

Summary of important PIB release : 31/08/2024

1. Team India ready to showcase their talent at WorldSkills Competition 2024 in France

India is all set to showcase its young talent at the WorldSkills 2024 in Lyon, France with 60 participants competing in 61 skills with competitors from 70 countries. The WorldSkills Competition is a biannual skills competition, often considered as the Olympic Games of international skilling events.

More than 52 WorldSkills experts, along with support from over 100 industry and academic partners, have been involved in training and preparing the India Contingent which is one of the largest group representing their country at WorldSkills Lyon.

The competition showcases excellence in skills across various sectors, including construction, manufacturing, information technology, and creative arts. Competitors, typically under the age of 23, engage in rigorous testing, completing tasks that reflect contemporary industry standards. For the first time, international trainers were invited to the country and competitors were also sent to countries like South Korea, Japan, Austria, Thailand, and Dubai, with Switzerland for international exposure and rigorous training.

The National edition of the competition witnessed over 900 participants. Conducted at district, state, and national levels, culminating in the IndiaSkills National competition, this platform showcased skills across traditional crafts to modern technologies.

In the 2022 edition, India saw the highest participation in this event with over 56 competitors, out of which 11 were women and 12 candidates qualified from ITIs. Along with this, India finished the event at the 11th rank. The nation received 13 Medallions of Excellence with two silver medals and three bronze medals. The country began participating in 2007 and has witnessed steady progress in the competition. In 2017, India won 19 medals and built up on this success in 2019 coming in at 14th position.

IndiaSkills is an initiative by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. It serves as a national platform for skill competitions, aiming to identify and nurture talented youth in various vocational fields.

2. Release of BioE3 Policy

The Bio E3 policy was recently approved by the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The policy is aimed at ‘Fostering High Performance Biomanufacturing’ aligned with National initiatives of the government of India such as ‘Net Zero’ carbon economy and Mission LiFE(Lifestyle for environment).

The six thematic themes of this policy are 1. Bio-based chemicals and enzymes; 2. Functional foods and Smart proteins; 3. Precision biotherapeutics; 4. Climate resilient agriculture; 5. Carbon capture and its utilisation; 6. Futuristic marine and space research.