pavilion**  
GI Textiles & Crafts of North East India
- **Muga Silk Pavilion**  
Explore the Golden Silk of Assam
- **Eri Silk Pavilion**  
World's One & Only Vegan Silk



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## Centre And Asian Development Bank

- Centre and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed a **98 million US dollar loan agreement** to improve horticulture farmers' access to certified disease-free planting materials.
- This will enhance **crop yield, quality, and resilience to climate impacts**. The loan agreement for the Building **India's Clean Plant Programme** was signed by the Joint Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Juhi Mukherjee and Officer-in-Charge of ADB's India Resident Mission, Kai Wei Yeo.



- Ms. Mukherjee said, the **ADB funding will promote plant health**, crucial for improving farmers' productivity. According to the **Finance Ministry**, the project supports **the Atmanirbhar Clean Plant Programme (CPP)**, which strengthens plant health management.
- It will help develop **regulatory frameworks and systems** to implement the CPP effectively for horticulture in India. The **project will involve collaboration** with **private nurseries, researchers, state governments**, and growers' associations to ensure its success. The project **will also help farmers in adapting** to climate change by addressing the impact of rising temperatures on pests and diseases.

## Indian-American Kash Patel

- **US President-elect Donald Trump** has nominated Indian-American Kash Patel to lead the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). With this appointment, Mr. Patel **became the second Indian American** to be picked in his cabinet.





- Mr. Trump said Kash Patel will serve as the next director of the FBI. He said Kash is a **brilliant lawyer, investigator, and America First fighter** who has spent his career exposing corruption, defending justice, and protecting the American people.
- Earlier, Mr. Trump picked **Indian-American scientist Jay Bhattacharya** as the director of the National Institutes of Health, the country's top health research and funding institutions.

## Jay Shah Became A Youngest ICC Chairman

- **Jay Shah, an experienced cricket administrator and Secretary** of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), has officially commenced his tenure as the **Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC)**. At 36, Shah becomes the **youngest to ever hold the prestigious position**.



- His leadership comes at a **critical juncture for global cricket**, with significant opportunities and challenges in expanding the sport's reach and inclusivity.

## Australia Bars Under-16s From Social Media

- **Australia has enacted a world-first legislation to ban children under 16** from social media platforms, such as TikTok, Facebook, and Instagram, as part of its effort to protect minors from online harm.
- The law imposes hefty fines of up to **AUD 50 million for non-compliance**, with social media companies given a year to implement the changes.

- While proponents laud the move as essential for child safety, critics argue the legislation is rushed, may pose privacy risks, and could unintentionally harm vulnerable youth.



## Arjun Erigaisi

- Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi has become the second Indian in history to reach the prestigious 2800 Elo rating in classical chess. With the remarkable feat, the 21-year-old has joined the legendary Viswanathan Anand in this exclusive club.



- Erigaisi also currently holds the **world number four ranking**. The International Chess Federation (FIDE) in a social media post said, Arjun Erigaisi has become the **16th player in history to break the 2800 Elo barrier** in classical chess ratings.

- **Hailing from Warangal, Telangana, Erigaisi** had an exceptional year so far, highlighted by his **outstanding performance at the Chess Olympiad**. He secured both individual and **team gold medals**, contributing significantly to India's historic win.

## Govt Approves 9 One Stop Centres In Abroad

- Government highlighted that it has **approved proposal for 9 One Stop Centres (OSCs)** to support **distressed Indian women abroad**.
- Minister of State for Women and Child Development Savitri Thakur in written reply in Lok Sabha on Friday underlined that these include 7 OSCs with shelter homes in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, UAE, and Saudi Arabia (Jeddah and Riyadh), and **2 OSCs without shelter homes** in Toronto and Singapore.



- Ms. Thakur emphasized that the Ministry of External Affairs has now opened a budget line for the aforementioned 9 missions.
- She also mentioned that the **Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF)** has been set up in all Indian missions and posts abroad to meet contingency expenditures incurred by them for carrying out various on-site welfare activities for overseas Indian citizens on a means-tested basis.



- Ms. Thakur added that the **ICWF guidelines were comprehensively revised in September 2017**. The revised guidelines have considerably expanded the scope of on-site welfare activities for the benefit of distressed Indian nationals, **particularly women**, that can be extended through the Fund.
- It covers **three key areas namely** Assisting Overseas Indian nationals in distress situations (Boarding and Lodging, Air passage, Legal Assistance, Emergency Medical Care).



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EXAMS

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **Which Ministry Launched The National Campaign “Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat”**
  - A. Ministry of Science and Technology
  - B. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
  - C. Ministry of Women and Child Development
  - D. Ministry of Home Affairs

**ANSWER: C**

2. **Which State Is Host Of 12th Edition Of International Tourism Mart**
  - A. Sikkim
  - B. Assam
  - C. Madhya Pradesh
  - D. Maharashtra

**ANSWER: B**

**3. Who Has Won Under-8 World Cadets Chess Championship Title In Montesilvano, Italy**

- A. Anish Sarkar
- B. Bodhana Sivanandan
- C. Divith Reddy
- D. Ashwath Kaushik

**ANSWER: C**

**4. Which Two States Are Involved In Pennaiyar River Water Dispute**

- A. Bihar and Jharkhand
- B. Tamil Nadu and Karnataka
- C. Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
- D. Kerala and Tamil Nadu

**ANSWER: B**

**5. Advertising Standards Council Of India Was Established In Which Year**

- A. 1985
- B. 1990
- C. 2001
- D. 2005

**ANSWER: A**

**6. India's First Green Hydrogen Fuelling Station Has Been Established In Which City**

- A. Leh
- B. Indore
- C. Jaisalmer
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: A**

**7. When Is Aviation Safety Awareness Week 2024 Observed In India**

- A. November 20 to November 24
- B. November 25 to November 29
- C. December 1 to December 5
- D. December 10 to December 14

**ANSWER: B**

**8. What Is The Rank Of India In Network Readiness Index 2024**

- A. 37th
- B. 42nd
- C. 49th
- D. 55th

**ANSWER: C**

**9. E- Daakhil Portal, Is Associated With Which Sector**

- A. Livestock
- B. Food Processing
- C. Consumer complaints
- D. Income Tax

**ANSWER: C**

**10. Umiam Lake Seen In The News, Is Located In Which State**

- A. West Bengal
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Sikkim
- D. Meghalaya

**ANSWER: D**

**11. Jorawa Tribe Is Predominantly Found In Which Part Of India**

- A. Lakshadweep
- B. Assam
- C. Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- D. Manipur

**ANSWER: C**

**12. Who Has Been Elected As 11<sup>th</sup> President Of Asian Development Bank**

- A. Masato Kanda
- B. Bhargav Dasgupta
- C. Masatsugu Asakawa
- D. Takehiko Nakao

**ANSWER: A**

**13. Where Was All India Conference Of Director Generals/ Inspector Generals Of Police 2024 Held**

- A. Hyderabad
- B. New Delhi
- C. Bhubaneswar
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: C**

**14. Name Of The Migratory Bird That Broke Record For Longest Migratory Flight To Rajasthan**

- A. Northern Shoveler
- B. Greater Flamingo
- C. Demoiselle Crane
- D. Bluethroat

**ANSWER: C**

**15. Ngada Festival, Is Celebrated By Which Tribes**

- A. Phoms
- B. Konyak
- C. Rengma
- D. Sangtams

**ANSWER: C**

**16. Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary Is Located In Which State**

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Gujarat

**ANSWER: D**

**17. Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary Is Located In Which State**

- A. Manipur
- B. Tripura
- C. West Bengal
- D. Assam

**ANSWER: B**

**18. Ngusaba Goreng Festival Is Celebrated In Which Country**

- A. Bhutan
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Indonesia
- D. India

**ANSWER: C**

**19. Baalbek, Tyre And Anjar, Are UNESCO World Heritage Sites Of Which Country**

- A. Iraq
- B. Lebanon
- C. Kuwait
- D. Iran

**ANSWER: B**

**20. Bibi Ka Maqbara In Aurangabad Was Built By Which Of The Following**

- A. Shah Jahan
- B. Azam Shah
- C. Jahangir
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: B**