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1. Benjamin Netanyahu comes back to power in Israel (Nov. 4, 2022)

Benjamin Netanyahu comes back to power in Israel

Benjamin Netanyahu is going to become the **Prime Minister of Israel** once again. Netanyahu's party, the **Likud Party**, **won 64** of the 120 seats in the final round of counting held on November 1.

Important facts

- Elections have been held in Israel for the **fifth time** in the last three years, after which a party has returned to power with an absolute majority.
- Netanyahu's right-wing Likud party won 32 seats, his right-wing religious and nationalist bloc won a total of 64 seats in the 120 seat parliament, or **Knesset.**
- Lapid's Yesh Atid party won 24 seats.
- Benjamin Netanyahu, 73, is the **longest-serving prime minister**, having been **elected five times** over the course of 15 years.
- After the counting, his rival and Prime Minister Yair Lapid conceded defeat.

About Israel

- Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu**
- Capital Jerusalem
- President Isaac Herzog
- Currency Israeli shekel
- Official Languages Hebrew; Arabic

2. Bhutan Army Chief Lt Gen Batoo Tshering meets Indian Army chief General Pande during his visit to India (Nov. 3, 2022)

Bhutan Army Chief Lt Gen Batoo

The visiting Bhutanese Army Chief officially known as Chief Operations Officer, Royal Bhutan Army **Lt Gen Batoo Tshering** met his Indian counterpart, Indian Army Chief General Manoj Pande. He also met the defence secretary Giridhar Aramane in New Delhi.

Lt Gen Batoo Tshering was on an official visit to India from 28 October to 02 November 2022. Eralier in the month of July this year the Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande visited Bhutan.

India Bhutan Special military Relationship

Corporate Address: A102, A Block, Sector 58, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301

India and Bhutan share a special relationship and it is governed by the Treaty **of Friendship** and Cooperation of 1949 signed between the two countries and updated during the visit to India of Bhutan's King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck in February 2007.

Under the treaty India is responsible for Bhutanese security.

For this purpose India has stationed its **Indian Military Training Team** in Bhutan to provide training to Bhutanese security forces.

Regular India-Bhutan security and border management meetings take place between the two countries to discuss a number of key issues, including threat perceptions, security and border management issues.

Kingdom of Bhutan

King of Bhutan: Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck

Prime Minister: Lotay Tshering

Capital: Thimphu

Currency: **ngultrum**

Bhutan is known as "Druk Yul," or "Land of the Thunder Dragon".

3. SEWA founder and Gandhian Elaben Bhatt passes away (Nov. 3, 2022)

Elaben Bhatt passes away

Elaben Bhatt, 89, noted Gandhian, leading women's empowerment activist, and **founder of the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA**) died on 2 November, 2022 in Ahmedabad.

Important facts

- She has been honoured with **Padma Bhushan**, **Ramon Magsaysay Award**, **Indira Gandhi Peace Prize** along with many other national and international awards.
- She has been recognized globally as a women leader.
- She founded many institutions and carried out pioneering work in organising the informal sector for self-employment and empowerment of women not only in India but across South Asia.
- She was the Chairperson of **Sabarmati Ashram** and recently resigned as the Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi-founded Gujarat Vidhyapith.
- In 2007, she became part of a group of world leaders called the **Elders, founded by Nelson Mandela** to promote human rights and peace around the world.
- She was also a member of the **Rajya Sabha** and the **Planning Commission** of India in the 1980s.
- She also served as an advisor to the World Bank and addressed the United Nations General Assembly.

- She founded **SEWA in 1972**, one of the largest cooperatives working for women, with over two million members from around 18 states and neighbouring countries.
- Elaben was born on **September 7, 1933** in Ahmedabad in a family that was involved in social work.

4. CRPF for the first time appoints Women officer to the post of Inspector General (Nov. 2, 2022)

CRPF Women officer

For the first time, India's largest paramilitary force Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has promoted two women officers to the rank of Inspector General .An IG is the head of a sector in CRPF.

Annie Abraham has been appointed as the IG of Rapid Action Force (RAF), while **Seema Dhundia** has been posted as IG of the Bihar Sector. Both the officers were inducted in CRPF in 1987.

Both the officers have also commanded an all-women Indian police contingent at the United Nations. They have also been decorated with the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service, Police Medal for Meritorious Service and the 'Ati Utkrisht Sewa Padak' during their service.

The **Rapid Action Force** (RAF) is a specialised anti-riot force of the CRPF. It is deployed to assist state police forces for heavy crowd management and also during VIP visits.

The Bihar Sector of CRPF commands about four battalions that are deployed for anti-Naxal operations and other law and order duties, apart from some RAF units and **Cobra** (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action) units that specialises in jungle warfare.

CRPF is the largest Central Armed Police Force under the Union Home Ministry. It was set up in 1939 as Crown Representative Police.

The CRPF was the first Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) to induct women in combat in 1986. It has six such battalions at present with women constables filling more than 6,000 posts.

Director General of CRPF: <u>Sujoy Lal Thaosen</u>

5. Sanjeev Chopra assumes charge as Secretary, Dept of Food and Public Distribution (Nov. 2, 2022)

Sanjeev Chopra

Sanjeev Chopra has assumed charge as the Secretary, Department of Food and Public Distribution with effect from 31 October 2022. He is a 1990 batch IAS officer of Odisha cadre.

Important facts

 Sanjeev Chopra completed his B Com Honours and MBA from FMS, Delhi University. Later, he completed his LLB from Utkal University Bhubaneswar and MSc from the London School of Economics & Political Science. He started his career as Sub Collector in Baripada (Odisha).

- He served as District Collector and District Magistrate in Koraput, Odisha from 1995 to 1997.
- He served as Director/Deputy Secretary in the Department of Technical Education and Training during 1999-2000.
- He served as the Managing Director of State Co-operative Banks during 2000-2004.
- He has also served as Secretary in departments like Industry, General Administration, Agriculture and Home.
- He has been awarded the National e-Governance Award by the Government of India for Excellence in Government Process Re-engineering for Digital Transformation in the year 2020 and 2021.

6. Independent India's first voter Shyam Saran Negi exercise his franchise in Himachal Poll (Nov. 2, 2022)

Shyam Saran Negi

106 years old **Shyam Saran Negi** of Himachal Pradesh exercised his right to franchise and voted for the **34th time** in his life on 2 November 2022.

Shyam Saran Negi who is the first voter of the Independent India voted in the 14th Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha elections through postal ballot at his home in Kalpa, Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh.

Born in July 1917, Shyam Saran Negi voted for the first time in 1951 in general elections of India and has voted for sixteen times in Lok Sabha Elections.

He is also a state election icon since 2014.

A teacher by profession, the centenarian has voted in every election since 1951 and has never missed an opportunity to vote.

The election to constitute the 14th Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha will be held on 12 November 2022.

The Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly has 68 seats.

Postal Ballot

As the name suggests special ballot papers are issued to designated persons by the Election commission of India and the voters have to send the ballot paper back to the returning officer before the counting of the vote's starts in the constituency.

.According to the Election Commission of India following Persons are entitled to vote by post:

- Special voter's .It includes Persons with Disability, senior citizens above the age of 80 years and covid-19 positive patient,
- Service voters (Armed Forces personnel, paramilitary personnel)
- Voters on election duty and;
- Voters who are in jail and held under the preventive detention provision of law.

The colour of the postal ballot is Pink.

7. Jamshed J Irani, 'steel man of India', dies at 86 (Nov. 1, 2022)

steel man of India,

Jamshed J Irani, known as the **steel man of India**, died in Jamshedpur on 31 October. He was 86.

Important facts

- Irani is survived by his wife Daisy Irani and their three children, Zubin, Nilofar and Tanaaz.
- He was awarded the **Lifetime Achievement Award** by the Government of India in **2008** for his services in the field of metallurgy.
- Born on 2 June 1936 in Nagpur to Jiji Irani and Khorsed Irani, Dr. Irani completed BSc from Science College, Nagpur in 1956 and MSc in Geology from Nagpur University in 1958.
- He then went to the University of Sheffield in the UK, where he earned a Masters in Metallurgy in 1960 and a PhD in Metallurgy in 1963.
- He began his professional career with the **British Iron and Steel Research Association** in Sheffield in 1963.
- Irani retired from the board of Tata Steel in June 2011, leaving behind a legacy of 43 years and has brought the company international reputation in various fields.
- Jamshed J Irani joined the Board of Tata Steel and also served as non-executive director from 2001 for a decade.
- He also served as a director of several Tata Group companies which include Tata Motors and Tata Teleservices.
- He also served as the National President of the Confederation of Indian Industry in 1992-93.
- He was honoured with several awards including **Padma Bhushan** in 2007 for his contribution to the industry.

8. Giridhar Aramane assumes the office of Defence Secretary (Nov. 1, 2022)

Giridhar Aramane

Giridhar Aramane, a 1988-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Andhra Pradesh cadre, assumed the office of Defence Secretary on 1 November, 2022.

Important facts

• In his 32 years of experience in the IAS, Armane has held several important positions in the Central Government as well as in the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

- He will take over the top post after **Ajay Kumar** retires at the end of October.
- Prior to his current assignment, Armane was Secretary in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- He was Additional Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat.
- Apart from the Cabinet Secretariat, he looked after the Exploration Division in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and was the Executive Director in charge of Inspection in the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority.
- In the Andhra Pradesh Government, He had served as Principal Secretary in Urban Development Department, Managing Director of State Finance Corporation and Secretary (Finance Department).
- Armane has done B Tech in Civil Engineering from Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad and M Tech from IIT, Madras.
- He has also done MA (Economics) from Kakatiya University, Warangal.

9. Amrit Lal Meena Assumes Charge as Coal Secretary (Nov. 1, 2022)

Coal Secretary

Amrit Lal Meena took over the charge of the post of **Secretary, Ministry of Coal** on 1 November, 2022.

Important facts

- Prior to assuming the present post, Amrit Lal Meena, (a 1989 Bihar cadre IAS officer), was holding the charge of Special Secretary (Logistics), Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Amrit Lal Meena replaces Dr. Anil Kumar Jain, who retired as Coal Secretary on 31 October.
- Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech) in Electrical Engineering from Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur, Meena did his Post-Graduation Diploma in Public Policy and Management from IIM, Bangalore.
- He had served as District Magistrate in five districts of the state of Bihar for more than nine years.
- He worked in various departments including Rural Development, Urban Development, Building Corporation as Secretary in the Government of Bihar.
- He also worked as Principal Secretary and Additional Chief Secretary in the Road Construction Department, Government of Bihar.

10. Union Minister Hardeep Puri attends the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition & Conference (Oct. 31, 2022)

Union Minister Hardeep Puri

Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Housing and Urban Affairs **Hardeep Singh Puri** attended the Opening Ceremony of the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition &
Conference (ADIPEC-2022) on 31 October 2022 at **Abu Dhabi**. United Arab Emirates.

Hosted by ADNOC(Abu Dhabi National Oil Company), ADIPEC is one the world's leading events of the energy industry and aims to provide insights on the latest trends affecting an evolving global energy system including the global economy, energy supply as well as next generation of energy solutions.

Mr Singh who was on a day visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) held bilateral discussion with his counterparts from UAE, **Suhail Mohamed Faraj Al Mazrouei**, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, and **Dr. Sultan Ahmad Al Jaber**, Minister of Industry & Advanced Technology, MD & Group CEO, ADNOC, to strengthen energy cooperation within the overall framework of India-UAE Strategic Partnership.

The Minister also inaugurated the India Pavilion, set up jointly by Federation of Indian Petroleum Industry (FIPI) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

India- UAE Trade Relations

- UAE is an important trade partner of India with which India has a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement to promote free trade in goods and services.
- UAE is the third largest trading partner of India after China and the United States.
- UAE is the second largest export market for India after the United States.
- UAE was the second largest source of imports for India after China. The US is the third largest source of imports.
- India ranks as the UAE's number one trading partner for non-oil exports, accounting for nearly 14 percent of the UAE's total non-oil exports globally.

United Arab Emirate (UAE)

- It is a federation of seven Emirates of Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Khaimah, Ajmain, Fujairah, Umm -Al-Quwain. It is an Arabian country.
- Abu Dhabi is the largest of the emirates and is the centre of UAE oil business.
- It is situated in the West Asia /Middle East region of the world in the Arabian Peninsula.
- UAE in its present form came into existence in 1971.

Capital of UAE: Abu Dhabi

Currency: Emirati Dirham

President of UAE: **Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan**. He is the king of Abu Dhabi.