

5 jan 2023

## National News

### **1.68 Rajya Sabha Members, Including Notables Like Manmohan Singh And Jaya Bachchan, Set To Retire In 2024**



In the upcoming year, the political landscape in India is poised for a significant shift as 68 Rajya Sabha members, nine of whom are Union ministers, face retirement, intensifying the race for coveted six-year terms in the Upper House of Parliament. In April, a total of 57 leaders, a prominent among them being former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and several incumbent ministers, will complete their tenures. Uttar Pradesh will witness the highest number of vacancies, with 10 seats up for grabs, followed by Maharashtra and Bihar with six each.

Other states in the fray include Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Gujarat, Odisha, Telangana, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, and Chhattisgarh.

## State News

### **2. Punjab Becomes First State To Map All Accident Prone Sites**



Punjab has become the first in India to meticulously map all 784 accident black spots using the Mappls App, a cutting-edge navigation system developed by MapMyIndia. In a strategic move, the Punjab Police has teamed up with MapMyIndia to integrate real-time traffic updates and alerts into the Mappls App. This collaboration aims to provide citizens with crucial information about black and blind spots, ensuring a safer driving experience.

This initiative aligns with the preparations for the launch of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann's flagship project, the 'Sadak Suraksha Force.' The comprehensive mapping of accident black spots is a crucial component of this visionary project, aiming to create a robust system for ensuring road safety across the state.

## Defence News

### **3.Boosting Indigenous Defence Production: Centre Inks Two Crucial Deals Worth Rs 802 Crore**



In a significant move towards self-reliance in defence manufacturing, the Ministry of Defence has finalized two pivotal contracts, collectively valued at Rs 802 crore. The agreements include the procurement of 697 Bogie Open Military (BOM) Wagons and 56 Mechanical Minefield Marking Equipment (MMME) Mark II from domestic firms. The contracts, signed with M/s Jupiter Wagons Limited and M/s BEML Ltd, underscore the commitment to Atmanirbhar Bharat, with both deals emphasizing the utilization of indigenous equipment and sub-systems. This strategic approach aims to bolster the participation of the private sector in defence production.

## **Economy News**

### **4.Record FPI Purchases Drive Indian Equities To All-Time Highs In December**



Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) made historic monthly acquisitions of Indian equities, reaching 661.35 billion rupees (\$8 billion) in December, according to National Securities Depository data.

This surge catapulted India's Nifty 50 and Sensex benchmarks to fresh record highs. The first half of December alone witnessed a record fortnightly purchase of shares worth 427.33 billion rupees, attributed to lower U.S. bond yields and expectations of Federal Reserve interest rate cuts.

Faster-than-expected quarterly GDP growth prompted the Reserve Bank of India to revise upwards its fiscal 2024 growth forecast. State election results signaled policy continuity in 2024, adding to the positive sentiment.

## **Business News**

### **5.Adidas To Set Up Its First Asia GCC Outside China In Tamil Nadu**



Adidas, the renowned athletic footwear and apparel giant, is making strategic moves to enhance its global operations by establishing its first and only Global Capacity Centre (GCC) in Asia outside of China.

This significant development underscores the growing trend of multinational corporations choosing India as a prime destination for setting up their GCCs, capitalizing on the country's abundant software skills.

The German corporation, headquartered in Herzogenaurach, Bavaria, is set to establish its Global Business Services (GBS) hub in Chennai. This move signifies a pivotal step for Adidas, as the Chennai facility becomes the first GCC outside of China in Asia. The choice of Chennai as the location for this hub reflects the city's rising prominence in the global corporate landscape.

## **Schemes News**

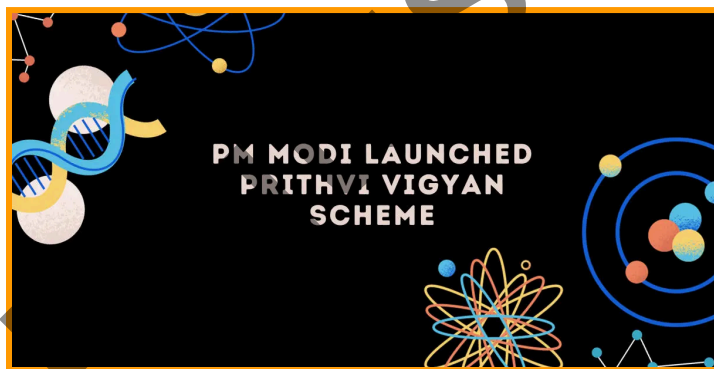
### **6.Ministry Of Education Launches PRERANA Program**



The Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, proudly presents Prerana: An Experiential Learning program.

This unique initiative aims to empower students of classes IX to XII with leadership qualities and provide them with a meaningful, unique, and inspiring experience. Prerana is driven by a strong commitment to the principles of the Indian education system and the philosophy of value-based education, a cornerstone of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. It fosters respect for India's rich cultural heritage and diverse traditions, embodying the spirit of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (the world is one family).

### **7.PM Modi Launched PRITHVI VIGYAN Scheme Worth Nearly 4,800 Crore Rupees**



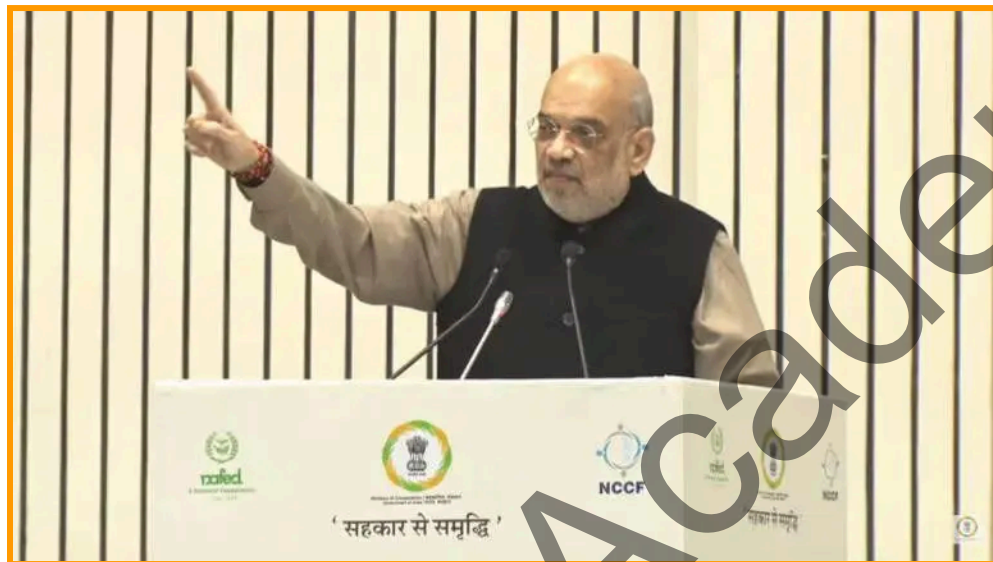
The Indian government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has launched an ambitious initiative named PRITHVI (PRITHvi Vlgyan), a comprehensive scheme by the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

With a significant budget of Rs. 4,797 crore, the program spans from 2021-26, marking a new era in the study and understanding of Earth sciences in India.



The PRITHVI scheme aims to revolutionize our understanding and interaction with various Earth systems. Its objectives include: Strengthening the continuous monitoring of the Earth's atmosphere, oceans, geosphere, cryosphere, and solid earth to track and record essential changes.

### **8.Amit Shah Launches Tur Dal Procurement Portal For Farmers**



Union Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a tur dal procurement portal, enabling farmers to register and sell their produce to the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED) and the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Limited (NCCF).

The portal guarantees a minimum support price (MSP) or market price for the farmers. Minister Shah, during the launch, also highlighted plans to extend this facility for urad, masoor, and maize farmers in the future.

As part of the inauguration, Minister Shah conducted Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), transferring approximately Rs 68 lakh to 25 farmers as payment for their tur dal sales through the portal. This move is expected to empower farmers by providing them with assured prices and promoting pulses farming, addressing concerns of price uncertainty.

## 9. Anurag Thakur Attends Youth Dialogue Program On Theme 'My Bharat Mera Yuva Bharat'



Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur addressed a youth dialogue program organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra on the theme 'My Bharat Mera Yuva Bharat' at Malala Auditorium in Diu.

Thakur emphasized the importance of channeling the energy of the nation's youth towards nation-building. He urged them to actively contribute to realizing the dream of a developed India by 2047.

He highlighted the crucial role of capable youth in shaping a strong India and emphasized the significance of sports in this endeavor. He encouraged the youth to embrace sports as a part of their lives, prioritize fitness, and steer clear of drugs. By adopting these healthy habits, Thakur believes they can become strong pillars of the nation....