

NEWS TODAY

PRESIDENT OF INDIA APPOINTED GOVERNORS IN 12 STATES AND A UNION TERRITORY

• New governors were appointed in Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Jharkhand, HP, Assam, AP, Chhattisgarh, Manipur, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Bihar, Maharashtra and **Ladakh (UT)**.

• Governor is envisaged as an **apolitical head who must act on advice of Council of Ministers of state**.

• **Appointment of Governor:** Under Article 155 and 156, Governor is **appointed by President and holds office during pleasure of President**.

➤ Governor has to step down if President withdraws his/her pleasure before completion of five years.

• **Article 157 and 158 lay down qualifications and terms of office of Governor**

➤ **Must be a citizen of India** and should have **completed age of 35 years**.

➤ Governor should **not be a member of Parliament or a state legislature**, and must **not hold any other office of profit**.

• **Powers of Governor**

➤ **Executive:** Constitutional head of state who **appoints the leader of majority party as Chief Minister**.

➤ **Legislative:** **Giving or withholding assent to Bill** passed by state legislature.

➤ **Judicial:** Appoints District judge; can **pardon, remit and commute the sentence of a convicted person**.

➤ **Financial:** No money bill can be introduced in state without his prior approval.

JUDGEMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO GOVERNOR

Sarkaria commission: Governor should be from outside state, he should not be a member of ruling party

Nabam Rebia Judgement (2016): Exercise of Governor's discretion Article 163 is limited and not arbitrary

Punchhi Commission(2007): Fixed term of 5 years to governors and their removal by process of impeachment by state legislature

200TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF MAHARISHI DAYANAND SARASWATI

• **Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati (12 February 1824- 30 October 1883)**

➤ **Born in Tankara, Gujarat as 'Mool Shankar'** to a brahman family. He **made Swami Virajananda his Guru**.

➤ American Spiritualist Andrew Jackson Davis called **Maharishi Dayanand "Son of God"**.

• **Contribution of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati**

Area of Contribution	Detail
Socio-Religious	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believer in Hinduism but rejected man-made ritualism and worship of idols. • Gave a call of 'Back to Vedas' and established Arya Samaj in 1875. • He was first to give call for Swaraj as "India for Indian" in 1876. • Started Shuddhi Movement wherein purification was imparted to those who sought their way back to Hinduism.
Educational Reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up number of Gurukuls to teach knowledge of Vedas. • Dayanand Anglo Vedic College Trust and Management Society was established by his disciples. • First DAV High School was established at Lahore in 1886 with Lala Hans Raj as its headmaster.
Independence Struggle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His teaching influenced personalities like Lala Lajpat Rai, Madam Cama, Ram Prasad Bismil, etc.
Publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satyarth Prakash, Sanskarvidhi, Yajurved Bhashyam.

• **Arya Samaj (reform movement of Vedic dharma):** It was founded on **two basic tenets i.e., Infallible authority of Vedas and Monotheism**.

➤ **First Arya Samaj unit was formally set up by him at Mumbai** (then Bombay) in 1875 and later headquarters were established at Lahore.

➤ It worked for **abolition of social evils like caste system, subjugation of women, etc.**

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOM (DOT) HAS STARTED DISBURSING PRODUCTION-LINKED INCENTIVES (PLIs)

- DoT has **started disbursing PLIs to 42 shortlisted manufacturers** who have completed their target for 2021-22.
 - This is expected to generate **additional employment of more than 44,000 over five-year scheme period** effective from April 1, 2022 onwards.
- PLI schemes **envisages to accomplish Atmanirbhar Bharat vision by providing on average 4-6% of production value as an incentive** to approved investors.
 - For telecom sector under **design-led PLI**, **additional incentive of 1%** is provided for products that are designed and manufactured in India.
- Objectives of PLI**
 - Make **domestic manufacturing globally competitive**.
 - Create global champions** in manufacturing.
 - Boost existing capacities** in domestic manufacturing **for sunrise and strategic sectors**.
 - Reduce import bills** and Enhance export capacity.
- PLI scheme is **implemented by concerned Ministries/ Departments** and will be within overall financial limits prescribed.
- Union Budget 2021-22 announced an outlay of INR 1.97 lakh crores for **PLI schemes for 14 sectors** to create a **robust domestic value chain**.
 - 14 sectors include** automobile and auto components, electronics and IT system, telecom, pharmaceuticals, solar modules, metals and mining, textiles and apparel, white goods, drones, advanced chemistry cell batteries, renewable energy, medical devices, speciality steel, and food products.

PRIME MINISTER INAUGURATED FIRST PHASE OF DELHI-MUMBAI EXPRESSWAY (DME)

- First phase i.e., 246 km Delhi – Dausa – Lalsot section of DME reduces travel time from **Delhi to Jaipur** and provide **boost to economic development of entire region**.
- DME will be 8 lane **India's longest greenfield expressway** with length of **1,386 km**.
 - It'll **reduce travel distance between Delhi and Mumbai by 12%** and **travel time by 50% i.e., 12 hrs**.
 - It'll **pass through six states** - Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra and **connect major cities**. (refer image)
 - It'll have **India's first-ever animal overpasses (3) and underpasses (5)** to facilitate unrestricted movement of wildlife.
 - It'll serve **93 PM Gati Shakti Economic Nodes, 13 Ports, 8 Major Airports and 8 multi-modal logistics parks (MMLPs)** along with **new upcoming greenfield airports** like Jewar Airport etc.
- DME project is part of **Centre's Bharatmala Pariyojana (launched by Ministry of Road Transport & Highways)** and expected to be completed in 2024.
 - Features of Bharatmala Project:** Integration of economic corridor; **Last mile connectivity** through inter-corridor and Feeder routes; **Lane expansion and decongestion** of existing National Corridors; **Port-led economic development; Greenfield Expressways**.
- DME project is powered by **PM Gati Shakti Master Plan** where arrangements have been made to lay optical fibre cables, electricity lines, gas pipelines etc.



INDONESIA'S PALM OIL CURBS STIR INFLATION WOES

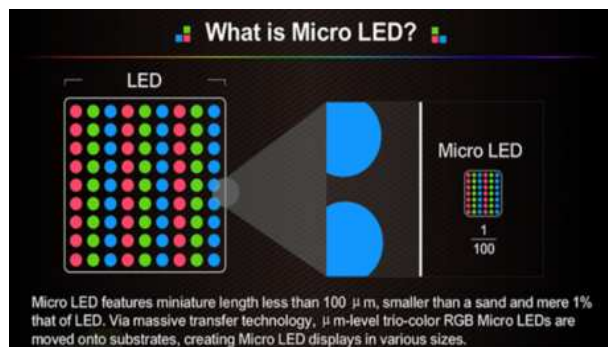
- Indonesia, **world's biggest producer, exporter, and consumer of palm oil**, is planning to suspend some export permits to reduce domestic cooking oil prices.
- Palm oil is **edible vegetable oil** produced from **palm fruit of Elaeis Guineensis (African oil Palm)** or Elaeis Oleifera (indigenous to South and Central America).
 - It is **rich in Vitamin A and E with no trans fatty acids**.
 - Used in** Detergent, lipstick, shampoo, chocolate, bread, ice cream and bio diesel.
 - Indonesia and Malaysia** together account for almost **90% of global palm oil production**. Other major palm oil producers include Thailand, Colombia and Nigeria.
- India is the **biggest importer of palm oil**, which makes up **40% of its vegetable oil consumption**.
 - India's major palm oil growing states: Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Kerala** account for 98% of total production.
- To reduce its import dependency, India has launched Centrally Sponsored scheme **National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP)** to cover an additional area of **6.5 lakh hectare** for oil palm till 2025-26.

CLIMATE REQUIREMENT FOR PALM OIL CULTIVATION

- Humid tropical crop** and temperature ranges from **22°C to 24°C (minimum)** and **20°C to 33°C (maximum)**.
- 5 to 6 hours of bright sunshine** per day and **80% of humidity** for optimum growth.
- Annual evenly distributed **rainfall of 2500 to 4000 mm or 150 to 150 mm monthly**.

MICRO-LED (LIGHT EMITTING DIODE) DISPLAYS

- Recently various electronic companies are showing their interest in **MicroLED (mLED or μ LED)** display technology.
- microLED displays **comprise several microscopic LEDs**, which self-illuminate per display pixel- just like an OLED (Organic LED) panel does.
 - mLED is **as small as cutting a centimetre of hair into 200 smaller pieces**.
 - Each of these mLEDs are **semiconductors that receive electric signals**.
 - Once these mLEDs are gathered, **they form a module**. Several modules are then combined to form screens.
- Comparison with other displays**



Display Technology	LCD (Liquid crystal display)	OLED	mLED
Pixel types	Back lit display	Self-emissive display	Self-emissive display
LED makeup material	Inorganic LED backlight	Organic LED	Inorganic LED
Brightness	High	Low	Very high
Lifespan	Long	Short	Very long
Response time	Slow (milli-seconds)	Medium (micro-seconds)	Fast (nano-seconds)

- Benefits of mLED**
 - Self-emissive and have **better colour reproduction** and **provide better viewing angles**.
 - Limitless scalability**, as they are **resolution-free, bezel-free, ratio-free, and even size-free**.
 - More efficient and bright, more durable** and with higher colour gamut against LCD and OLED.
- Challenges:** Higher manufacturing cost, market share for liquid crystal displays remains sizable etc.

ALSO IN NEWS

<p>Bhashini Mission</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government integrates Bhashini Mission's capabilities with UPI ecosystem to make digital payments through UPI 123 Pay available in more than 20 local Indian language. Bhashini Mission was launched by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a local language translator mission that aims to break the barrier between various Indian tongues by using technology. This platform will make Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) resources available to Indian MSMEs, startups and innovators in public domain. Bhashini platform is interoperable and will catalyze entire Digital Ecosystem.
<p>Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prime Minister stated that centre is committed to ensure regular supply of water In 13 Rajasthan districts under ERCP. ERCP aims to harvest surplus water available during rainy season in rivers in southern Rajasthan, such as Chambal and its tributaries Kunnu, Parvati, and Kalisindh. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This water will be used in water-scarce south-eastern districts (13 districts) of state. Project was approved by Central Water Commission in 2017.
<p>Millet International Initiative for Research and Awareness (MIIRA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India is planning to launch MIIRA- global initiative to coordinate millet research programmes at international level while also supporting research on millet crops. It is in line with UN declaring 2023 as the International Year of Millets and Centre's plan to make India a global hub for millets. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MIIRA secretariat will be in Delhi. Around 41 percent of global production of millets takes place in India. Millets (superfood) are food grains having high nutritional features and health benefits and are cultivated with minimal water & inputs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These crops require less water than rice and wheat, and are mainly grown in rainfed areas.
<p>Operation Dost</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was launched by Indian Army to extend humanitarian aid to Syria and Turkey which are recently hit by massive earthquake.

 <p>Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First G20 ECSWG meeting concluded in Bengaluru with all G20 countries. • Group has committed to work towards objective of priority areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Arresting Land Degradation ➤ Accelerating Ecosystem Restoration and Enriching Biodiversity ➤ Promoting a Sustainable and Climate Resilient Blue Economy and ➤ Encouraging Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy • ECSWG aims to collectively define a new development paradigm that supports stable and sustainable climate, environment, and biodiversity.
 <p>PFAS or Forever chemicals'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New study has found alarming levels of toxic PFAS, also known as "forever chemicals" in Norwegian Arctic ice which may affect wildlife. • PFAS (Per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances) are a large chemical family of over 4,700 highly persistent chemicals that don't occur in nature. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ They hardly degrade in natural environment and have been found in blood of people and wildlife all round world. ➤ It can be toxic to both humans and wildlife. • PFAS uses: In cosmetics (hair conditioner, foundation cream, sunscreen etc.), electronics (smartphones), textiles (waterproof outdoor clothing and equipment, carpets, mattresses) etc.
 <p>Sukanya Samridhi Account (SSA) scheme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under a special drive, Post offices across country have opened close to 11 lakh SSA in two days. • SSA scheme aims to encourage parents to build a fund for future education and marriage expenses of their daughters. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Account is opened in name of a girl child till child attains age of 10 years in post offices and notified branches of commercial banks. ➤ Minimum deposit of Rs.250 and maximum of Rs. 1,50,000 can be deposited in a financial year. ➤ Tax benefit is available under section 80C of Income-tax Act.
 <p>Data embassies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Union Budget 2023 -24 announced for setting up data embassies at GIFT City in Gujarat. • Data embassy refers to server resources owned and maintained by a nation-state outside its territorial boundaries, according to its own laws. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It will ensure normal functioning of a state and its digital services in case of situations like cyberattack or natural disaster. ➤ They have diplomatic immunities from local laws on principles of Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961. • Estonia was first country to set up data embassy outside its territory in Luxembourg in 2017.
 <p>Agasthyarkoodam</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research sheds light on Agasthiyar Observatory which was one of the few magnetic observatories in world during 19th century. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It was situated in Agasthyarkoodam. • Agasthyarkoodam, second highest peak in Kerala and is part of Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve which lies conjointly in states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is part of UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves since 2001. • Agasthyarkoodam got its name from sage Agasthya. He was a pioneer of Tamil Siddha Ayurveda.
 <p>Places in news</p>	<p>Cyprus (Capital: Nicosia)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nikos Christodoulides was elected as Cyprus's president. • Political & Boundaries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Third large island in Mediterranean Sea after Sicily and Sardinia. ➤ Situated at north-eastern corner of Mediterranean, at 300 km north of Egypt. ➤ It lies south of Turkey, west of Syria, and southeast of mainland Greece. • Geographical features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Coastline is indented and rocky with long sandy beaches. ➤ Highest Peak: Mount Olympus. ➤ Longest river: The Pedieos. 