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24th & 25th MARCH 2024 DESCRIPTIVE

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HEADLINES

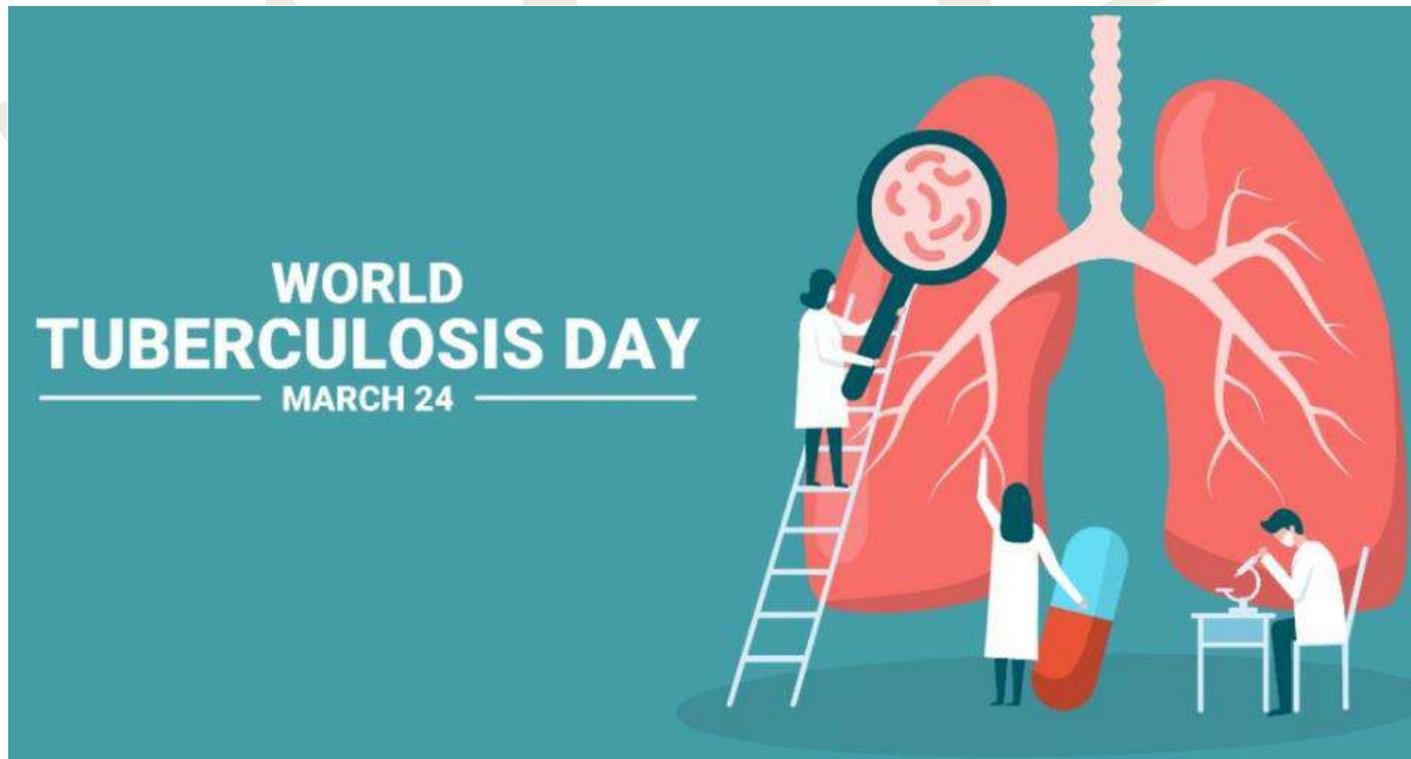
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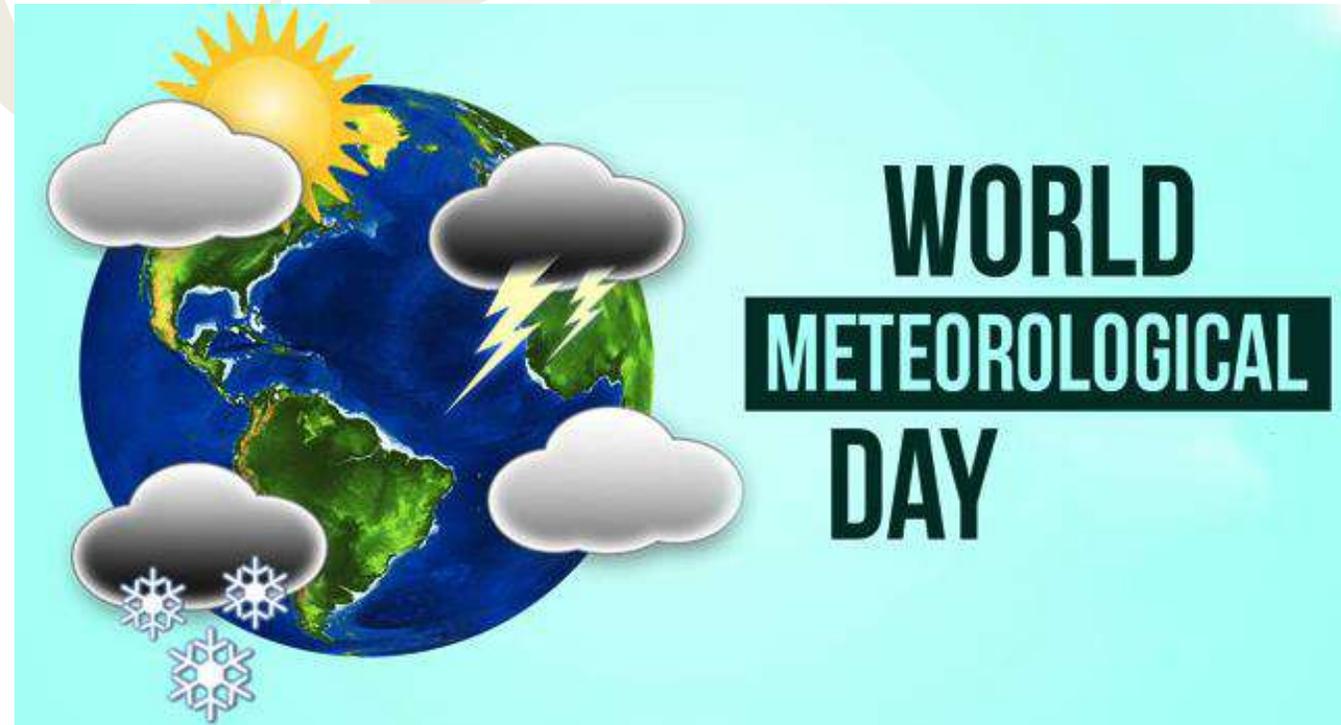
World Tuberculosis Day 2024: March 24th

- World Tuberculosis Day is observed on March 24 every year. It is celebrated to raise awareness about tuberculosis (TB) and to eliminate it.
- Theme of World TB Day 2024- **'Yes!' We can end TB!**
- World Health Organization (WHO) observed the first World Tuberculosis Day on 24 March 1982.
- Tuberculosis is an infection disease that mainly affects the lungs, and this led to 1.3 million deaths in 2022.
- It is caused by bacteria called Mycobacterium tuberculosis. It spreads through the air



World Meteorological Day 2024: March 23rd

- World Meteorological Day is observed on March 23 Every year, to predict weather and climate changes.
- The theme for this year's World Meteorological Day is - **At the Frontline of Climate Action.**
- World Meteorological Day was announced by the World Meteorological Organisation, in a year after being founded in 1950. They wanted to celebrate their foundation day and also spread awareness about the importance of predicting weather and climate changes.
- The World Meteorological Organization aims to help people lead a healthier and prosperous life by predicting weather changes.
- **About World Meteorological Organization:**
- **Founded:** 23 March 1950
- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland
- **President:** Abdulla Al Mandous



59th Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day celebrated in Kathmandu

- The Embassy of India in Kathmandu celebrated the 59th Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day.
- The 59th ITEC Day was being celebrated to recognise the strides made in the India-Nepal capacity-building partnership.
- In the year 2023-2024, 444 professionals from Nepal were trained in different courses in various prominent institutes in India. 30 Engineers of the Government of Nepal are enrolled in a 2-year M-Tech course in streams such as Water Resource Management, Hydrology, Irrigation Water Management etc by IIT Roorkee.
- In this meeting "21 customized courses (specially designed tailor-made courses) were organized for Doctors (50); Government Attorneys (30); Department of Money Laundering Investigation (DMLI) (25); members of the National Judicial Academy of Nepal (15), Nepal Police (180) and Armed Police Force (25) in 6 prominent institutes of India in 2023-2024" .

➤ **About Nepal:**

➤ **Capital:** Kathmandu

➤ **PM:** Pushpa Kamal Dahal

➤ **President:** Ram Chandra Poudel

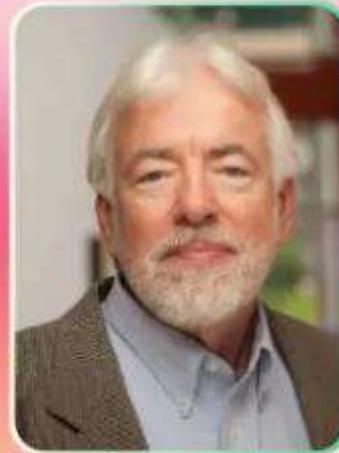
➤ **Currency:** Nepalese Rupee



GLOBAL ○○○○○○○○○○○●
INEQUALITY
RESEARCH AWARD
2024



BINA AGARWAL
University of Manchester's
Global Development
Institute (GDI)



JAMES K. BOYCE
University of Massachusetts
Amherst's Political Economy
Research Institute (PERI)

CO-WINNERS

Bina Agarwal and James Boyce awarded the first “Global Inequality Research Award”

- The 2024 GiRA Prize is jointly awarded to Bina Argawal and James K. Boyce for their groundbreaking work in the field of social and environmental inequalities.
- Bina Agarwal (University of Manchester), an economist, is the author of pioneering work on gender inequalities, environmental governance, ecofeminism and environmental inequalities.
- James K. Boyce (University of Massachusetts Amherst), an economist, is the author of seminal work on the relationship between social inequality and environmental degradation, and has made a major contribution to structuring the field of environmental political economy.
- The World Inequality Lab (WIL) and Sciences Po’s Center for Research on Social Inequalities (CRIS) have joined forces for the first edition of the Global Inequality Research Award (or GiRA), which aims to recognize every two years researchers from all disciplines who have made a significant contribution to the understanding of global inequalities.
- GiRA seeks to acknowledge major scholarship in the field of global inequality understood in two key perspectives:
- First, the perspective of inequality research being done in all corners of the world.
- Second, the perspective of inequality as a complex object that needs light from all angles to be fully grasped, understood and eventually mitigated.

Govind Dholakia appointed as the new chairman of Surat Diamond Bourse (SDB)

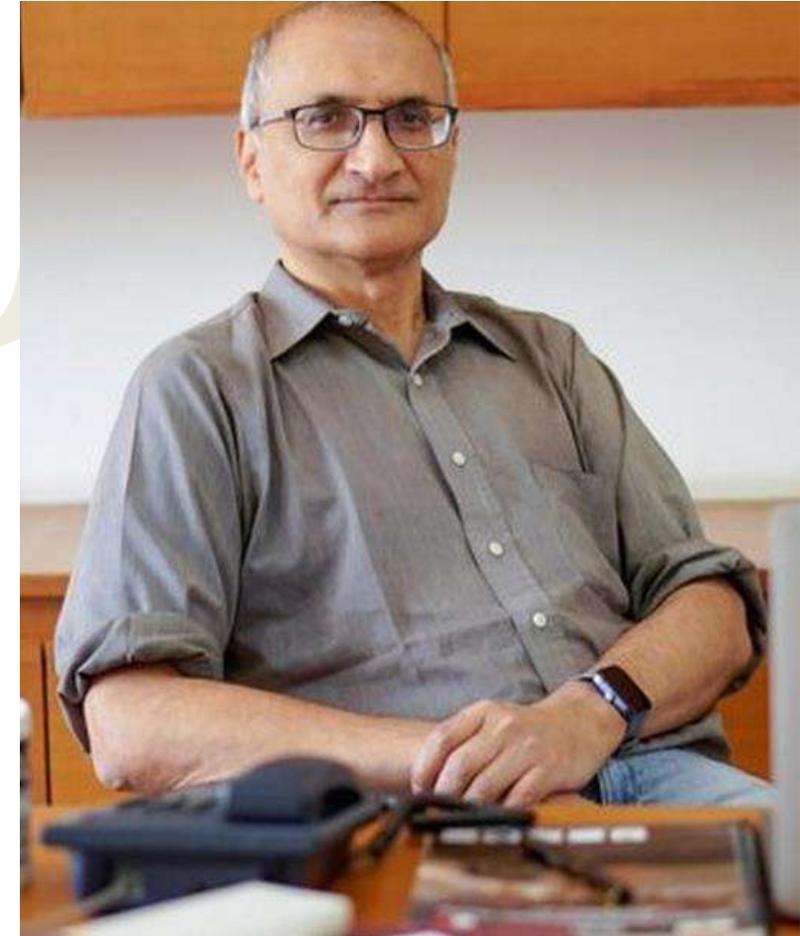
- Diamond Baron Govind Dholakia has been appointed as the new chairman of Surat Diamond Bourse (SDB) for the period of two years and he replaced **Vallabh Lakhani**.
- Dholakia is the founder chairman of **Shree Ramkrishna Exports (SRK)** and was also recently nominated by the BJP as a **Rajya Sabha MP** from the **Gujarath** state.
- Vallabhbhai Patel (Lakhani), owner of Kiran Gems, India's largest exporter of polished diamonds, was the first merchant who shifted his entire trading office setup from Mumbai to Surat at the SDB in November 2023.
- Surat Diamond Bourse (SDB) --- India's second diamond trading hub that was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- **About Surat Diamond Bourse (SDB):**
- **Founded:** 17 December 2023
- **Headquarters:** DREAM City, Khajod, Gujarat.



Govind Dholakia Appointed New Chairman of Surat Diamond Bourse

Asteroid named after Professor Jayant Murthy of Bengaluru

- Bengaluru's Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) said that International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named an asteroid after renowned Indian astrophysicist Jayant Murthy in recognition of his pioneering work in ultraviolet astronomy and space missions.
- The asteroid, previously known as **"2005 EX296"**, has now been designated **"(215884) Jayantmurthy"** in Orbits Mars-Jupiter, 3.3-year revolution.
- Murthy works as a professor of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) in 2021, and he was also the acting director of the institute between July 2018 and October 2019.
- Murthy joins the ranks of previous IIA directors after MK Vainu Bappu and JC Bhattacharyya who have names after asteroids.
- **About Indian Institute of Astrophysics:**
- **Founded:** 1971
- **Headquarters:** Bengalore, Karnataka
- **Director:** Annapurni Subramaniam



Election Commission launched “Saksham” App

- The Election Commission launched the **Saksham App** to facilitate easier voting for person-with disabilities and to avail facilities at Polling Stations.
- This app is pushing for permanent **Assured Minimum Facilities (AMF)** in schools as a gift of election process to the students.
- The Election Commission announced that the voters **above 85 years** of age and **Persons-with-Disabilities (pwd)** with 40 percent benchmark disability can **vote from home**.
- There will also be polling stations managed by persons-with-disabilities, and will exclusively managed by women and Model Polling Stations.
- Further, volunteers and wheelchairs will be available at every polling station. The poll body is also arranging transport facilities for the persons-with-disabilities and elderly.
- **About Election Commission of India:**
- **Founded:** 25 January 1950
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Chief Election Commissioner of India:** Rajiv Kumar (25th)

Saksham App
For दिव्यांगजन

New Voter Card app
Wheel Chair Apply
Pick and drop facility



Saksham-ECI



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
Election Commission of India
Towards Accessible Elections

**Irdai launches
regulations
for insurance
electronic
marketplace
Bima Sugam**

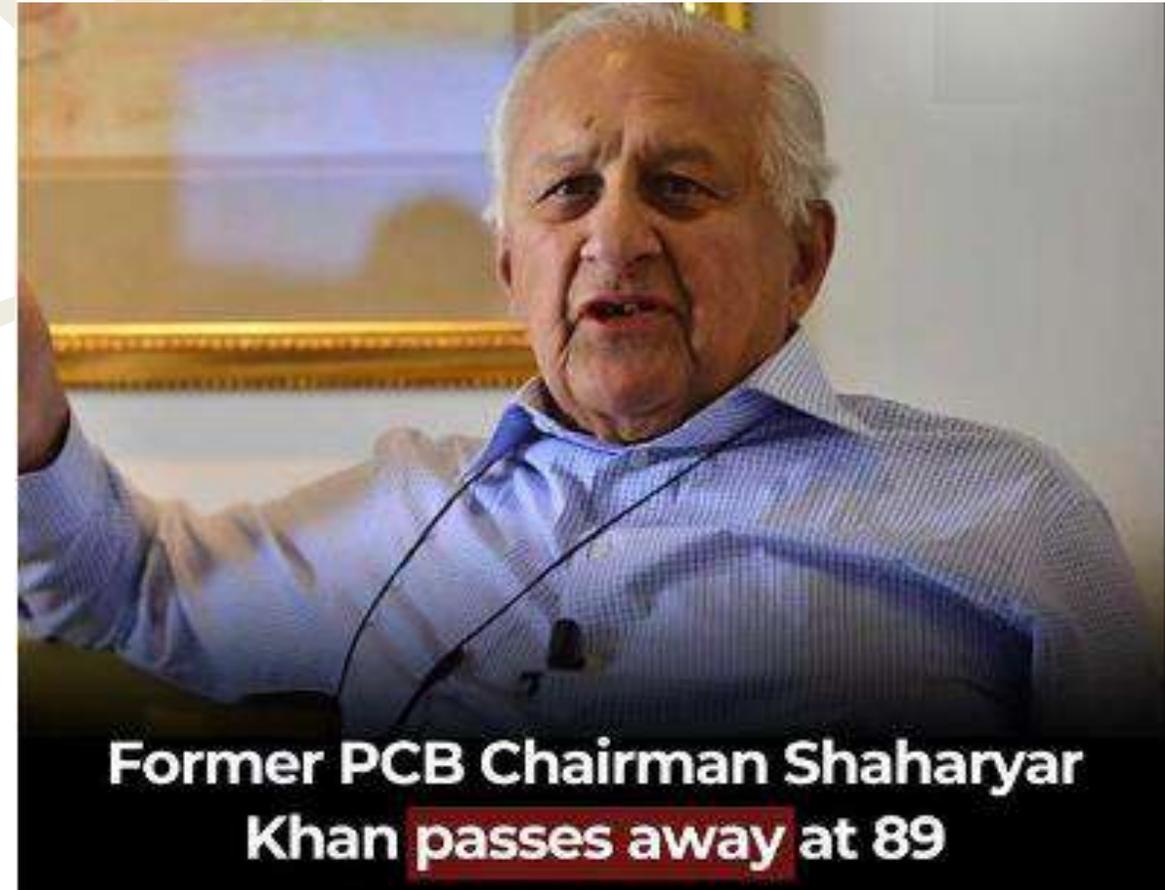


IRDAI approved Bima sugam e-market for 8 regulations

- The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** has approved **eight principle-based regulations** in board meeting.
- The primary ones include Bima Sugam — an online marketplace for insurance policies, product regulations regarding the surrender charges of the insurance policies, and regulations for the protection of policyholders.
- The IRDAI Regulations, 2024 consolidate eight regulations into a unified structure, focusing on several key objectives aimed at ensuring fair treatment of prospects during solicitation and sale of insurance policies and protecting the interests of policyholders throughout their engagement with insurers and distribution channels.
- These regulations emphasise the adoption of standard procedures and best practices by insurers and distribution channels to fulfill their obligations towards policyholders, including grievance redressal and policyholder-centric governance.
- The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** has launched **Bima Sugam** for an online insurance marketplace for **buying, selling, and servicing insurance policies** as well as settling claims.
- According to IRDAI **Insurance for all by 2047**
- **About IRDAI:**
- **Founded:** 1999
- **Headquarters:** Hyderabad, Telangana
- **Chairperson:** Debasish Panda

Former Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Shaharyar Khan Passed away

- **Shaharyar Khan** hailing from **Bhopal**, a distinguished diplomat and former chairman of the **Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)**, passed away at the age of 89.
- Khan, who played a pivotal role in restoring cricket ties between Pakistan and India in the early 2000s.
- He served as **Pakistan's foreign secretary** from **1990 to 1994** and held key diplomatic posts including High Commissioner to India and the United Kingdom.
- Khan's tenure at the helm of the **PCB** spanned from **2003 to 2006** and later from **2014 to 2017**. Under his leadership, Pakistan hosted India for two successful tours, marking a significant milestone in cricketing relations.



Amul takes 'Taste of India' to US with launch of its fresh milk range

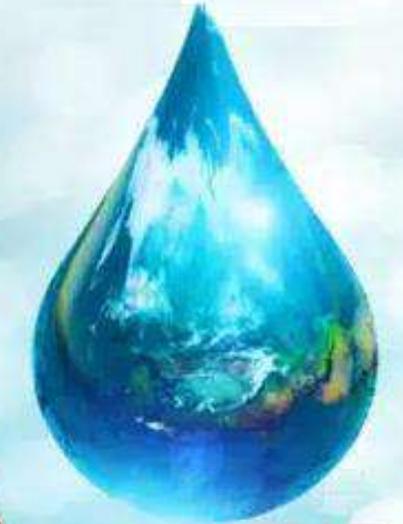
- Renowned dairy brand **Amul**, whose tagline is '**Taste of India**', goes international for the first time and is ready to cater to the people with its range of fresh products in the United States of America (USA).
- **Amul** tied up with a **108-year-old** dairy cooperative in the **US - Michigan Milk Producers Association**.
- "This is for the first time Amul fresh products range will be launched anywhere outside India and in a market like the United States, which has a very strong Indian and Asian diaspora".
- Amul products are exported to more than 50 countries around the world. It has under it 18,000 milk cooperative committees, a network of 36,000 farmers, processing more than 3.5 crore litres of milk per day.
- Amul's entrepreneurial spirit has made it one of the strongest dairy brands in the world. India contributes about 21 per cent to global milk production.
- The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) was created in 1965 in Gujarat and **Verghese Kurien**, widely renowned as the "**Father of White Revolution**" in India, was the first chairman of NDDB.



Rajasthan becomes the 1st state to launch water resource dashboard

- Water resources department (WRD) minister Suresh Singh Rawat inaugurated the State **Water Resources Information System Dashboard** at **Sinchai Bhawan** in **Rajasthan** and Rajasthan is the first state in the country to launch this portal.
- This system has been developed by the **Department of Water Resources** under the **National Hydrology Project** and this portal will help to forecasting drought and better water management based on water availability.
- After launching of dashboard farmers will get the most benefit from getting real-time information about water availability.
- At present, complete data of 805 dams and daily data of 242 dams and live data of 88 dams will be available on the portal.
- **About Rajasthan:**
- **Capital:** Jaipur
- **Chief Minister:** Bhajan Lal Sharma
- **Governor:** Kalraj Mishra

**Rajasthan becomes
the first state in
India to launch a
Water Resources
Information System
Dashboard**



Haryana Agriculture University Scientists discovered new pea disease

- Scientists from **Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar**, have identified a new and potentially devastating disease affecting **pea crops**. Named "**Witches' Broom**," the disease is associated with the pathogen 'Candidatus Phytoplasma asteris'.
- The **American Phytopathological Society (APS), USA**, has accepted and published the report of the ailment by the scientists in its prestigious journal '**Plant Disease**' as the first research report.
- APS is one of the oldest international scientific organizations for the study of plant diseases that publishes world-class publications specifically on plant diseases.
- Vice-Chancellor of the University Dr. B. R. Kamboj said that scientists from the Haryana Agricultural University are the first in the world to discover this disease.
- **About Haryana:**
- **Capital:** Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister:** Nayab Singh Saini
- **Governor:** Bandaru Dattatreya.



ITU

**Names
INDIA CO-CHAIR
of Digital Innovation Board**



International Telecommunication Union (ITU) names India co-chair the Digital Innovation Board

- The **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** names **India** co-chair the **Digital Innovation Board** and represented by Dr. Neeraj Mittal, Secretary of the Indian Department of Telecommunication, and ITU meeting was held in **Geneva**.
- ITU has selected **17 global organizations** to coordinate the efforts of Network Acceleration Centers around the world at the ITU headquarters in New Delhi.
- The Digital Innovation Board consists of telecommunications/ICT ministers from ITU's 23 member states in Asia, Europe, Africa, North and South America.
- ITU has launched the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Alliance for Digital Development to meet the needs of the ITU membership in the area of innovation.
- In this event a bilateral meeting was held between India and Japan. The meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Neeraj Mittal and Hiroshi Yoshida, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan.
- The two leaders proposed active cooperation between the two countries on AI, 5G usage and quantum product certification.
- **About International Telecommunication Union (ITU):**
- **Founded:** 17 May 1865
- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland
- **Secretary-general:** Doreen Bogdan-Martin
- **Parent organization:** United Nations Economic and Social Council.