

Daily Current Affairs

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India Wins ISSA Good Practice Award

- India has been awarded the **prestigious ISSA Good Practice Award for Asia and Pacific 2024**, presented by **Dr. Mohammed Azman**, President of the International Social Security Association (ISSA), at the **Regional Social Security Forum held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**.



- The **Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)** also received five Certificates of Merit for its innovative practices in social security delivery. These awards **highlight EPFO's initiatives** in enhancing service delivery, communication, and inclusivity, benefiting its large and diverse workforce. India's EPFO was honored with the prestigious ISSA Good Practice Award for its continuous efforts to reform and enhance social security systems in the country.
- EPFO received **five Certificates of Merit for outstanding** initiatives in various areas of service delivery,
 - Communication Channels
 - E-proceedings
 - Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0 (Massive District Outreach Programme)
 - Multilingual Call Centres
 - Prayaas Initiative

Doha Forum At Qatar

- External Affairs Minister **Dr. S. Jaishankar** will **participate** in the Doha Forum at Qatar's Doha on Saturday. This is the **22nd edition of the Doha Forum** on the theme **"The Innovation Imperative."**
- External Affairs Minister will travel to Bahrain, where he will **co-chair the 4th India-Bahrain High Joint Commission** with his counterpart **Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani**.



- This Ministerial Meeting will review the entire gamut of the **bilateral relations and discuss avenues** to further strengthen the multifaceted ties between India and Bahrain. Dr. Jaishankar will also participate in the **20th edition of the IISS Manama Dialogue in Bahrain** on 8th December.
- The theme of this **year's Manama Dialogue** is **"Middle East leadership in shaping regional prosperity and security."**

Krishnaveni Sangeetha Neerajanam

- The 2nd Edition of **Krishnaveni Sangeetha Neerajanam**, a grand celebration of Carnatic music, traditional crafts, and culinary heritage, was inaugurated by **Union Minister of State for Tourism, Suresh Gopi**, in Vijayawada.
- This three-day cultural extravaganza, running is being organized by the **Union Tourism Ministry, in collaboration with the Union Ministry of Culture**, Union Ministry of Textiles, and the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Department.



- This cultural extravaganza aims to promote **“Music Tourism”** by showcasing the cultural and spiritual wealth of Andhra Pradesh, positioning the state as a premier destination for cultural enthusiasts.
- The festival features a special Heritage Showcase by the Ministry of Textiles, displaying **GI-tagged products from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**, such as **Mangalagiri Cotton sarees, Uppada Jamdani, Dharmavaram Silk, and Pochampally Ikat**.
- Over three days, 140 artists will perform 35 shows, honoring legendary Telugu composers and celebrating Carnatic music, connecting audiences to India’s classical heritage and promoting Andhra Pradesh’s cultural legacy.

PM e-Vidya DTH 24×7 Channel

- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan **launched the PM e-Vidya DTH 24×7 channel for Indian Sign Language (ISL)** in New Delhi.
- According to the Ministry, the channel is devoted to the promotion of **Indian Sign Language and has been conceptualized to promote ISL as a language and a subject**.



- The ministry said that the channel will **disseminate learning content** for schoolchildren, teachers, educators, and other stakeholders.
- Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Pradhan said this channel is a **bridge to facilitate communication and will make society** more inclusive and progressive. He emphasized that **Indian Sign Language has the potential** to set global benchmarks, create large-scale job opportunities, and lead India towards a more inclusive future.

Copernicus Sentinel-1C Satellite Launched

- The third **Copernicus Sentinel-1 satellite** was launched last night aboard a Vega-C rocket from **Europe's Spaceport in French Guiana**.
- The launch marked the return of the **Italian-built Vega-C launcher**, two years after a failure during its debut commercial mission.



- **Sentinel-1C builds on the success of its predecessors**, delivering high-resolution radar images to monitor Earth's changing environment.
- It supports various applications, advances scientific research, and adds new **capabilities for tracking maritime traffic**.
- **With 12 Sentinel satellite families**, Copernicus is the world's largest Earth observation system and boasts the largest repository of radar data, according to its developers.

Pooja Sharma, One Of BBC's 100 Most Inspiring Women

- **Pooja Sharma has gained recognition** for her remarkable work in Delhi. She has performed funeral rites for **over 4,000 unclaimed bodies** and has earned her a spot on the **BBC's list of 100 inspiring women** for 2024.
- Pooja was born on July 7, 1996, in Delhi. She grew up in a middle-class family. Her upbringing instilled strong values of empathy and service in her.

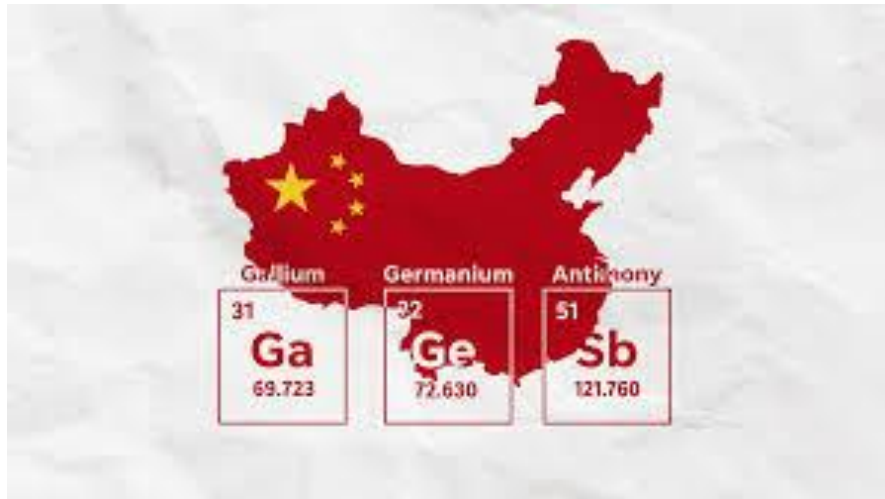


- In response to societal needs, **Pooja founded the Bright The Soul Foundation**. **This NGO** focuses on assisting **marginalized communities**, which promotes **environmental welfare** and provides care for the elderly.
- The foundation also supports **abandoned children** and offers educational resources.
- Additionally, it **distributes essential items** to those in need. Pooja's journey began after a personal tragedy in 2022.
- **She lost her elder brother to a violent crime**. When no one stepped forward to help, she performed his last rites herself. This act defied traditional gender norms in her community.

China Bans Exports To The US

- **China has recently intensified its export restrictions** to the United States, which follows new **U.S. regulations targeting the Chinese chip industry**.
- The trade tensions between the two nations are escalating. On December 3, China banned exports of **critical minerals to the U.S., which includes gallium, germanium, and antimony**.
- The ban aims to **safeguard national interests**. These minerals are vital for military and technological applications. New Regulations on Dual-Use Products

Effective December 1, were introduced. **Exporters must now disclose** the end-users of these products. This measure aims to monitor supply chain dependencies, **particularly in the U.S. military sector.**



- Earlier bans targeted gallium and germanium, which are essential for chip manufacturing. The restrictions were justified by national security concerns.
- Additionally, technology for producing rare earth magnets was also prohibited in December 2023.
- **China has taken further actions** to protect its interests. In May 2023, it blocked government purchases from **U.S. chipmaker Micron**. This occurred after Micron failed a security review. Intel may face similar scrutiny due to its extensive operations in China.



- Beijing has employed **various retaliation tactics**, which include slowing customs clearance and increasing inspections of U.S. firms. In September 2023, an investigation was **launched into PVH Corp for not using Xinjiang cotton**.
- **China's "unreliable entity list" targets** foreign companies deemed harmful to its interests.
- **Companies like Lockheed Martin and Raytheon have** been included for selling arms to Taiwan. This list serves as a warning to foreign businesses. In 2021, China enacted an anti-foreign sanctions law, which enables China to sanction foreign firms that threaten its national security.
- **U.S. company Skydio experienced sanctions** that restricted its access to batteries. As **U.S.-China tensions escalate**, businesses may encounter rising costs and challenges. State-run media suggest that these actions will complicate international trade dynamics.

68th Session Of Commission On Narcotic Drugs

- India has been chosen to Chair the **68th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)**. India's **Permanent Representative to the UN** in Vienna, **Shambhu Kumaran officially assumed** the Chairmanship of CND.



- The **CND is the principal policy-making body** of the United Nations on drug-related matters. It is mandated to monitor global drug trends, support Member States in formulating balanced policies, and oversee implementation of the major international drug conventions.

- **This is the first time that India has been named to Chair this important UN body.** This reinforces India's growing leadership role on the global stage and its commitment to addressing international issues through established multilateral mechanisms.



Permanent Mission of India to the UN, Vienna

India to Chair UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)

Press Release

India has been chosen to Chair the 68th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND). Ambassador Shambhu S. Kumaran, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna, officially assumed the Chairmanship of the prestigious UN forum today.

The CND is the principal policy-making body of the United Nations on drug-related matters. It is mandated to monitor global drug trends, support Member States in formulating balanced policies, and oversee implementation of the major international drug conventions. The CND is one of the functional commissions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and a Governing Body of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) which is headquartered in Vienna.

This is the first time that India has been named to Chair this important UN body. This reinforces India's growing leadership role on the global stage and its commitment to addressing international issues through established multilateral mechanisms.

As Chair, India will be expected to articulate interests of the Global South in line with its role in promoting interests and perspectives of developing nations in global discussions. India would also strive to build on ongoing work of the CND to foster dialogue and understanding on drug policy issues and especially to integrate concerns of emerging economies with the priorities of developed nations to promote holistic and balanced approaches to this key issue.

Over the coming year, the CND's agenda is expected to focus on strengthening international collaboration to address critical issues such as illicit drug trafficking, substance abuse, and their associated social and health impacts as well as availability of internationally controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes. By prioritizing multilateral dialogue and evidence-based solutions, India will continue to partner with other member states of the CND to advance equitable, inclusive, and sustainable strategies on all these issues.

Vienna
6 December 2024

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REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. PM e-Vidya DTH 24x7 Channel Related To

- A. Consumer Rights
- B. Export – Import
- C. Indian Sign Language
- D. Agriculture Practices

ANSWER: C

2. What is WOH G64

- A. Newly discovered galaxy
- B. Fossils of Dinosaur
- C. Red Supergiant Star
- D. Invasive weed

ANSWER: C

3. Name Of Portal Developed By Department Of Consumer Affairs For Fair Trade And Consumer Protection

- A. Metrology net portal
- B. National Legal Metrology Portal (eMaap)
- C. National Legal Trade Portal (eTrade)
- D. MY Gov portal

ANSWER: B

4. Which State/UT Is The Host Of International Gita Mahotsav-2024

- A. New Delhi
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Haryana
- D. Ladakh

ANSWER: C

5. Which Country Won Men's Hockey Junior Asia Cup 2024 Title In Muscat, Oman

- A. India
- B. China
- C. Pakistan
- D. Malaysia

ANSWER: A

6. Tikhir Tribe Is Primarily Found In Which State

- A. Assam
- B. Manipur
- C. Mizoram
- D. Nagaland

ANSWER: D

7. Which Company Introduced The Nova Foundation Models In Generative AI

- A. Google
- B. Amazon
- C. Meta
- D. Adobe

ANSWER: B

8. Which Country Approved A \$1.17 Billion Deal To Supply Equipment For The Indian Navy's MH-60R Helicopters

- A. Russia
- B. United Kingdom
- C. France
- D. United States

ANSWER: D

9. In Which Indian State Is The Ratapani Tiger Reserve Located

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

ANSWER: B

10. Which Country's PM Michel Barnier Removed In A Confidence Vote

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

ANSWER: B

11. Where Is The 63rd Annual ISAM Conference Being Hosted

- A. Bengaluru
- B. Mumbai
- C. Chennai
- D. Hyderabad

ANSWER: A

12. By Which Year Does The PMSGMBY Aim To Achieve 1 Crore Solar Installations

- A. 2025
- B. 2026
- C. 2027
- D. 2028

ANSWER: C

13. With Which Country Did India Sign An Mou To Establish A Joint Commission For Cooperation

- A. UAE
- B. Saudi Arabia
- C. Oman
- D. Kuwait

ANSWER: D

14. Which Country Will Host The \$2M International Golf Series Opener In 2025

- A. Australia
- B. Japan
- C. South Korea
- D. India

ANSWER: D

15. Which Company Delivered The Second Drishti-10 Starliner Drone To The Indian Navy For Maritime Security

- A. Adani Defence
- B. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- C. Tata Advanced Systems
- D. Bharat Electronics Limited

ANSWER: A

16. Which Country Will Debut In The FIFA World Cup 2024

- A. Brazil
- B. India
- C. Germany
- D. Japan

ANSWER: B

17. Where is the 16th GRIHA Summit 2024 being held

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

ANSWER: A

18. Which Country Won The Fifth Men's Junior Asia Cup Title In 2024

- A. Pakistan
- B. Malaysia
- C. India
- D. Japan

ANSWER: C

19. On Which Date Is World Soil Day Celebrated Annually

- A. December 3
- B. December 4
- C. December 5
- D. December 6

ANSWER: C

20. Who Was The Earliest Known Chola King Who Conquered Sri Lanka And Ruled It

- A. Karikala
- B. Elara
- C. Udiyagera
- D. Nedunjelian

ANSWER: B