



14 Aug 2024

National and International News

<p>National Institutional Ranking Framework 2024</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently, the Union Minister for Education released the India Rankings 2024, which are based on the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF). The NIRF was established by the Ministry of Education in 2015 to assess and rank educational institutions across India. <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retains 1st position in the Overall Category for the sixth consecutive year (2019-2024). Tops in Engineering for the ninth consecutive year (2016-2024). Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ranks 1st in the Universities Category for the ninth consecutive year (2016-2024). Tops the Research Institutions Category for the fourth consecutive year (2021-2024). Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad: Maintains 1st position in Management subjects for the fifth consecutive year (2020-2024). All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi: Occupies the top slot in Medical for the seventh consecutive year (2018-2024). Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi: Tops the ranking in Pharmacy for 2024. National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru: Retains 1st position in Law.
<p>Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs)</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NCERT evaluation of 254 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) identified several challenges, including a lack of transparency in fund utilization, weak infrastructure, a shortage of teachers, low salaries, and concerns over student safety. <p>About KGBVs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch and Purpose:



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Launched by the Government of India in August 2004. ○ Aims to set up residential schools at the upper primary level for girls from disadvantaged groups such as SC, ST, OBC, and Minority Communities in difficult areas. ● Target areas include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Concentration of tribal populations. ○ Low female literacy and/or large numbers of girls out of school. ○ Concentration of SC, OBC, and minority populations. ○ Areas with small, scattered habitations that do not qualify for a school. ● Reservation and Priority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 75% of seats reserved for girls belonging to SC, ST, OBC, or minority communities. ○ Remaining 25% prioritized for girls from families below the poverty line. ● Integration and Upgradation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Merged with Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) during the 12th Plan (effective from April 1, 2007). ○ SSA has been absorbed into the Integrated Scheme of School Education - Samagra Shiksha (effective from 2018-19). ○ KGBVs are upgraded to include senior secondary level education with a capacity of 150-250 girls, in convergence with the Girls Hostel Scheme.
<p>Model Solar Village</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy recently notified the Scheme Guidelines for implementing the 'Model Solar Village' under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana. <p>About Model Solar Village:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Objective: Create one Model Solar Village per district across India to promote solar energy adoption and enable village communities to become self-reliant in meeting their energy needs. ● Eligibility Criteria:



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Village must be a revenue village. ○ Population size requirement: Above 5,000 (or 2,000 for special category states). ● Implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Carried out by the State/UT Renewable Energy Development Agency. ○ Supervised by the District Level Committee (DLC).
<p>Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) Attack</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elon Musk reported a "massive DDOS attack" on X, which disrupted the airing of his interview with former US President Donald Trump. <p>About DDoS Attack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A DDoS (Distributed Denial of Service) attack is a malicious attempt to disrupt the normal traffic of a targeted server, service, or network by overwhelming it with a flood of Internet traffic. ● Objective: The primary goal is to prevent legitimate users from accessing connected online services and sites. ● Methodology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DDoS attacks achieve their effectiveness by utilizing multiple compromised computer systems, including IoT devices, as sources of attack traffic. ○ Unlike other cyberattacks, DDoS assaults don't aim to breach the security perimeter but to make websites and servers unavailable to legitimate users.
<p>INS Arighat</p>	<p>Why in the news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● India is preparing to commission its second nuclear-powered submarine, INS Arighat, which will be equipped with nuclear missiles for strategic deterrence. <p>About INS Arighat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Second Indigenously Built SSBN: It is India's second indigenously built nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine (SSBN), following INS Arihant, which was commissioned in 2018.



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- **Construction Site:** The submarine was constructed at the Indian Navy's Ship Building Centre (SBC) in Visakhapatnam.
- **Role in Nuclear Triad:** It represents a critical component of India's nuclear triad, **providing the capability to launch nuclear missiles from land, air, and sea.**



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