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**Saturday, 03 August 2024**

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**DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR**



**Saturday, 03 August 2024**

## **India-Vietnam Agreements and Their Relevance for Government Exams**

- India and Vietnam have signed nine significant agreements to enhance their comprehensive strategic partnership, impacting various fields including customs, agriculture, legal matters, radio and television broadcasting, culture, and tourism. This partnership is crucial as Vietnam is an emerging economy, with India-Vietnam bilateral trade reaching 15 billion US dollars.

### **Key points:**

- Strategic Partnership Plan: A plan of action for the implementation of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership during 2024-2028 has been agreed upon by both countries.
- Agricultural Cooperation: An MoU was signed between the Central Agricultural University of Manipur and the Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Hanoi, to cooperate in agricultural research and education.

**Q.** Which two countries signed nine agreements to deepen their comprehensive strategic partnership, including cooperation in customs, agriculture, and broadcasting, with bilateral trade reaching 15 billion US dollars? **India and Vietnam**

# INDIA RANKS 39TH IN WEF'S TRAVEL & TOURISM DEVELOPMENT INDEX 2024



Saturday, 03 August 2024

## India's Ranking in Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024

- India has been ranked 39th out of 119 countries in the Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024, as published by the World Economic Forum.

### Important details:

- Ranking and Source:** India is ranked 39th in the Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024 by the World Economic Forum.
- Tourist Arrivals:** According to the UNWTO barometer for May 2024, there were 975 million international tourist arrivals globally in 2022. India recorded 14.3 million international tourist arrivals, accounting for 1.47% of the international inbound tourism market.
- Regional Share:** India's share of international tourist arrivals in Asia and the Pacific was 15.66% in 2022.
- Improved Areas:** India's scores have improved in three key areas: prioritisation of travel and tourism, safety and security, and health and hygiene.

**Q.** In the Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024 by the World Economic Forum, what is India's rank among 119 countries? **39th**



**Saturday, 03 August 2024**

## **Karnataka launches Cyber Security Policy 2024 to combat rising crimes**

- The Karnataka government has launched a comprehensive Cyber Security Policy 2024 to combat rising cyber-crimes and promote awareness to protect the state's digital infrastructure.

### **Key points:**

- **Policy Drafting:** The policy has been collaboratively drafted by the Department of Electronics, IT, BT and Science and Technology, the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (e-Governance), and the Home Department, in consultation with relevant stakeholders from both the government and private sectors.
- **Review and Collaboration:** The policy was reviewed by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), which is the anchor institute for the state's K-tech Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security (CYSECK).
- **Objective:** The policy aims to build a dynamic, secure, and resilient cyberspace for all G2G, G2B, and G2C services of the Government of Karnataka.

**Q.** Which policy was launched by the Karnataka government in 2024 to combat rising cyber-crimes and protect the state's digital infrastructure? **Cyber Security Policy 2024**



## WORLD BANK GROUP

Saturday, 03 August 2024

### World Bank Grant to Somalia

- The World Bank has approved a grant of 125 million USD for Somalia to implement drought index insurance for 180,000 pastoralists, including 90,000 women. This initiative is part of a Development Policy Financing (DPF) aimed at improving revenue, debt management, public spending accountability, and increasing climate-smart private sector investments.

### Important details:

- Grant Approval: The World Bank has granted 125 million USD to Somalia for drought index insurance.
- Purpose: The grant will benefit 180,000 pastoralists, including 90,000 women, by introducing drought index insurance.

### DPF Objectives:

- Revenue and Debt Management: Boosting revenue, enhancing debt management, and improving accountability in public spending.
- Microfinance Access: Facilitating access to microfinance for lower-income groups, especially pastoralists in climate-vulnerable sectors such as agriculture and fisheries.
- Green Energy and Development: Expanding access to greener and cost-effective electricity, supporting fisheries development, and assisting in funding crucial public services.

**Q.** What is the amount of the World Bank grant approved for Somalia to introduce drought index insurance? **125 million USD**



Saturday, 03 August 2024

## World Bank Financing for Ethiopia

- The World Bank's board has approved a \$1.5 billion financing package for Ethiopia, marking its first-ever budget support lending to the country. This move comes as Ethiopia is advancing its long-standing debt restructuring efforts.

### Key details:

- Approval: The World Bank has approved \$1.5 billion in financing for Ethiopia, consisting of a \$1 billion grant and \$500 million in a low-interest credit line.
- Purpose: This is the World Bank's first direct budgetary support facility for Ethiopia.

### Context:

- Ethiopia recently secured a four-year, \$3.4 billion program from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- The Ethiopian central bank floated its birr currency, which is a step toward debt restructuring.
- The funding from the World Bank is part of a larger \$10.7 billion financing package from the IMF, World Bank, and other creditors.
- Conditions: The financial support is conditional upon Ethiopia implementing significant economic reforms, including the liberalization of the foreign currency market.

**Q.** What is the total amount of financing approved by the World Bank for Ethiopia? **\$1.5 billion**



Saturday, 03 August 2024

## Germany joins UN Command as 18th member state

- Germany has formally joined the U.S.-led U.N. Command (UNC) as the 18th official member state. This marks the first expansion of the multinational force in over a decade.

### Historical Context:

- The UNC oversees the armistice of the 1950-53 Korean War.
- The Korean War technically has never ended, as no peace treaty was signed.

### Recent Developments:

- Germany's admission aligns with South Korea's efforts to expand cooperation with like-minded countries to counter North Korea's military threats.
- The last expansion of the UNC was in 2013 when Italy was reinstated as a member.

### Germany's Previous Involvement:

- Germany provided medical assistance to South Korea from 1954-59.
- Despite this, Germany was not included as a UNC member state since the armistice was signed in July 1953.

**Q.** Which country joined the U.S.-led U.N. Command (UNC) as its 18th official member state in 2024, marking the first expansion in over a decade? **Germany**



**Saturday, 03 August 2024**

## **Another international cricket stadium to come up in Hyderabad**

- Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy announced the construction of a new international cricket stadium in Hyderabad.
- The stadium will be built at Begarikancha on the outskirts of Hyderabad, near the foundation site of Young India Skills University.

### **Promotion of Sports:**

- The state government is committed to promoting sports in Telangana.
- Rs 321 crore has been allocated for sports in the state budget for 2024-25.

### **Sports Infrastructure:**

- Emphasis on building new sports infrastructure due to decreased sports activity at existing stadiums in Yousufguda, Gachibowli, and Saroornagar.

### **Incentives for Athletes:**

- The state cabinet has decided to allot 600 square yards of house sites each to shooter Esha Singh, two-time world boxing champion Nikhat Zareen, and international cricketer Mohammed Siraj.
- Group-1 jobs will be provided to Nikhat Zareen and Mohammed Siraj.

**Q.** Where will the new international cricket stadium announced by Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy be built? **Begarikancha, Hyderabad**





**Saturday, 03 August 2024**

## **Simone Biles claims sixth Olympic Gold in Paris, win women's all-around title**

- Simone Biles added another chapter to her legendary career by winning her sixth Olympic gold medal and her second of the Paris Games.
- The 27-year-old gymnast returned to the top of the gymnastics world eight years after winning her first Olympic all-around title in Rio.

### **Simone Biles' Achievement:**

- Won her sixth Olympic gold medal and second of the Paris Games.
- Triumphed over Brazil's Rebeca Andrade to capture the women's all-around title for the second time.

### **Historic Context:**

- Returned to the top of the gymnastics world eight years after her first Olympic all-around title in Rio.
- Third woman to win the women's all-around title more than once, joining Larisa Latynina (1956, 1960) and Vera Caslavka (1964, 1968).

**Q.** Who won her sixth Olympic gold medal and second all-around title at the Paris Games, becoming the oldest women's all-around Olympic champion since 1952? **Simone Biles**



Saturday, 03 August 2024

## Srinagar officially designated as World Craft City by World Craft Council

- The World Crafts Council International (WCC) officially designated Srinagar as a 'World Craft City' during a ceremony.

### Ceremony Details:

- The recognition was celebrated at a grand ceremony held at SKICC Srinagar.
- Saad Al Qaddumi, President of the WCC, delivered a speech highlighting the significance of the achievement.

### Impact of Recognition:

- Highlights the beauty and importance of Srinagar's crafts.
- Plays a crucial role in the social and economic development of the region.
- Global Standing: Srinagar joins 65 other cities globally honored as World Craft Cities.
- Heritage and Development: Supports the preservation of Indus heritage and promotes sustainable development in the craft sector.

### Significance for India:

- Srinagar is the 4th city in India to receive the 'World Craft City' title.
- The other three cities in India that have been designated as 'World Craft Cities' before Srinagar are: Delhi, Jaipur & Varanasi

**Q.** Which city was recently designated as a 'World Craft City' by the World Crafts Council International, joining Delhi, Jaipur, and Varanasi in this honor? **Srinagar**



Saturday, 03 August 2024

## Explained: Supreme Court's verdict on sub-classification of SCs and STs

- The Supreme Court's verdict on the sub-classification of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) addresses the complex issue of whether these groups can be further divided into sub-categories for the purpose of reservations and affirmative action. Here are the key points:
- The issue involves whether states can create sub-categories within SCs and STs to address the varying degrees of disadvantage among these groups.

### Supreme Court Verdict:

- **Permissibility:** The Court's verdict generally permits the sub-classification of SCs and STs if it is done in a manner that does not violate the principles of equality and non-discrimination.
- **Objective:** The sub-classification should aim to address specific needs and ensure that the benefits of affirmative action are more equitably distributed among different sub-groups within SCs and STs.

**Q.** What does the Supreme Court's verdict on the sub-classification of SCs and STs allow states to do? **It allows states to create sub-categories within SCs and STs for more equitable distribution of reservations, provided it is data-driven and legally supported.**




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