



Current Affairs

16 Dec, 2024

Vinay Kumar Appointed New DGP of Bihar





1. Vinay Kumar Appointed New DGP of Bihar

Vinay Kumar has been appointed as the new Director General of Police (DGP) of Bihar, bringing with him a wealth of experience in law enforcement. His leadership is expected to strengthen policing and enhance public safety across the state. As DGP, he aims to focus on crime prevention, efficient law enforcement, and maintaining communal harmony. Kumar's appointment signals the state's commitment to ensuring robust security measures and fostering trust between the police and citizens.



Foot notes:

- Vinay Kumar has over 33 years of professional service, with a strong track record of leadership and administration. He has held critical roles such as Superintendent of Police in key districts and senior positions at police headquarters.
- Kumar is an IIT Kharagpur alumnus and was raised in a family that valued education. His father, Ram Iqbal Shukla, was a teacher, and Kumar pursued his early education locally before moving to Patna for advanced studies.
- Kumar's tenure as DGP will span a minimum of two years, as per a Supreme Court mandate. He is expected to bring new dynamism to Bihar's police force, with a focus on experienced leadership to drive law enforcement reforms and public safety measures forward.
- Before becoming DGP, Kumar held the post of Additional Director General (ADG) of the Crime Department. He has also served as ADG Law and Order and ADG CID, with notable achievements in strategic execution and impactful results.

- As DG-cum-CMD of the Bihar Police Building Construction Corporation, Kumar spearheaded significant infrastructure projects, showcasing his ability to manage complex initiatives.

About Bihar:

Capital: Patna

Chief Minister: Nitish Kumar

Governor: Rajendra Arlekar

2. Google Appointed Preeti Lobana as New Country Manager for India

Google has appointed Preeti Lobana as the new Country Manager for India, marking a significant leadership transition in one of its key markets. With her extensive experience in the technology sector, she is expected to drive Google's strategic initiatives and strengthen its presence in India. Lobana will focus on fostering innovation, enhancing user engagement, and expanding Google's services across the country. Her appointment underscores Google's commitment to empowering India's digital growth and supporting its diverse user base.



Foot notes:

- As Country Manager, Lobana will spearhead Google India's sales and operations, driving the company's commitment to the burgeoning digital economy in the country.
- She brings over 30 years of experience in senior leadership roles across the technology and financial industries, with a deep understanding of the evolving Indian landscape.
- Lobana has been associated with Google for the last eight years, serving as Vice President, gTech - Process, Partner, Publisher Operations, Ads Content, and Quality Operations.
- She will partner deeply with Roma Datta Chobey, who led as the interim country manager, and will continue her leadership as Managing Director for Google India's Digital Native Industries.
- Lobana's leadership will focus on leveraging AI advancements to accelerate digital inclusion and unlock unprecedented economic opportunities for every Indian.

About Google:

CEO: Sundar Pichai

Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin

Founded: 1998

3. Mumbai Won Second Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy Title

Mumbai clinched their second Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy title, showcasing their dominance in domestic T20 cricket. The team delivered a stellar performance throughout the tournament, backed by consistent batting and disciplined bowling. In the final, Mumbai displayed resilience and strategic gameplay to secure a memorable victory. This win further cements Mumbai's legacy in Indian cricket as a powerhouse across formats.



Foot notes:

- The final was played at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru, where Madhya Pradesh set a target of 174/8 in 20 overs, with Rajat Patidar scoring an unbeaten 81 off 40 balls.
- Mumbai chased down the target with ease, scoring 180/5 in 17.5 overs, thanks to Suryakumar Yadav's 48 off 35 balls and Suryansh Shedge's unbeaten 36 off 15 balls.
- Mumbai's first Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy title came in 2022, when they defeated Himachal Pradesh by three wickets in the final.
- The Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy is a domestic Twenty20 cricket championship in India, organized by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), featuring 38 teams from the Ranji Trophy.
- Suryansh Shedge was awarded the Player of the Match for his crucial knock, while Ajinkya Rahane was named the Player of the Tournament.
- This win marks Mumbai's second Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy title, with Tamil Nadu being the most successful team, having won the trophy three times.

4. India Clinches Women's Junior Asia Cup 2024

India has won the Women's Junior Asia Cup 2024, marking a historic achievement in women's hockey. The team delivered an outstanding performance throughout the tournament, demonstrating skill, teamwork, and determination. Their victory in the final highlights the growing strength of Indian women's hockey at the international level. This triumph not only boosts the confidence of the team but also sets a strong foundation for future successes in global competitions.



Foot notes:

- The final was played at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Muscat, Oman, where India and China were tied 1-1 at the end of regular time, leading to a penalty shootout.

- India's goalkeeper Nidhi made three crucial saves in the penalty shootout, while Ishika, Sakshi Rana, and Sunelita Toppo scored for India, securing a 3-2 win.
- Deepika, India's star player, finished as the top scorer of the tournament with 12 goals, including five from penalty corners.
- India dominated Pool A, securing significant victories over Malaysia, Bangladesh, and Thailand, before defeating Japan 3-1 in the semi-finals.
- This win also secured India's place in the 2025 FIH Women's Junior Hockey World Cup in Chile, along with China, Japan, South Korea, and Malaysia.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the team on their victory, praising their grit, determination, and passion for hockey.

5. Indian men's team secured 5th place in World Team Squash Championship 2024

The Indian men's squash team finished in 5th place at the 2024 World Team Squash Championship. The team showcased impressive performances throughout the tournament, competing against top international teams. Their strong teamwork and individual skills helped them secure a place among the top five. This achievement highlights the growth of squash in India and the team's dedication. The result is a significant milestone for Indian squash on the global stage.



Foot notes:

- The team defeated hosts Hong Kong China 2-0 in the playoffs to finish fifth, with Velavan Senthilkumar and Abhay Singh delivering impressive performances.
- Velavan, ranked 45th in the squash world rankings, came from behind to beat world No. 44 Henry Leung 3-2 (12-10, 8-11, 5-11, 11-1, 11-8) in a thrilling match.
- Abhay Singh, ranked 54th, fended off world No. 40 Alex Lau in the tight opening game before cruising through the match to win it 3-0 (12-10, 11-7, 11-4).
- The Indian men's team had a remarkable run, finishing second in their group and defeating Malaysia to reach the quarterfinals, where they lost to France.
- The Indian men's and women's squads were named the "most improved team" at the tournament, a testament to their hard work and dedication.
- This 5th-place finish is India's best-ever result in the World Team Squash Championship, a milestone achievement for the team and Indian squash.

6. Hardeep Singh appointed as State General Secretary of the All India Consumer Welfare Council

Hardeep Singh has been appointed as the State General Secretary of the All India Consumer Welfare Council (Para), marking a significant step in strengthening the

organization's leadership. In this role, he will focus on advocating for consumer rights and addressing grievances to ensure fair practices in the marketplace. His appointment reflects the council's commitment to promoting transparency, accountability, and awareness among consumers.

Foot notes:



- As State General Secretary, Hardeep Singh will play a crucial role in leading the All India Consumer Welfare Council's efforts to protect consumer rights and promote consumer welfare in the state.
- The council's primary objective is to safeguard consumer interests and ensure that consumers receive fair treatment in the marketplace. Hardeep Singh's experience and expertise will be invaluable in driving this mission forward.
- As a key member of the council, Hardeep Singh will have the opportunity to shape consumer protection policies and advocate for consumer-friendly laws and regulations.
- The council works closely with various stakeholders, including government agencies, consumer organizations, and businesses. Hardeep Singh's appointment will help strengthen these partnerships and foster greater collaboration.
- Through education, awareness, and advocacy, the council aims to empower consumers to make informed choices and demand their rights. Hardeep Singh's leadership will be instrumental in achieving this goal.

7. Chennai's Lalitha Cherukumudi Won Mrs Universe Colorado 2025

Lalitha Cherukumudi from Chennai has won the prestigious title of Mrs. Universe Colorado 2025, showcasing her grace and talent on an international platform. Her achievement highlights her dedication and commitment to representing India with pride. The competition celebrated her poise, confidence, and ability to inspire, making her a standout contestant. Lalitha's victory is a testament to her hard work and a moment of pride for her supporters back home.



Foot notes:

- Lalitha Cherukumudi, hailing from Chennai, has put her city on the global map with her remarkable win.
- As a techie in the US, Lalitha has shown that she's not just about coding and software, but also about elegance and poise.
- The award is a testament to her hard work, dedication, and passion for making a difference in the world.

- Lalitha's win is an inspiration to many young women in India and around the world, showing them that they can achieve their dreams with perseverance and determination.
- As Mrs Universe Colorado 2025, Lalitha will have a platform to raise awareness about social causes and make a positive impact on her community.
- Lalitha's achievement is a matter of pride for India, showcasing the country's talent and beauty on a global stage.

8. Ashwini Bhide appointed Principal Secretary to Maharashtra Chief Minister

Ashwini Bhide has been appointed as the Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, highlighting her exemplary administrative credentials. Known for her innovative approach and efficiency, she is expected to play a key role in driving the government's strategic initiatives. Her appointment comes at a crucial time, aiming to ensure seamless coordination between various departments and the Chief Minister's Office. With her extensive experience, Bhide is poised to contribute significantly to Maharashtra's governance and development agenda.



Foot notes:

- Bhide's appointment was made on December 13, 2024, by the Maharashtra government.
- She will continue to hold her current charge as Managing Director of the Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation until further orders.
- Bhide replaces Brijesh Singh, an IPS officer who was appointed as Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister in February 2023.
- Ashwini Bhide has been serving as the Managing Director of Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation since 2015.
- As Principal Secretary, she will be responsible for handling the day-to-day affairs of the Chief Minister's office and advising the CM on important policy matters.
- Bhide's appointment is significant, as she is a senior IAS officer with extensive experience in administration and governance.

About Maharashtra:

Chief Minister: Devendra Fadnavis

Governor: C. P. Radhakrishnan

Capital: Mumbai

9. TG Transco bags award for best State Load Dispatch Centre

Telangana State Transmission Corporation (TG Transco) has won the prestigious award for the Best State Load Dispatch Centre, recognizing its excellence in managing power grid operations. The award highlights TG Transco's efficient real-time monitoring, load balancing, and seamless integration of renewable energy sources. This achievement underscores the organization's commitment to ensuring uninterrupted power supply and maintaining grid stability. TG Transco's innovative practices and adoption of advanced technology have set a benchmark in the power sector across India.



Foot notes:

- The award was given in the category of Best State Load Dispatch Centre, which recognizes the SLDC's efforts in ensuring reliable and efficient power supply to the state.
- The award was judged based on various parameters such as grid stability, peak demand management, and renewable energy integration.
- The State Load Dispatch Centre plays a crucial role in managing the power grid, ensuring that supply meets demand, and maintaining grid stability.
- TG Transco has made significant strides in improving the power infrastructure in Telangana, including the establishment of a state-of-the-art SLDC.
- The award is a recognition of TG Transco's efforts in providing reliable and efficient power supply to the state, and its commitment to excellence in power transmission and distribution.

10. Padma Bhushan Ustad Zakir Hussain passed away

Padma Bhushan Ustad Zakir Hussain, the legendary tabla maestro, has passed away, leaving behind an unparalleled legacy in Indian classical music. Renowned globally for his virtuosity and innovation, he was a cultural icon who bridged traditional and contemporary music. His contributions to world music and collaborations with artists across genres earned him numerous accolades, including the Padma Bhushan. Ustad Zakir Hussain's demise marks the end of an era, but his music will continue to inspire generations.



Foot notes:

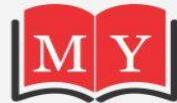
- Ustad Zakir Hussain passed away on Sunday, December 15, at the age of 73, leaving behind a legacy of incredible music and unforgettable performances.

- He had been hospitalized for two weeks in a San Francisco hospital and was moved to the ICU as his condition worsened due to complications from idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.
- With a career spanning over six decades, Hussain elevated the tabla to an international stage, blending tradition with innovation and collaborating with renowned artists from around the world.
- He was a recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Padma Shri (1988), Padma Bhushan (2002), and Padma Vibhushan (2023), as well as four Grammy Awards and seven nominations.
- Hussain's influence on Indian classical music is immeasurable, and his contributions to the genre have inspired generations of musicians and music lovers alike.

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