




11 December 2024

National and International News

<p>Person in news: Sanjay Malhotra</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Centre appointed Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra as the 26th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, just a day before the current Governor Shaktikanta Das's six-year term concludes. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RBI Governor is appointed under the authority of the RBI Act, 1934. The Central Government is responsible for the appointment. The Financial Sector Regulatory Appointment Search Committee includes the Cabinet Secretary, the current RBI Governor, the Financial Services Secretary, and two independent members. This committee prepares a list of eligible candidates. Shortlisted candidates are interviewed, and the list is sent to the Cabinet Committee on Appointments, headed by the Prime Minister, for final confirmation. Tenure: The Governor holds office for a term not exceeding five years, with the term determined by the government at the time of appointment. The RBI Governor's term is initially set at three years but can be extended by two more years if required. The term may end in two ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the President of India decides to remove the Governor. If the Governor chooses to resign and submits their resignation to the President. The Governor is eligible for reappointment or extension of their tenure. The RBI Act, 1934, does not specify any particular qualifications for the Governor.
<p>PM POSHAN scheme</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Centre has stated that it will cover the additional ₹425.62 crore cost in FY 2024-25 due to inflation in food material prices under the centrally sponsored PM POSHAN Scheme. <p>Key Points:</p>



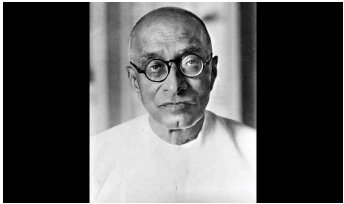
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was earlier known as the National Programme of Mid-Day Meal in schools. • In September 2021, Mid-Day Meal Scheme was renamed as Pradhan Mantri POSHAN Scheme. • It is a centrally sponsored scheme under which one hot cooked meal is served to students studying in Balvatika and classes I to VIII, in Government and Government-aided schools on all school-days. • The scheme aims at providing nutritional support and enhancing school participation of students. • The objectives of the Scheme are to address two of the pressing problems for the majority of children in India, viz. hunger and education by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improving the nutritional status of eligible children in Government and Government aided schools. ○ Encouraging poor children, belonging to disadvantaged sections, to attend school more regularly and help them concentrate on classroom activities. ○ Providing nutritional support to children of the elementary stage in drought-affected and disaster affected areas during summer vacation. • Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Education
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<p>National Human Rights Day</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced and addressed the Human Rights Day celebration, organised by the National Human Rights Commission, in New Delhi. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is a statutory body in India, established under the provisions of the Protection of Human Rights Act of 1993. • Thus, it is not a constitutional body. • It serves as the watchdog of human rights in the country. • It is tasked with safeguarding rights relating to life, liberty, equality, and dignity of individuals, which are guaranteed by the Constitution of India and embodied in the international covenants. • The Headquarters of the National Human Rights Commission is in New Delhi. • The Commission can also establish offices in other places in India. • The specific objectives of the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To strengthen the institutional arrangements through which human rights issues could be addressed in their entirety in a more focussed
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	<p>manner,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To look into the allegations of excesses, independently of the government, in a manner that would underline the government’s commitment to protect human rights, ○ To complement and strengthen the efforts that have already been made in this direction.
<p>Person in news: C. Rajagopalachari</p> 	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On the occasion of his birth anniversary, Lok Sabha Speaker Shri Om Birla paid floral tributes to Bharat Ratna Shri Chakravarti Rajagopalachari in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chakravarti Rajagopalachari, popularly known as Rajaji, was born on December 10th in 1878. ● He studied law from the Presidency College in Madras (now Chennai), and began practice in Salem in the year 1900. ● In 1916, he formed the Tamil Scientific Terms Society, an organisation that translated scientific terms of chemistry, physics, mathematics, astronomy and biology into simple Tamil words. ● In 1955, he was honoured with India’s highest civilian award Bharat Ratna. ● Political Career: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ He joined the Indian National Congress and acted as a legal advisor. ○ In 1939, Rajagopalachari took a step to abolish untouchability and caste prejudice and issued the Madras Temple Entry Authorisation and Indemnity Act. ○ In 1947, during the absence of Lord Mountbatten, the last British viceroy and independent India’s first Governor General, Rajagopalachari was temporarily chosen to hold the office. ○ Rajagopalachari was made Home Affairs Minister after the death of Sardar Patel in 1950. ○ In 1959, he resigned from the Indian National Congress and founded the Swatantra Party.
<p>New Policy Initiatives in Agriculture Sector</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recently, the various schemes/ programmes of the Government of India were introduced for the welfare of farmers by increasing production, remunerative returns and income support to farmers. <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The new Government the Union Cabinet has approved



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following programmes,

- **Clean plant Programme:** The CPP aims to enhance the quality and productivity of horticulture crops by providing disease free planting material and will benefit dissemination and adoption of climate resilient varieties, with yield enhancement.
- **Digital Agriculture Mission:** The Mission is conceived as an umbrella scheme to support digital agriculture initiatives, such as creating Digital Public Infrastructure, implementing the Digital General Crop Estimation Survey (DGCES), and taking up other IT initiatives by the Central Government, State Governments, and Academic and Research Institutions.
- **Progressive expansion of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund Scheme:** Expanded scope includes allowing individual eligible beneficiaries for creation of infrastructure covered under 'viable projects for building community farming assets', integrated processing projects, convergence of PM Kusum 'A'.
- **National Mission on Edible Oils – Oilseeds (NMEO-Oilseeds):** It aims to boost domestic oilseed production and achieve self-reliance in edible oils. The Mission will be implemented over a seven-year period, from 2024-25 to 2030-31.
- **National Mission on Natural Farming:** The Union Cabinet approved the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) on 25.11.2024 as a standalone Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

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