



30-06-2024 NEWS

29 countries bordering the Pacific Ocean are participating in Naval exercise

- The Indian Navy participated in the world's largest maritime war exercise 'Rim of Pacific' (RIMPAC exercise). 29 countries, 40 ships, 3 warships, more than 150 aircraft and more than 25,000 naval personnel are participating in this exercise in Hawaii.
- India's multipurpose warship INS Shivalik, stationed in the South China Sea and North Pacific Ocean, reached Pearl Harbor to participate in the exercise.

Working of National Testing Agency

- The National Testing Agency (NTA) was formed under the Ministry of Education in 2017 to conduct the entrance examinations conducted by the central government under one umbrella.
- The organization is registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860. It also comes under the ambit of Right to Information.
- Vineeth Joshi was appointed as its first CEO. He is currently serving as the Chief Secretary of Manipur.
- Before the formation of NTA, entrance exams were conducted by University Grants Commission (UGC) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

Recommendation in 1992

- It was recommended under Action Plan 1992 to establish a system for conducting examinations at the national level.
- It is a scheme related to the National Education Policy formulated in 1986.

Examinations conducted by NTA

- NDA conducts entrance exams including Combined Entrance Examination (JEE) for admission to Junior Engineering-Technical courses offered by Central Higher Education Institutions including IIT, NEET and General University Entrance Test (CUET-UG) to qualify for the post of Assistant Professor and NET (National Eligibility Test) to qualify for Central Government-funded research course.
- Also, NTA conducts entrance exams for universities including General Management Admission Test, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Delhi University.

Hierarchy structure

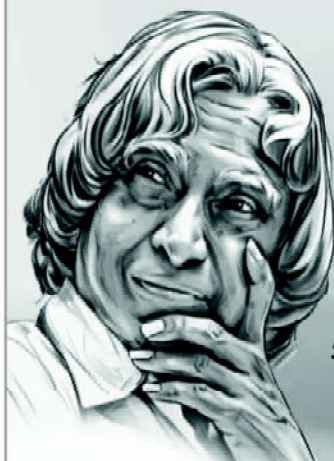
- Subodh Kumar Singh, who was the Director General of NDA, was sacked recently.
- In his place, ITPO Chairman Pradeep Singh Karola has been given additional charge.
- Also, the central government has constituted a committee headed by former ISRO chairman K. Radhakrishnan.

Prime Minister's Gati Shakti project will help India overtake China

- Prime Minister Modi launched the Gati Shakti scheme in 2021 to improve India's infrastructure. According to this, 16 ministries including Railways, Roads, Ports have been merged.
- This project is being implemented at a cost of 100 lakh crores.
- The biggest problem of the country is that newly announced projects are not completed on time and the project cost increases.
- In order to solve this, under the project, various ministries of the central government have been brought under one umbrella and the project work is being accelerated.
- In this way projects are completed on time and people's tax money is prevented from being wasted.
- 101 new ports are being set up across the country through the project. 200 new airports are planned.

Theni district was once known as Ala Nadu

- It has been revealed that Theni district was known as 'Ala Nadu' several hundred years ago.
- In the study of inscriptions at Mayiladumparai Pal Vanna Nathar Temple, a Pandyan inscription dating back to the 13th century AD was found.
- Theni district was known as 'Ala Nadu' in ancient times.
- Later it was divided into several resource states for administrative reasons. Accordingly, today's Varusanadu, the land of Kurinji surrounded by mountains, was then known as Varisai Nadu.
- The Mayiladumparai has been one of the important towns of the Varisai Nadu.
- In this fragmentary inscription of three lines, the old name of the rocky town of Mayiladum is 'Oromis'
- The name of the Lord present there is known as Oromis Varam Udaya Nayanar.
- This inscription indicates that the land was donated to the Lord for making Amudhu daily.



**"If your things are followed having a great aim,
acquiring knowledge, hard work, and perseverance -
then anything can be achieved"**

- APJ Abdul Kalam

