

Daily Current Affairs

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‘Cyber Security And Cyber Crime’

- **Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation** Amit Shah chaired a meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Home Affairs on the topic of **‘Cyber Security and Cyber Crime’ in New Delhi.**
- The meeting was attended by Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Nityanand Rai, Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar, members of the Committee. Cyber Crime Forensic Training Labs have been established in 33 states and union territories.



- On the **‘CyTrain’ platform, a “Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)” platform,** 101,561 police officers have registered, and over 78,000 certificates have been issued. Union Home Minister emphasized the importance of raising awareness among the public to prevent cybercrime and requested all the members of the committee to **promote the I4C helpline number 1930.**
- **India has become the third-largest country** in terms of digital landscape in the world. The digital economy contributes 20 per cent to the total economy of India.

Devolution Index Report

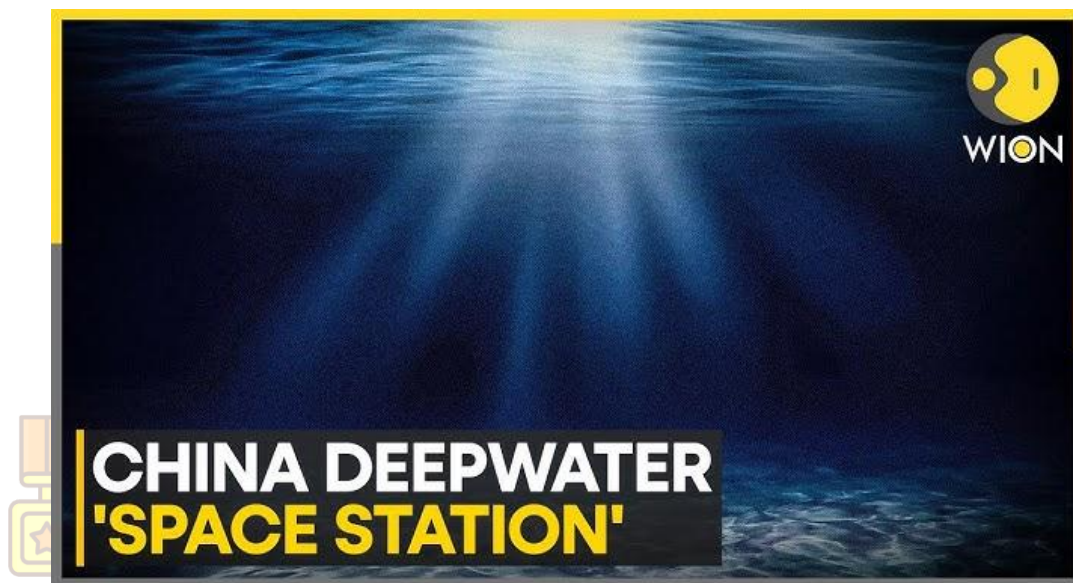
- Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, Professor S.P. Singh Baghel, launched a devolution index report titled '**Status of Devolution to Panchayats in States – An Indicative Evidence-Based Ranking, 2024**' in New Delhi.
- Minister underlined that the report evaluates **six critical dimensions of the Panchayats**: Framework, Functions, Finances, Functionaries, Capacity Building, and Accountability. He also hailed the Index and called Panchayats the strongest institutions of democracy.



- **Sharing the success story of Uttar Pradesh**, the Minister mentioned that the state has revolutionized its accountability framework through innovative transparency initiatives and **robust anti-corruption measures**.
- The **Index report provides insights into the progress** of decentralization across States and Union Territories of the country. It also examines how autonomous panchayats are in making and implementing independent decisions.
- Further, the **Devolution Index report serves as a tool for strengthening** cooperative federalism and local self-governance, enabling States to identify areas for improvement and adopt best practices for more empowered and effective Panchayats.

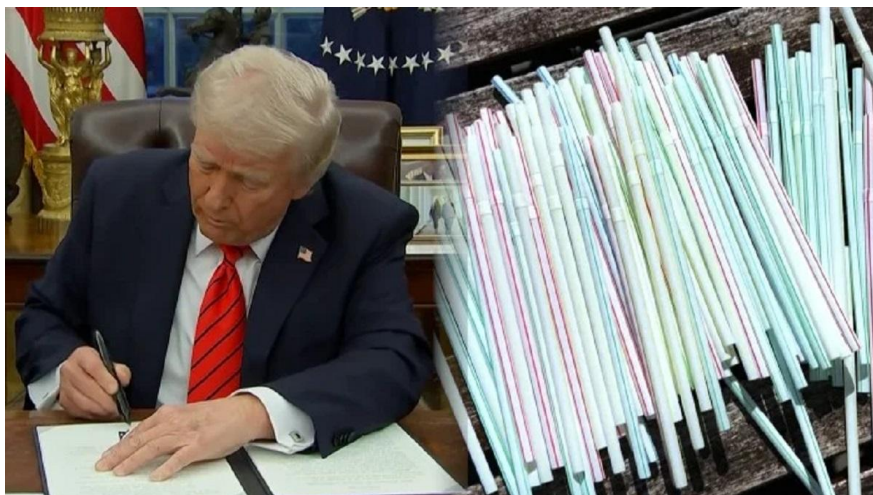
China approves deepwater 'Space Station'

- China has approved the construction of the first South China Sea deepwater 'space station'. The cold seep ecosystem research facility will be anchored 2,000 metres below the **surface of the strategically significant South China Sea**, which is also subject to several competing territorial claims.
- The **facility one of the deepest and most technologically complex** underwater installations ever attempted is scheduled to be operational by around 2030.



Trump Reinstates Plastic Straws

- President Donald Trump signed an executive order reversing federal policies that promoted **paper straws over plastic ones**. Calling paper straws ineffective, he said, "These things don't work. I've had them many times, and on occasion, they break, they explode."



- This decision marks a major policy shift and has sparked debates over consumer convenience, **environmental impact, and regulatory control**. Plastic straws became a major environmental concern in the late 2010s as they were identified as contributors to ocean pollution and harm to marine life.
- Environmentalists pushed for alternatives like paper and reusable straws, leading several U.S. cities and states to impose bans or restrictions on single-use plastics.



- **Companies like Starbucks and McDonald's also phased out plastic straws** in favor of paper ones. However, many consumers have complained about paper straws dissolving in liquids, making them inconvenient. Trump's order halts the procurement of paper straws by federal agencies and calls for a National Strategy to End the Use of Paper Straws within 45 days. This aligns with his long-standing stance on deregulating environmental policies in favor of consumer choice and industry support. In 2020, Trump signed the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to address plastic waste but consistently opposed bans on specific plastic products. His administration argues that the return of plastic straws restores "common sense" in policymaking.

Ellie: Asia's First Animatronic Elephant

- Asia's first life-sized animatronic elephant, Ellie, was introduced in Bengaluru. Created by PETA India and voiced by actor Dia Mirza, Ellie is designed to educate children about the harsh realities of elephant captivity.
- The initiative aims to instill compassion and empathy among young learners, helping them understand the struggles of animals used in entertainment. Ellie is not just a static model; she is a hyper-realistic animatronic elephant that moves, blinks her eyes, and flaps her ears, mimicking the behavior of a real elephant.



- She narrates an interactive story about her separation from her mother, the cruelty she faced in a circus, and her eventual rescue to a sanctuary. By experiencing Ellie's story, students can better understand why elephants should not be used in circuses, processions, or for rides.
- This approach of using technology for education is a fresh and engaging way to make young minds more aware of ethical treatment toward animals. As PETA India continues to expand this initiative, Ellie is expected to become a crucial tool in promoting humane education.



2nd India-France AI Policy Roundtable

- **Second India- France AI Policy Roundtable** was held at Sciences Po University, Paris, as a side event to the AI Action Summit 2025. The event was organized by the **Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA)** to the Government of India, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, the IndiaAI Mission, and Sciences Po Paris.



- Experts emphasized collaboration between India and France on indigenous AI models, **multilingual large language models** (LLMs), federated AI infrastructure, and sustainable AI practices.
- The **Second Roundtable built upon key objectives** from the First Roundtable held in Bengaluru during Technology Dialogue 2025, focusing on inclusive AI frameworks, diverse datasets, governance, public-private partnerships, and foundational models.

Transparency International

- A recent report by **Transparency International has labeled Pakistan** as one of the most **corrupt countries in the world**, where the menace is prevalent across all sectors of government, judiciary, and society.



- According to the report released earlier this week, **Pakistan ranked 135th out of 180 countries** on the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) in 2024.
- The severe economic crisis in the country is listed as a major factor contributing to the current condition. **As inflation rises, people are struggling** to afford basic necessities, including healthcare. The country's economy also continues to survive on borrowed money from international agencies and friendly countries.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which City Is The Host Of World Government Summit 2025

- A. Paris, France
- B. Dubai, UAE
- C. New Delhi, India
- D. Beijing, China

ANSWER: B

2. In Which City Was The Para- Archery Asia Cup Held

- A. Kuala Lumpur
- B. Jakarta
- C. Bangkok
- D. Manila

ANSWER: C

3. Brahmagiri Wildlife Sanctuary Is Located In Which State

- A. Karnataka
- B. Gujarat
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Kerala

ANSWER: A

4. Panchayat Devolution Index Report Is Released By Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Agriculture
- B. Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Ministry of Rural Development

ANSWER: B

5. Vancomycin Antibiotic, Is Used To Treat What Kind Of Infection

- A. Bacterial
- B. Fungal
- C. Viral
- D. Protozoan

ANSWER: A

6. Where Was 2nd India- France AI Policy Roundtable Held

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

ANSWER: C

7. Who Chaired Meeting Of Parliamentary Consultative Committee For Ministry Of Home Affairs On 'Cyber Security & Cyber Crime'

- A. Narendra Modi
- B. Amit Shah
- C. Rajnath Singh
- D. Piyush Goyal

ANSWER: B

8. Where Was The 63rd Session Of The Commission For Social Development Held

- A. Geneva
- B. Paris
- C. New York
- D. Vienna

ANSWER: C

9. What Percentage Tariff Has Trump Imposed On Steel And Aluminium Imports

- A. 10%
- B. 15%
- C. 20%
- D. 25%

ANSWER: D

10. Where Is 14th Asian Fisheries Forum (AFAF) Being Held In 2025

- A. Bangkok
- B. Jakarta
- C. New Delhi
- D. Kuala Lumpur

ANSWER: C

11. Which Ministry Has Launched The 'Culinary, Crafts & Clicks – Moods & Magic' Festival

- A. Ministry of Culture
- B. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- C. Ministry of Tourism
- D. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

ANSWER: B

12. Who Won The 10th Men's Snooker Championship At The Indian Snooker Championship

- A. Aditya Mehta
- B. Brijesh Damani
- C. Pankaj Advani
- D. Geet Sethi

ANSWER: C

13. Which Organization Selected SpaceX For The Pandora Mission Launch

- A. NASA
- B. ESA
- C. ISRO
- D. Roscosmos

ANSWER: A

14. Which Institute Collaborated With ISRO To Develop The 'IRIS' Chip For Space Applications

- A. IIT Madras
- B. IIT Bombay
- C. IIT Delhi
- D. IIT Kanpur

ANSWER: A

15. Which City Is Hosting The Largest MRO Middle East & AIME 2025 Event

- A. Singapore
- B. London
- C. New York
- D. Dubai

ANSWER: D

16. On Which Date Will International Epilepsy Day 2025 Be Observed

- A. February 8
- B. February 9
- C. February 12
- D. February 10

ANSWER: D

17. On Which Date Is Anti-smuggling Day Observed Annually

- A. January 31
- B. February 11
- C. March 5
- D. April 15

ANSWER: B

18. Which Institute Signed An Mou With DPIIT To Enhance Cooperation In Logistics And Infrastructure Development

- A. International Transport Institute
- B. Korea Transport Institute
- C. Japan Transport Research Institute
- D. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

ANSWER: B

19. Cabinet Declared Which Day As 'National Space Day' In India

- A. August 20
- B. August 23
- C. August 25
- D. August 27

ANSWER: B

20. Which Among The Following Is The Property Of Tungsten Which Makes It Eligible To Use In The Bulbs

- A. Highest Melting Point
- B. Highest Resistance
- C. Highest Malleability
- D. All Are Correct

ANSWER: A